



**Green Giant: Spokane Public Facilities District LEEDs the Way**

Late last year, the Spokane Convention Center became one of the first buildings in the area to be awarded a “Silver” Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED) rating.

The LEED Green Building Rating System is a national standard created by the U.S. Green Building Council, a voluntary, consensus-based group whose aim is to help architects, contractors, and owners develop high-performance, sustainable buildings.

“The Spokane Public Facilities District is very proud to have a LEED-certified Convention Center – only the third green Convention Center in the U.S.,” said executive director Kevin Twohig.

The LEED program, explained Twohig, includes an educational component. Anderson Mraz Design was tasked with designing, fabricating, and installing a display within the convention center that helps explain to visitors what LEED is all about. A large, green wall at the entrance to the Convention Center was the perfect setting for the celebration of this achievement.

“The Silver Certificate Award is a very elegant, etched glass disk,” said AMD principal and senior designer John Mraz, “but it’s hard to read without a special presentation treatment. Our challenge was to integrate edge lighting around the award plaque and somehow conceal all the necessary electrical hardware. Enter Mother Earth.”

With a round certificate – and a round planet – it made sense to develop similar circular elements for the educational components as well, Mraz said. Continuing with the green theme, the background of the display is a board manufactured regionally from reclaimed field straw.

“We are pleased to have worked with AMD on this highly successful project,” added Twohig.

2008 marks AMD’s twentieth year operating as a communications design group in local, regional, and national markets. The company’s primary areas of expertise include brand strategy, corporate identity, print, collateral, packaging, website development, and environmental graphic design across a diverse and wide-ranging client base. For more information, visit the new [www.am-design.com](http://www.am-design.com).

