

LEED Fact Sheet

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The certification system

Headquarters	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design 2101 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20037, USA
Green Building Council	U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)
Market launch	1998 USA 1998 International
Website	http://www.usgbc.org/leed

System description

The American system LEED was developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) in 1998 and launched on the national and international market in the same year. The system focus of the voluntary procedure, which performs assessments on the basis of the ASHRAE standards, is on the area of the energy. An adjustment to international standards is also possible. Within the assessment, points can be achieved in 9 categories, leading to a certification in the levels "Certified" to "Platinum".

Facts and figures

To date, more than 84,000 properties have been certified or registered according to the LEED system. The so-called "International Round Table" of the USGBC currently consists of 38 national representatives, which serve as contacts throughout the world. The common objective is mutual collaboration and support, as well as the further development of the certification system. The latest version LEED v4 was published and presented in November 2013. The application period for the preceding version LEED 2009 is still running up to October 2016 inclusive.

Current usage profiles in LEED v4

- BD+C: Building Design and Construction (New Construction, Core and Shell, Retail, Schools, Healthcare, Data Centres, Hospitality, Warehouses and Distribution Centres)
- ID+C: Interior Design and Construction (Commercial Interiors, Retail, Hospitality)
- O+M: Building Operations and Maintenance (Existing Buildings, Data Centres, Warehouses and Distribution Centres, Hospitality, Schools, Retail)
- ND: Neighbourhood Development (Plan, Built Project)
- Homes (Homes and Multifamily Lowrise, Multifamily Midrise)



Category weighting*

– Integrative Process:	1 point	– Sustainable Sites:	10 points
– Location and Transportation:	16 points	– Indoor Environmental Quality:	16 points
– Materials and Resources:	13 points	– Innovation in Design:	6 points
– Water Efficiency:	11 points	– Regional Priority:	4 points
– Energy and Atmosphere	33 points	* No separate weighting of the categories, only point classification	

Certification levels

– Certified	≥ 40 points
– Silver	≥ 50 points
– Gold	≥ 60 points
– Platinum	≥ 80 points

Validities and special features

- New Construction: Unlimited validity for the same building use
- Existing Building: Re-Certification at least every 5 years
- LEED certification is increasingly becoming standard for internationally active companies in particular. The international comparability and acceptance are the decisive reasons for this
- The system refers primarily to the ASHRAE standards. Since October 2011 alternative compliance paths (ACPs) are, however, possible with local standards if their requirements are demonstrably higher than those of the US standards.