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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MechoShade Systems' Sustainable Products Chosen by the USGBC for its New Corporate Headquarters

Long Island City, New York, November 2008—The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is moving to a new location in Washington, D.C., for its corporate headquarters. The new office is intended to meet the requirements for LEED® Platinum certification.

The challenge of achieving Platinum status

LEED® Platinum status is a challenging task that requires an integrated approach to building design and performance. Toward achieving the certification, the USGBC has selected a variety of MechoShade Systems' products for their sustainable, aesthetic, and functional properties. They include the proprietary automated solar-shading software, SolarTrac®; a Cradle to Cradle Certified^{CM} shadecloth, EcoVeil®; and the digitally addressable, motorized shade-control system, the IQ/485™ Network, which provides flexibility for future changes in the owner's requirements.

SolarTrac®, the premier WindowManagement® system, is an automated solar-shading software program. It can contribute toward credits for optimizing the daylighting and energy performance of a building under the USGBC's LEED® Rating System. When SolarTrac® maximizes daylight and view in a building; the need for artificial light is mitigated. In the new USGBC headquarters, the system will operate in conjunction with a dimmable lighting system to increase the building's energy performance.

The optimization of energy performance

Based on the parameters of LEED® NC v2.2 (EA Credit 1), SolarTrac®'s automated window-shade parameters can be included in the computer model in a proposed design for optimizing energy performance. This performance is possible due to SolarTrac®'s being able to control the sun's heat and glare efficiently while maintaining views to the outside through the use of transparent shadecloths, available in a range of openness factors. And, when daylight is controlled at the window wall, the need for

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artificial lighting and HVAC is far less. In fact, a 70% reduction in lighting-energy cost was reported in a recent major project.

SolarTrac[®] harvests daylight by tracking the sun and microclimatic sky conditions and adjusts the shades incrementally according to the sun's position in the sky, to the direction of the solar ray, and to the sun's intensity. In addition, SolarTrac[®] manages daylight to prevent unwanted solar-heat gain and excessive brightness. This means that, if daylight and views permeate 75% of regularly occupied areas of a building, the building can qualify for EQ Credit 8.1 (Daylight and Views).

Going beyond PVC-free

A distinctive member of MechoShade Systems' shade cloth line is its Cradle to Cradle Certified^{CM} EcoVeil[®], which is woven from a proprietary based yarn, thermoplastic olefin (TPO). EcoVeil[®] is not just another PVC-free product, which is generally assumed to be good for people and the environment. Cradle to Cradle Certified^{CM} products go beyond being PVC-free and are set against a comprehensive and rigorous review process of all the chemical inputs down to 100 parts per million (ppm) and in accordance with Cradle to CradleSM protocols. (Visit mbdc.com for more information on Cradle to CradleSM). EcoVeil[®] is washable, UV resistant, and flame retardant. It is also antimicrobial so that it does not support Staphylococcus or mildew.

As a Cradle to Cradle Certified^{CM} product, EcoVeil[®] can contribute toward a LEED[®] Innovation in Design credit. This credit is awarded when Cradle to Cradle Certified^{CM} building materials and products account for at least 2.5% of the total value of all building materials and products used in a project, based on an adjusted cost, in accordance to the rating of the product.

A hub to enable a variety of control systems

MechoShade Systems' IQ/485TM Network enables users to seamlessly integrate and operate MechoShade Systems' window-covering products through a variety of different control options including touch screens, switches, timers, sun-activated controllers, and building-management systems. The IQ/485TM Network provides a hub to enable inputs for RS-232 and RS-485 systems, dry-contact devices, and various accessories.

On its Web site, the USGBC will be including a virtual tour of its new office and be creating an exhibit to showcase the space at the Greenbuild International Conference and Expo 2009, where all

companies that contributed to the project will be listed. Also, at the beginning of the Greenbuild plenary, the USGBC will present a series of slides showcasing the office space.

About MechoShade Systems, Inc.

The firm, headquartered in Long Island City, New York, is the leading provider of WindowManagement® solutions to architects and interior designers. Launched in 1969, MechoShade Systems grew quickly by responding to the demand from architects and commercial-building owners for an energy-efficient WindowManagement® system during the energy crisis of the 1970s. Today, the company markets a wide range of advanced roller-shade systems, control systems, and almost 200 different patterns and colors of visually transparent shade cloths.

For more information about the company, its products, and systems, please contact: MechoShade Systems, Inc., 42-03 35th Street, Long Island City, New York, 11101. T: (718) 729-2020, F: (718) 371-1081, e-mail: marketing@mechoshade.com. Visit MechoShade Systems on-line at: www.mechoshadesystems.com

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