

Mid-Atlantic FOCUS



A Newsletter for Clients of the GSA Public Buildings Service

Summer 2010

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In 2009, in response to our nation's economic crisis, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) into law to create new jobs, save existing ones, spur economic activity, and invest in long-term growth.

As part of this national effort, GSA has received funding to power a more sustainable and better-performing federal building portfolio. This includes GSA's Solar Summer: a swift and aggressive push to get Americans back to work in long-lasting, green-collar sectors like solar energy by significantly ramping up our solar installation projects nationwide. By Labor Day 2010, GSA will put people to work building 31 solar energy projects that will generate a total of 12 megawatts of renewable solar power capacity – enough to power 1,600 homes, and equivalent to removing 2,500 cars from the road.

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Thomas Lastowka, Director of the Veterans Affairs Regional Office and Insurance Center speaks at the Recovery Act project celebration. Lastowka is joined by (seated left to right) Ray Angelini of Ray Angelini, Inc., GSA Acting Regional Administrator Linda Chero, and PBS Regional Commissioner Rob Hewell.





From the Desk of **Rob Hewell**

Summer has been an exciting time for the GSA Public Buildings Service (PBS). Here in the Mid-Atlantic Region, we kicked off GSA's "Solar Summer" by celebrating the completion of a solar panel installation and roof replacement project at the Veterans Affairs Regional Office and Insurance Center in Philadelphia. In this edition of *Focus*, you'll read about how the installation of almost 2,000 solar panels at the facility will produce more than half a million kilowatt-hours of renewable energy per year. Reducing the energy costs and carbon footprint of our federal facilities is the smart thing to do for the environment, for the economy, and for the taxpayer.

As we work to upgrade our facilities, we continue to look for opportunities to partner with state and local governments to make the most of government resources and taxpayer dollars. In this edition, you will read about the generator GSA no longer needed that has found a new home with the New Jersey Brick Township Police Office of Emergency Management, where it will be used to support an emergency shelter.

There is certainly a flurry of activity within the Mid-Atlantic Region PBS as we work to support the goals of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and create a green proving ground for the integration of new technologies into building renovation and new construction. As we look to the future, we remain mindful of the historic significance of our federal inventory. More than one fourth of GSA's 1,600 owned buildings are listed in, or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places, and approximately half are more than 50 years old. These treasures are part of our public building legacy. This year, we are excited to highlight the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Camden, NJ, as part of our GSA Historic Building poster series, as well as feature the U.S. Courthouse in Pittsburgh, PA, as part of our Historic Building film series. You can find more information in this edition of *Focus*.

You'll see some familiar faces taking on new roles in Mid-Atlantic PBS. Our newest Project Executives include Shannon Figaniak and Renee Domurat, joined by our newest Regional Account Manager, Dorothy Grosick. All are energized to meet the challenges of their new positions. They will work together with our larger management team to ensure your work environment fully supports your critical mission.

Change is ever present, yet our mission at GSA remains steadfast—to use our expertise to provide our clients with innovative solutions in support of their missions, and foster an effective, sustainable, and transparent government for the American people. I want to thank those of you who responded to our Tenant Satisfaction Survey conducted in select buildings throughout our inventory this past summer. We look forward to reviewing your feedback as we explore new opportunities for enhancing federal workplaces throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region. ♦

Rob Hewell
Regional Commissioner
Public Buildings Service
GSA Mid-Atlantic Region

Thank You for Your Feedback and Support

We would like to thank those of you who took time out of your busy schedules to respond to our 2010 Public Buildings Service Tenant Satisfaction Survey (TSS) as well as the PBS Mid-Atlantic Office of Client Solutions' request for updated contact information.

We are working to ensure that the contact information we have for you is accurate and up-to-date so that we may better serve you.

GSA is committed to providing federal agencies with the best service possible. The feedback received through the TSS will help us improve future service to our federal clients. If your building wasn't included in this year's survey, we look forward to hearing your feedback and comments in upcoming survey years.

We are working to ensure that the contact information we have for you is accurate and up-to-date so that we may better serve you. Our email survey this spring asked you to confirm and/or correct your contact information. This helps us ensure that you're getting the information you need from GSA. We received a great response and appreciate your support. ♦

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GSA Kicks Off “Solar Summer” with a Celebration at Veterans Affairs in Philadelphia

The solar panel installation and roof replacement project at the Veterans Affairs Regional Office and Insurance Center (VAROIC) in Philadelphia is the first ARRA project completed by the Public Buildings Service (PBS) in the Mid-Atlantic Region. GSA, Veterans Affairs, and our industry partners celebrated this successful project completion at a ceremony on June 30, 2010.

Linda Chero, Acting Regional Administrator of GSA's Mid-Atlantic Region and Rob Hewell, PBS Regional Commissioner, were joined by Thomas Lastowka, VAROIC Director and Ray Angelini, President and CEO of Ray Angelini, Inc. On a clear summer day, the event speakers shared the successes of the project, praising the project's contribution to greening the government, as well as the project's impact on local businesses and individual workers.

As the result of an investment of more than \$6 million in Recovery Act funding, nearly 2,000 solar panels will produce more than half a million kilowatt-hours of renewable energy per year, reducing this building's annual carbon footprint by nearly 400 metric tons. Putting this in perspective, 400 metric tons equal over 880,000 pounds of carbon dioxide.

According to Environmental Protection Agency calculations, the annual carbon footprint reduction resulting from this project is the equivalent to removing over 75 cars from the road, or almost 45,000 gallons of gasoline.

In addition to the solar panels, this Recovery Act project also provided a 133,000 square foot brand new roof. The roof replacement included the addition of insulation as well as a highly reflective white coating. This coating will reduce the building's heat absorption from sun exposure in those areas not covered by solar panels. The solar panels, supplied by Sharp Electronics, are laid out on frames and anchored down in a way

that does not damage the newly renovated roof. The result is that the panels are almost maintenance free, only requiring periodic cleaning to ensure maximum efficiency.

With projects like this one at the VAROIC in Philadelphia, GSA is taking innovative steps to implement the latest in energy-efficient solar technology and help create the energy solutions of tomorrow.

GSA of course could not have accomplished this project without the expertise of our private sector partners. The project team successfully awarded contracts to Ray Angelini, Inc. of Sewell, NJ, and United States Roofing Corporation of Norristown, PA—

companies local to the region.

There are many success stories to this Recovery Act project. Manna Supply company, based just outside of Philadelphia, was a construction product supplier for this project. Like so many small businesses, the additional funding from the Recovery Act has gone toward building the business. Manna Supply is in the process of acquiring the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

(LEED®) certification and plans to leverage itself to a new and competitive market position.

Many construction workers were able to get back to work as a result of this project. These people not only found employment through this project, but gained valuable new skills through on-the-job training, that have positioned them for future green construction projects.

Reducing the energy costs and carbon footprints of these buildings is the smart thing to do for the environment, for the economy, and for the taxpayer. ♣



Almost 2,000 solar panels cover the roof of the Veterans Affairs Regional Office and Insurance Center in Philadelphia, reducing this building's annual carbon footprint by nearly 400 metric tons.

Used Generator Gets a Second Life: GSA Donates Property for Local New Jersey Community

GSA recently donated a 500kW diesel powered generator to the New Jersey State Agency for Surplus Property, who then in turn donated the generator

to the New Jersey State Police. The generator is valued at \$150,000 and will be used by the Brick Township Police Office of Emergency Management at a local high school which is used as a shelter for evacuees during flooding and other emergencies.

As a result of building systems improvements to the Clarkson S. Fisher Federal Courthouse in Trenton, NJ, GSA has upgraded the building's generator with a more efficient, higher capacity model. The Clarkson S. Fisher Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse Annex is a complex of two conjoined facilities. Previously, each building had its own emergency generator. A new generator was part of building systems improvements to allow for both facilities to operate on a single



GSA and NJ State Police representatives make the generator donation transfer to help emergency planning in the local community.

emergency generator. The new generator (1250kW) has double the capacity of the excessed generator (500kW) and is more energy efficient.

The donation of the courthouse's original generator was made possible through GSA's Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation Program, which enables certain nonfederal organizations to obtain personal property that the federal government no longer needs.

"The donation of this generator is a wonderful example of how federal, state and local governments can work together to assist the local community, while saving taxpayers significant dollars," said Linda Chero, GSA Acting Regional Administrator and

Federal Acquisition Service Regional Commissioner.

Please visit www.gsa.gov/property to learn more about GSA's Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation Program, for both citizens and state or public organizations. 

New Architect/Engineer Contract Awarded to AECOM

GSA Public Buildings Service (PBS), Mid-Atlantic Region recently awarded a new architect-engineer (A/E) contract to AECOM, which GSA can use to provide design and engineering services for any federal agency in the region.

AECOM, a firm based in Arlington, VA, was awarded an indefinite delivery indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract on July 20, 2010. An IDIQ contract allows an agency to acquire an indefinite quantity of services during a fixed period of time and helps streamline the contract process and speed service delivery.

In the past, GSA utilized separate A/E term contracts for agency services. One contract covered the Courts and other law enforcement agencies that have specific program requirements, such as more stringent security measures. Another A/E contract covered design and engineering services for all other agencies.

The new A/E contract with AECOM will address the requirements for any federal agency throughout the region, covering the Commonwealths of Pennsylvania and Virginia and the states of Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, and the southern counties of New Jersey.

Projects affected by this new term contract will include regional repair and alteration projects, as well as renovations or modernizations completed at federal facilities. It will cover all required services: architectural, mechanical, electrical, and fire protection.

The A/E contract can also be utilized for:

- ❖ Energy-related projects, including sustainable design concepts
- ❖ Security projects
- ❖ Interior design services with sensitivity towards historic buildings

AECOM has extensive background working with the government, specifically with the Judiciary and Courts-related agencies. The firm has been awarded prior term contracts for over 80 Courts-related projects nationwide, and worked with agencies including the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Any agencies interested in learning more about using this contract for a project, please contact PBS Contracting Officer **Ronald Kohri** at ronald.kohri@gsa.gov or (215) 446-4608. 

Renee Domurat and Shannon Figaniak Named Service Center Project Executives

Renee Domurat and Shannon Figaniak have been promoted to Service Center Project Executives for the Public Buildings Service (PBS) Mid-Atlantic Region North Service Center. Renee is the Project Executive for the Philatlantic Transaction Management Office; Shannon will serve as Project Executive for the Pittsburgh Transaction Management Office.

Renee Domurat began her career with PBS in 2001 as a Contracting Officer, after spending more than 15 years with the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. In 2005, she became a Team Leader in the Allegheny Service before being assigned as a Supervisory Contracting Officer in the Philatlantic Service Center. With extensive project experience, Renee hopes to utilize her new position as Project Executive to tackle some of the biggest challenges facing the PBS Service Centers.

“We have an increasingly youthful workforce in PBS directly responsible for delivering our projects, combined with a limited number of project managers overseeing a substantial volume of work,” says Renee. “These variables will cause us all to consider different and unique ways of approaching the workload to ensure success. We must effectively communicate internally and externally, and strategically work together to be as efficient as possible in delivering our clients’ needs.”

Renee attended Temple University, where she received a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration. She earned her Masters of Public Administration from Widener University.



“We must effectively communicate internally and externally, and strategically work together to be as efficient as possible in delivering our clients’ needs.”

— *Renee Domurat*
PBS Project Executive
North Service Center



“PBS has great teams, tools, resources and knowledge that we can leverage to find creative solutions to our clients needs so they can focus on their important core mission work..”

— *Shannon Figaniak*
PBS Project Executive
North Service Center

Shannon Figaniak joined GSA as an intern in 1992, serving on a variety of projects as a Space Planner and Project Manager. In 2005, she became a Team Leader in the Chesapeake Service Center, and the following year she joined the Office of Client Solutions as a Regional Account Manager. As a Regional Account Manager, Shannon worked closely with several customers, including the Internal Revenue Service and Department of Labor. She played a major role in the Mid-Atlantic Region’s successful delivery of the Census 2010 Program.

“I’m really looking forward to working with our GSA teams in the Pittsburgh and Harrisburg areas to develop and deliver workplace solutions that support the needs of our clients,” says Shannon. “Our clients’ needs and the 21st century workplace are both very dynamic. It is our challenge, opportunity and responsibility to provide the expertise to find the solutions that best meet those needs. PBS has great teams, tools, resources and knowledge that we can leverage to find creative solutions to our clients needs so they can focus on their important core mission work.”

A graduate of Drexel University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Interior design, Shannon also has a Masters Certificate in Project Management from George Washington University.

Moving forward, both Renee and Shannon have confidence that they can meet the challenges of their new positions and successfully support GSA and our clients in every way necessary. 

GSA Moves Toward Zero Environmental Footprint

GSA Mid-Atlantic Region has formed a **Regional Sustainability Council** to focus on eliminating the agency's environmental footprint. The Council will work closely with a national GSA network to reduce the agency's negative impacts on the environment by:

- ❖ developing, in consultation with our customers, a suite of solutions that will help them achieve their sustainability goals
- ❖ incorporating the real cost of carbon emissions into business decision-making
- ❖ developing, in conjunction with each agency, a strategic portfolio optimization plan that incorporates new thinking and practices about work performance in an increasingly mobile and connected world
- ❖ systematically adding greenhouse gas emissions as a factor in all procurement decisions
- ❖ creating a green proving ground for the integration of new technologies into building renovation and new construction

GSA is already monitoring and testing new green technologies through many American Recovery and Reinvestment Act projects throughout the Region. The Regional Sustainability Council will continue to test new technologies designed to enhance the sustainability of buildings. Including sustainable features in all aspects of GSA projects will become the new way GSA does business.

Recently, about 200 GSA managers from all over the country, including GSA Administrator Martha Johnson, met in Pine Mountain, GA, to focus on sustainability and GSA's drive toward "Zero Environmental Footprint." The group toured local carpet manufacturer, Interface, Inc., who took a sustainability pledge some 15 years ago. Every aspect of the company's operations was given environmental consideration.

"What was truly amazing was how everyone in the company, from the managers to the people on the production lines, understands and is committed to the green ethic," said Public Buildings Service Commissioner Bob Peck. "Of course, not wasting yarn, or powering machinery off methane from the town's waste treatment plant, means lower costs and higher profits. But it has also created a marketing advantage in sales and an internal esprit that helps attract and retain good workers at every level."

Just one example of GSA's drive toward "Zero Environmental Footprint" is our recently revised carpet specification for new building construction and renovation projects, which is

incorporated in new leases as well. The specification considers several environmental factors: adherence to National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) 140, recycled content, impact on indoor air quality, and guidelines for carpet reclamation.

NSF140 is a program that considers the environmental, economic, and social benefits of a product throughout its life cycle. All specified carpet is required to meet minimum recycled content levels (including both pre and post-consumer content). Additionally, all carpet and adhesives must meet Green Label Plus requirements from the Carpet and Rug Institute. Green Label Plus measures the volatile organic compounds, commonly known as VOCs, a product introduces to the indoor environment. In addition to Green Label Plus, the new carpet specification requires that all components of the carpet (including the product itself, the adhesives, and sealant) must meet the Low Emitting Material standards of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®). Finally, the new carpet specification also gives guidelines for carpet reclamation when the carpet is to be replaced. For more information on carpet specifications, contact **Amy Krebs**, GSA Regional Interior Designer, at amy.krebs@gsa.gov or (215) 446-5772.

GSA will share more examples relating to our progression toward Zero Environmental Footprint and strive to attain this goal in the future. Environmental sustainability is a top priority for GSA and will impact the way we do business every day. 

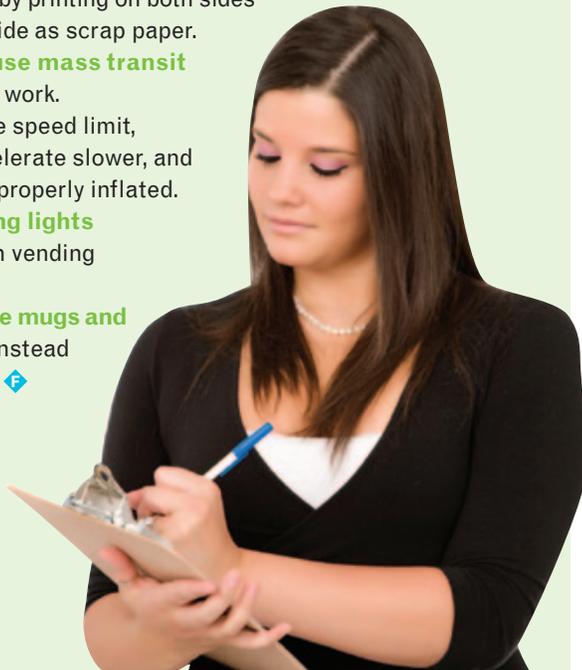
"What was truly amazing was how everyone in the company, from the managers to the people on the production lines, understands and is committed to the green ethic."

— *Bob Peck*
Public Buildings Service Commissioner

How to be “Green” at Work: An Office Energy Checklist

See how many energy conservation/efficiency items you and your co-workers can mark off the checklist:

- Switch off all unnecessary lights.** Work with your Property Manager to install dimmers, motions sensors or occupancy sensors to automatically turn off lighting when not in use.
- Replace incandescent lights** in task lighting with compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) or light-emitting diodes (LEDs) for desk lamps. CFLs use only one-fourth the energy and last up to 10 times longer.
- Use task lighting.** Instead of brightly lighting an entire room, focus the light where you need it, to directly illuminate work areas.
- Use natural lighting** or daylighting. When feasible, turn off lights near windows.
- Turn off ALL lights** when you leave at night.
- Turn off your computer and monitors** at the end of the work day. If you leave your desk for an extended time, turn off your monitor.
- Turn off the photocopier** at night. Purchase photocopiers, printers and fax machines with a power management feature and enable the function for regular use.
- Unplug equipment** that drains energy when not in use (i.e. cell phone chargers, fans, coffeemakers, desktop printers, radios, etc.).
- Use energy efficient ENERGY STAR products,** computers and appliances.
- Close or adjust window blinds** to block direct sunlight to reduce cooling needs during warm months. Overhangs or exterior window coverings are most effective to block sunlight on south-facing windows.
- Save paper.** Photocopy only what you need. Always use the second side of paper, either by printing on both sides or using the blank side as scrap paper.
- Carpool, bike, or use mass transit** when commuting to work.
- Save gas.** Drive the speed limit, accelerate and decelerate slower, and make sure tires are properly inflated.
- Turn off advertising lights** by coordinating with vending machine operator.
- Use refillable coffee mugs and water containers** instead of disposable cups. ♻️



Dorothy Grosick Named Regional Account Manager



*Dorothy Grosick, PBS
Regional Account Manager*

Dorothy Grosick has been promoted to Regional Account Manager with the Public Buildings Service (PBS), Mid-Atlantic Region Office of Client Solutions. In her new position, Dorothy will focus on regional clients including the Department of Defense, the Department of the Treasury, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“As a Regional Account Manager, I will continue to focus on providing the services necessary for our clients to perform their important missions.”

*— Dorothy Grosick
PBS Regional Account Manager*

Dorothy joined PBS in 2001 as an Interior Designer, after working nine years with the IRS. She has worked on a number of prospectus projects, most recently as an interior design consultant for the IRS 30th Street Project in Philadelphia, PA. Dorothy has also served as the subject matter expert for PBS' Requirements Development Process since 2002.

Dorothy attended Drexel University, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Interior Design.

Joining the Mid-Atlantic Region's Client Solutions team will bring new challenges, which Dorothy looks forward to.

“As an Interior Designer with PBS, I focused on the interior space requirements of our clients, and made sure their space needs were met,” says Dorothy. “As a Regional Account Manager, I will continue to focus on providing the services necessary for our clients to perform their important missions.”

Join us as we welcome Dorothy as our newest Regional Account Manager. ♻️

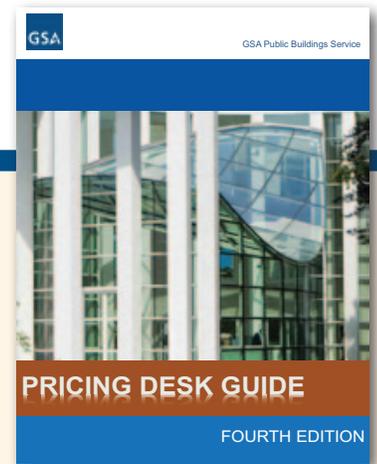
Ask a RAM

QUESTION:

PBS recently published the *Pricing Desk Guide, 4th Edition*. Can you tell me what has changed from the last edition?

ANSWER:

The GSA Public Buildings Service (PBS) *Pricing Desk Guide* is the tactical guide for the implementation of our pricing policy and serves as a single source for current PBS pricing information for both tenant agencies and PBS employees.



PBS recently published the latest version of the guide, the *Pricing Desk Guide, 4th Edition*. This edition, which went into effect April 5, 2010, was written to be more user-friendly, with some formatting revisions, a few policy changes and includes all of the previously issued Pricing Policy Clarifications in effect at the time of publication.

Format changes to the *Pricing Desk Guide* include re-written language for improved clarity and readability, links to quickly move from one part of a document to another, and separate chapters for leased and federally owned space. Sections within the leased and owned space chapters are named and sequenced to better align with the PBS Rent bill. Also, any future revisions will be made to the Guide itself, rather than a separate clarification, and tracked through the Document Change History Page.

PBS also changed the following policies since the 3rd Edition:

For Leased Space

Design Intent Drawings: are included in the shell requirements to match the change made to the GSA Solicitation For Offers (SFO).

OMB Circular A-11: building specific and tenant specific security countermeasures can only be financed through the lease if their inclusion does not push the total rent over the high end of the market. OMB reserves the right to review these costs even if they can be paid for within the market rent to determine if they are unique to the government's needs.

For Leased and Federally Owned Space

Community Joint Use: tenant agencies outside of the building where the joint use amenity is located must be notified in writing of their inclusion in the community, and they must be given enough time to budget for the joint use charge. When community joint use is assigned, the Occupancy Agreement (OA) will include a clause identifying the building where the amenity is housed.

For Federally Owned Space

Re-measurement: if there is no change in Usable Square Feet (USF), the OA will be updated when the shell rate expires, the OA expires, or the tenant agency initiates a change. If there is a change in USF, PBS will not adjust the Rent until both parties have time to budget for changes. The modification of an OA may occur only once during a 5-year shell rate period when initiated by a PBS driven remeasurement or maintenance action. As an alternative to the above policy, PBS may send a revised OA to the tenant agency with the modified USF.

General Storage: the policy for pricing the shell and base year operating rate for general storage space is to set the rate at 50% of the fully serviced Fair Annual Rental (FAR) rate for office space. PBS decides classification of general storage space, as defined by the National Business Space Assignment Policy. A standard optional OA clause was created to reflect the change and implementation will be phased in by new, current and Judiciary Rent Validation OA's.

Portfolio Leases: a national pricing deviation is now required to create a portfolio lease.

Visit www.gsa.gov/rentpricingpolicy to view the *Pricing Desk Guide, 4th Edition* and to read more about the PBS Rent Pricing Policy.

For questions, please contact the PBS regional pricing policy subject matter expert, **Tim Kusniez** at timothy.kusniez@gsa.gov or (215) 446-5863, or your Regional Account Manager. 

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U.S. Customs and Border Protection Lease New Space to Achieve Agency Mission in Erie, Pennsylvania

In April 2010, GSA accepted space for a new U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) office building in Erie, PA, to move their Border Patrol Station. Before the move to this leased space, CBP was housed in the cruise ship terminal on Lake Erie which wasn't designed to support all of the operations of the Border Patrol.

After a review of its needs in Erie, CBP decided on a new site in the Fairview Business Park that is close to 12 acres, is centrally located to major highways, and is less than three miles from the lakeshore. The Fairview building features dedicated office and processing space, separate areas for male and female detainees, covered parking, facilities to house the station's K-9 officers and an enclosed, secure area for moving detainees.

This lease is part of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Secure Building Initiative (SBI)—a comprehensive, multi-year plan to secure America's borders. The SBI program office within CBP was established to manage the development, deployment, and integration of SBI acquisition programs, and integrate and coordinate border security programs within CBP.

After September 11, 2001, the newly created DHS took control of the Border Patrol, now part of CBP. The agency was given the primary task of hunting down and apprehending terrorists and weapons of mass destruction. In response to the additional responsibilities after September 11, 2001, the Border Patrol studied its coverage areas and went to work at filling the gaps.

CBP Supervisory Agent Andrew Scharnweber described his experience working with GSA as being very positive. "GSA worked as a partner with us on this project and was always prompt to answer our questions and concerns. It is great to be in a facility that was designed specifically to meet our needs for space and layout."

The Erie Station was created in summer 2004, a few months before the Border Patrol's Buffalo sector opened a second new station in Rochester, NY. Since then, border patrol activities have increased, with the addition of more Border Patrol agents and a separate Customs and Border Patrol unit that specializes in air and marine operations. A larger space was needed to meet the agency's mission.

Not only is this space being utilized to enhance the mission of the agency, but it is also a building that enhances its energy efficiency. During the next year, this leased space is aiming to receive Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) certification. LEED is an internationally recognized

green building certification system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council to provide third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance across all the metrics that matter most: energy savings, water efficiency, CO2 emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.

"GSA worked as a partner with us on this project and was always prompt to answer our questions and concerns."

*—Andrew Scharnweber
CBP Supervisory Agent*

Efforts the project team have taken to achieve LEED certification at the building include: the choice of site, sustainable landscaping, preferred parking for fuel-efficient vehicles, installation of bike racks, low-flow plumbing, high-efficiency mechanical units, use of local and recycled materials, construction recycling, and indoor air quality monitoring.

The selected site was designed to maximize open space, and areas of wetland habitats are being restored through the post-construction storm water management plan, which includes several bio-retention rain gardens. Energy and Atmosphere credits are being achieved through the use of high-performance and high-efficiency mechanical units. Construction materials for this facility were carefully selected to utilize local and regional manufacturing plants to reduce carbon emissions attributed to materials having to be shipped long distances by truck. More than 10% of the materials used were from within a 500-mile radius of the site. Indoor air quality has been maximized through outdoor air delivery monitoring, increased ventilation rates and the use of low VOC paint, carpet, stains, sealants and adhesives.

GSA's goal is to provide our client agencies with efficient workspace that meets their requirements, allowing them to focus on performing their mission-critical goals. Not only was GSA able to provide a space that meets CBP's needs, but we are also able to help the agency reduce its carbon footprint. 



GSA Recognizes Its Historically Significant Buildings in Poster and Film Series

Historic Building Poster Series: U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Camden, NJ

More than a quarter of GSA's owned buildings are listed on or are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. GSA is responsible for the stewardship of over 200 properties listed on the Register. We take great pride in this inventory, valued for its architecture, art, engineering, and significance in American history. GSA has highlighted more than 100 of its most significant historic buildings in our Historic Building poster series.

Joining the poster series this year is the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Camden, NJ. This four-story art deco-influenced neoclassical building houses the Post Office, the federal Courts, U.S. Marshals, the Circuit and District Courts, and the GSA Field Office.

Complementing these neoclassical features are Spanish Revival elements, such as the interior's multi-colored quarry tile wainscot and tile floor treatment. The original mission tile roof also conveys this theme. Art deco elements present in the elaborate entrance doors, transom windows, and metal grille work express significant design trends of the early 1930s.

On the exterior, low-relief terracotta architectural features enliven each elevation, incorporating a surprising yet subtle variety of differing decorative elements, including Greek fret, chalice, escutcheon, rosette and other patterning. These terracotta features include the belt course separating the first and second

floor; pilaster capitals; spandrel panels between windows; as well as the roofline's cornice, bed molding and frieze elements. Certain portions of the center window bays at upper floor levels incorporate colorful terracotta window spandrel panels. The spandrel panels are blue in color and decorated with stylized sailing ships of earlier centuries drawn from the history of European colonization of North America.

The building was erected between 1931 and 1932 by architect James A. Wetmore, who served as acting Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury from 1915 to 1933. The design itself was likely overseen by Louis A. Simon, an MIT-trained architect who served as superintendent of the architectural division under Wetmore, and designed hundreds of significant federal buildings across the country. The construction of this building had a noticeable impact in its setting due to its limestone and buff brick colored exterior.

A six-story courthouse annex was completed in 1994, named in honor of Federal Judge Mitchell H. Cohen. This structure intersects the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse via a second-floor linkway.



The U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Camden, NJ, is featured in GSA's Historic Building poster series.

If you would like to obtain a copy of the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse poster, please contact **Donna Andrews** at donna.andrews@gsa.gov or (215) 446-4570.

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Historic Building Film Series: U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Pittsburgh, PA

As the steel industry boomed in Pittsburgh, PA, during the early 1900s, the city's rapidly growing population needed a new federal building. With the support of then Treasury Secretary Andrew Mellon, the government allocated funding for a modern building to be constructed near the city's rail line. In 1934, the monumental 10-story U.S. Post Office and Courthouse opened to the public amid much fanfare.

The video, *A Monument Reborn: the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse*, tells the story of the renovation and expansion of the 1930s Stripped Classical style building. The landmark's past and future are brought together through archival and contemporary images along with fascinating interviews. The film is part of GSA's efforts to support Executive Order 13287, "Preserve America," which encourages Americans to explore and enjoy our nation's heritage. DVD copies are available by contacting historic.buildings@gsa.gov.

To learn more about this Pittsburgh landmark you can view the video by visiting www.gsa.gov/historicbuildingfilm and clicking on U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Pittsburgh, PA.

You can find more information about GSA's national treasures by visiting www.gsa.gov/historicbuildings which features interactive exhibits on the history, geography, and architectural style of GSA public buildings. Here, visitors can browse through images, films, and architectural descriptions of more than 200 of GSA's historic buildings. 



Visit www.gsa.gov/historicbuildingfilm to watch a video on the history of the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse located in Pittsburgh, PA.



Client Seminar on Sustainable Federal Workplaces

SAVE THE DATE Tuesday, October 19, 2010

Cira Centre Philadelphia, PA

Invitations to Follow Hosted by Mid-Atlantic PBS



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