

## **Santa Cruz County Bank Awarded Prestigious LEED CI GOLD Green Building Certification for its Santa Cruz Banking Office**

*Santa Cruz County Bank is one of two LEED CI Gold certified banks  
in the state of California*

**February 22, 2011, (Santa Cruz, CA)** – Santa Cruz County Bank announced today that it has attained LEED for Commercial Interiors (CI) Gold-level certification for its remodel of a one story shell building into a bank in the heart of downtown Santa Cruz at 720 Front Street. Santa Cruz County Bank's CI project is the only LEED CI Gold certified project, and the only LEED certified bank in the Tri-county area. There is only one other LEED-CI Gold bank in California, which was certified in 2007. The Santa Cruz County Bank project team included L. Kershner Design, Bogard Construction, and Green Building Consulting.

The LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) Green Building rating system is a voluntary, consensus based standard established by the U.S. Green Building Council and is verified by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI). LEED is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings.

LEED for Commercial Interiors is the green building benchmark for the tenant improvement market and is the recognized system used to certify high-performance green interiors that are healthy, productive places to work; are less costly to operate and maintain; and have a reduced environmental footprint.

Santa Cruz County Bank achieved LEED CI Gold certification for reduced energy use, high efficiency lighting, reduced water and material use, as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies. The LEED CI Gold certification of Santa Cruz County Bank was based on a number of green design and construction features that positively impact the project itself and the broader community. A few of these notable aspects built into the project include the following:

- The lighting was designed with LED and T-5 compact florescent light bulbs that use a fraction of the energy of incandescent lamps using 35% less energy than allowed by Title 24
- 100% of the office equipment and appliances are Energy Star compliant
- Skylights were installed with daylight sensors, and the overhead lights have double switches so individual rows of lights can be turned off when not needed, saving energy and providing natural daylight for 90% of the interior spaces
- The teller line cabinetry is constructed of bamboo, the flooring is of renewable sources, the lumber is FSC certified, and the paints and furniture do not contain VOC's
- More than 40% of the project's materials were purchased locally
- All of the plumbing fixtures are water efficient, using almost 50% less water than typical fixtures
- 85% of the demolition and construction waste was recycled
- All of Santa Cruz County Bank's operation facilities are Certified Green Businesses

David Heald, President and CEO of Santa Cruz County Bank stated, "This certification formalizes the environmental efforts we have practiced since the day we opened our doors. We thank all the partners who participated in this project who consulted, designed and constructed to contribute to a healthier environment for our clients, employees and the larger community."

“Santa Cruz County Bank’s LEED Certification demonstrates tremendous green building leadership,” said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, and U.S. Green Building Council. “The urgency of USGBC’s mission has challenged the industry to move faster and reach further than ever before, and Santa Cruz County Bank serves as a prime example with just how much we can accomplish.”

### **About Santa Cruz County Bank**

Founded by local community bankers and business people who share a common commitment to this County, Santa Cruz County Bank is a full service commercial bank and member of the FDIC. The Bank was founded to serve the banking needs of individuals and businesses throughout Santa Cruz County. The Bank operates five full-service banking offices and two self-serve banking centers. The Bank’s full-service banking offices are located in Capitola, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley, and Watsonville. Santa Cruz County Bank’s common stock is listed on the Over the Counter (OTC) Bulletin Board under the stock symbol SCZC. More information on the bank may be obtained through its website: [www.sccountybank.com](http://www.sccountybank.com) or by calling (831) 457-5000.

### **Contacts**

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