



NEWS RELEASE

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Moody Dormitory project receives LEED Gold certification *Building's design and construction incorporates environmentally friendly features*

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA – Moody Dormitory, a 120-person facility built by the [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District](#) at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., has been awarded gold certification based on criteria established under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The LEED rating system is a voluntary, third-party certification that promotes and recognizes the design, construction and operation of environmentally sustainable buildings. Gold LEED is the second highest of the four ratings – Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum.

Workers with I.L. Fleming, Inc., of Midway, Ga., completed construction on the \$15.6 million, 46,791 square-foot dormitory in February 2010. The design, by TranSystems, incorporates several environmentally friendly features, which strive to achieve minimal harm and maximum sustainability to the environment.

The facility will serve unaccompanied enlisted airmen and consists of groups of four-bedroom living modules connected to a common living area. Each module has a kitchen and living room. Each bedroom has a private bathroom.

To earn LEED certification, a project must meet all prerequisites and earn a specified number of LEED credits. The Moody dormitory project received a GOLD rating by scoring 42 out of a possible 69 credits. The project earned credits in five areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

The design incorporates recycled building materials, such as wood doors, carpet and wall tiles, recycled structural steel, and metal roofing. Local suppliers provided most of the materials, reducing the amount of energy to transport them and adding a boost to the local economy.

The facility was constructed of autoclave aerated concrete panels. These economical, sustainable, solid blocks provide much greater thermal insulation than conventional masonry, thus resulting in added energy savings.

The largest energy efficiency comes from the geothermal ground water heating and air conditioning system. The system operates at significantly lower costs than traditional gas, oil or electric-based installations, because heat is pumped from water deep in the Earth. Since water is denser than air, more heat can be pulled from water with less energy. In the summer, the process is reversed. The system draws excess heat from inside the building, and the underground piping carries the heat deep into the ground for the Earth to absorb.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Savannah District manages and oversees a multi-billion dollar military construction program at 12 Army and Air Force installations in Georgia and North Carolina. Corps' projects range from barracks, hospitals and clinics to equipment shops, headquarters buildings and aircraft hangars. For more information, visit <http://www.sas.usace.army.mil>.

– 30 –

Photo caption: The Moody Dormitory project at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., received a “gold” rating for energy efficiency and environmental sustainment from the U.S. Green Building Council. The Savannah District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers oversaw construction of the buildings.