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## Environment



### Heritage Aviation Wins LEED Gold Certification

March 7, 2011

NBAA Member Heritage Aviation was awarded gold-level Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) status last month for its new 79,000 square foot facility on Burlington International Airport (BTV) in Vermont. Certification was awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Heritage Aviation provides full GA maintenance and repair, charter and 24/7 FBO services.

Among the environmentally friendly features of the one year-old facility is a "green" roof covered with the plant sedum, making it one of the largest green roofs in New England. Excess rainwater is re-used for aircraft cleaning and irrigation of other plants around the facility. Electricity is generated by solar panels and a 100-KW FAA-approved wind turbine, the first ever installed at an airport.

"Even the building itself is recycled," said Christopher Hill, Heritage Aviation president. "We started with the bare-bones skeleton of a 1954 Army National Guard hangar and transformed it into a state-of-the-art LEED Gold certified general aviation facility".

In the hangar, sunlight illuminates all-white paint, which Hill says saves about 200 KW of electricity every day. A light-monitoring system adjusts artificial light to compensate for changing ambient illumination throughout the building, and the plumbing includes a solar-powered hot water heater. In the company parking lot, pervious concrete pavement allows water to be absorbed by the ground rather than pouring into storm drains.

"For 55 years, the National Guard used this hangar for aircraft maintenance," said Hill. "Now that we've completely renovated it to green building standards, we'll continue to use it for maintenance and FBO activities in support of the GA community."

### NBAA Aircraft Operations Environmental Resources

NBAA continually works to develop reasonable and balanced policies that support the industry's twin goals of promoting the mobility and growth of business aviation while safely minimizing its environmental footprint, in terms of both greenhouse gas and noise emissions. [Learn more.](#)

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**NEW Light Business Airplane Buyer's Guide!**

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