



 Up-to-the-minute Green
Metal Roofing Resource!

PAC Green Info: Green Globes

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Green Globes Design is both a guide for integrating green design principles and an assessment protocol. Using confidential questionnaires for each stage of project delivery, the program generates comprehensive on-line assessment and guidance reports. Using Green Globes helps to design a building that will be energy and resource efficient, will achieve operational savings and be healthier to work or live in.

The Green Building Initiative recently launched Green Globes for Continual Improvement of Existing Buildings (Green Globes-CIEB) as a complement to their Green Globes for New Construction. This is a web-based tool that allows building professionals to create a baseline of their building's performance, to evaluate interventions, to plan for improvements and to monitor success.

The program uses a questionnaire divided into six main categories that define sustainability, namely:

Energy

Water

Resources

Indoor environment

Environmental management

Emissions, effluents and other impacts

The questions can be answered yes or no and the entire questionnaire can be completed in less than 3 hours. Once completed, the system generates a report that identifies strengths and weaknesses, suggests opportunities for improvement and provides an interim score based on a total of 1000 possible points. Buildings that achieve a minimum score of 700 receive a Green Globes rating, but they then must be audited and inspected by a qualified third party before being promoted as being Green Globe certified.

The Green Globes CIEB program was piloted in the US during 2008.

The Green Building Initiative completed its first ANSI public comment period for its proposed standard for commercial green Buildings, known officially as the "GBI Proposed American National Standard 01-200XP: Green Building Assessment Protocol for Commercial Buildings."

The proposed standard incorporates a Green Globes LCA Credit Calculator for building assemblies. This incorporates a full life cycle assessment into the system. The standard also includes a water consumption calculator to allow users to project the water consumption of the building.

The GBI hopes to complete the ANSI process in 2009.

GBI announced the signing of a formal memorandum of understanding with ENERGY STAR. As part of the agreement, GBI will work with ENERGY STAR to:

Encourage GBI members to join the EPA ENERGY STAR partnership

Measure and track the energy performance of buildings using tools from both programs

Support the ENERGY STAR Challenge, a national call-to-action to help improve the energy efficiency of America's commercial and industrial buildings by 10% or more

GBI partnered with NewHomesDirectory.com which features information on the benefits of green homes, including energy savings and improved indoor air quality. Builders who have had a home certified as green through the NAHB National Green Building Program, or through a local program offered by a partner, are eligible to post free listings on the website. The new partnership will allow GBI partners to list their green homes on the site.