

FRONTEND

Taking the LEED

The U.S. Green Building Council has awarded Bechtel's new Washington, D.C., office platinum certification under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards for commercial interiors (LEED-CI). Platinum is the highest level of the green building rating system.

The new Bechtel office is one of just three projects in Washington and one of 21 in the United States to earn platinum status for commercial interiors. "We're moving into a new era of construction, and all of us as Bechtel employees can be proud to be a part of it," says Bernie Toon, who heads Bechtel's Washington operations.

The office features water- and energy-efficient fixtures and ENERGY STAR appliances and equipment. Other LEED features include use of rapidly renewable bamboo products for wood paneling; CO2 sensors to monitor air quality; and paints, adhesives, and carpets with low levels of volatile organic compounds.

Global Awareness

Virtually every square inch of the Earth's surface is detailed on maps. While engineers relish this wealth of data, finding

the right map with the right information can be daunting—and costly.

That's why Bechtel's Geographic Information Systems group recently developed a database of the company's most commonly used maps, from terrain elevations and highway maps to wetlands locations. The database minimizes duplicated efforts and costs, and its open storage format allows employees to import, combine, and overlay maps in standard engineering software. It's a powerful way to centralize and automate the dissemination of important data.

Realizing Pipe Dreams

Despite high unemployment throughout the United States, certain skilled workers remain in short supply. That's one reason Bechtel is helping support a new program that trains U.S. military veterans in welding and pipe fitting.

The program, called Veterans in Pipefitting (VIP), is a joint effort of the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters (UA), an international labor union, and the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps, which provide funding and other support. The program encourages soldiers and Marines nearing the end of their enlistments to apply for 800 hours of hands-on training. Upon graduation,



Bechtel employees gathered in May at the San Francisco Food Bank to pack pasta and commemorate the company's 20 years of support.

**DOING
OUR PART**

TAKING IT TO THE BANK

Bechtel is celebrating a 20-year partnership with the San Francisco Food Bank. Since 1989, hundreds of employees have volunteered to sort, stack, pack, and repack food in the organization's warehouse. Bechtel also played a role in expanding the Food Bank's reach in the early 1990s. At that time, the organization operated from a facility with a leaking roof and a shortage of cooler and freezer space. Chairman and CEO **Riley Bechtel** co-chaired a campaign that raised money for a larger,

permanent distribution center, Bechtel Group Foundation donated \$300,000, and the company provided pro bono project management services during the warehouse's design and construction. In 2008, the Food Bank distributed more than 31 million pounds (14 million kilograms) of food, about half of it fresh produce, to more than 600 nonprofit organizations. At any given time, there are 2 million pounds (907,185 kilograms) of food at the warehouse.

the veterans join local unions as second-year apprentices.

Graduates are guaranteed a job, and that's where the private sector comes in. Bechtel has committed to hiring VIP graduates for projects that need their skills. "VIP is a great example of how

unions, government, and the private sector can work together to close the skills gap in construction," says Walker Kimball, manager of construction. "At the same time, it enables veterans to begin a lifelong career that is both rewarding and well paid."