2024

Federal Energy and Water Management Awards

Project Award Winners

JASON BOYD,
BENJAMIN BULLOCK,
BRIAN BURNHAM,
ALLEN COOK,
RUBEN RODRIGUEZ

U.S. Department of Commerce - National Institute of Standards and Technology Boulder Wing 5 Renovation Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold Project

The National Institute of Standards and Technology in Boulder, Colorado, has completed a major renovation of a 76,500-square-foot research facility, earning Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold certification for its sustainable design and operation. The renovation incorporated energy-efficient mechanical and electrical systems, significant water conservation measures, and an innovative design that preserved the building's historical character while modernizing it to support cutting-edge research.

JEFF FORSYTH,
IAN NEIL,
MORRIS PEARSON,
ROBERT SIMMS,
DEBORAH STEPHENS

U.S. Department of Commerce - U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Data Center Relocation Project

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office significantly improved its operational efficiency by relocating its data center to a modern colocation facility. The project team employed computational fluid dynamics analysis to meet or exceed ASHRAE Technical Committee 9.9 best practices for data center efficiency. The move reduced the data center's physical footprint from 32,000 to 10,000 square feet and cut electricity usage by more than two-thirds—from 1,093 kW to just 355 kW per month.

GARY BROWN,
SHEILA FEDDIS,
STEVE NEUS

U.S. Department of Energy - Fermilab Helen Edwards Engineering Research Center

Completed in 2023, the 80,000-square-foot Helen Edwards Engineering Research Center at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory includes modular labs, high-bay areas, and flexible office and meeting spaces—serving as a model for co-locating science, technology, and collaboration to advance research breakthroughs. Designed with efficiency in mind, the site features native, drought-tolerant landscaping that negates the need for irrigation.

GABRIEL CALDERIN-VAZQUEZ,
SIXTO DIAZ-ORTIZ,
JOSE L. PEREZ-VELEZ,
WILFREDO QUINONES,
RIVERA VEDA-CRUZ

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs - Installation of Trihalomethane Removal System Water Quality Improvement Project

The Veterans Affairs Caribbean Healthcare System, which serves veterans in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, has implemented a water quality and infrastructure improvement project featuring an innovative system that reduces disinfectant byproducts (DPBs) in drinking water. These harmful compounds—such as total trihalomethane and haloacetic acids—can form when disinfectants react with organic matter. While targeting DBP reduction, the system also ensures adequate disinfection to prevent Legionella bacteria.