

The Green Machine: Using the right stuff

Here is a quote from an article featured on infoComm International's website highlighting the trend in "greener" buildings written by Brian E. Huff. "When you consider that the built environment will double in size in the next 50 years, and that buildings consume 12% of water, 70% of electricity, and 39% of all energy used in the U.S., as well as 40% of all raw materials worldwide, you can understand why this organization was created, and why LEED certification is getting so much attention from building owners. And it's not just about reducing raw material consumption; it's about reducing operating costs and improving occupant health and productivity by constructing buildings that are cleaner, brighter, and more energy efficient."

Walker's is a member of infoComm International, an audiovisual and presentation equipment organization, and because we offer presentation technology and services, we remain apprised of changes in the industry and also share it with our clients. infoComm is promoting hopping on the "Green" bandwagon because so much of the AV industry will be affected by environmental mandates. Think of any public or private sector building that you walk into; there are security cameras, television monitors, PA and music systems, conference rooms with screens and projectors, and so much more. Taking this a step further, multiply all the batteries, bulbs, recordable CDs, cords and energy this equipment uses; the resulting number is huge.

The U.S. Green Building Council, www.usgbc.com, is a volunteer certification program for building owners and architects. Their mission, in part, is to promote sustainable qualities like:

- Site development
- Water savings
- Energy efficiency
- Materials selection
- Indoor environmental quality

Anything else you might want to know about energy efficiency and specifications for electronics is available on the Energy Star website at www.energystar.gov/index/cfm.

Walker's wants to do its part in this endeavor and as we've mentioned before, many of our manufacturers have been, or are going, "Green". We promise to do our best to keep the green machine well oiled and fine tuned too!