

South Hill North Data Center Receives Gold LEED Certification

By Justin Lee, April 12, 2011

(WEB HOST INDUSTRY REVIEW) -- The Benaroya Company (www.benaroya.com) announced on Tuesday that its South Hill North Data Center in Puyallup, Washington has earned the Gold Certification from the US Green Building Council's LEED program (www.usgbc.org/LEED) for the design, construction and operation of energy efficient buildings.

The facility joins only a handful of data centers around the country to earn the upper-tier certification, including [IBM's Raleigh, North Carolina data center](#), [Sabey Data Centers' Intergate.Columbia facility in East Wenatchee, Washington](#), and [eBay's flagship data center in Salt Lake City](#).

South Hill's commissioned data center delivers 56,605 square feet of raised floor space, robust critical infrastructure scalable up to 260 watts per square foot, uninterrupted low cost power and energy efficiency for extremely low total operating cost.

Additionally, South Hill utilizes clean energy in the form of wind and hydroelectric power.

"South Hill Data Center is very attractive both fiscally and environmentally," says Larry Benaroya of The Benaroya Company, which developed and owns South Hill. "Customers will enjoy savings of 35 percent or more in energy and maintenance costs due to the award-winning green design. We strive to be sensitive to green building practices by using sustainable design and technology to deliver very significant energy savings and the LEED Gold Certification is a strong validation of our efforts."

With electricity powered by hydroelectric and wind sources, South Hill Data Center leverages local, natural resources to drive sustainability and cost-efficiency.

The year-round temperate climate of the Pacific Northwest allows South Hill Data Center to use outside air with air-side economizers and evaporative cooling to cool the facility at an extremely low cost.

Highly efficient cooling system is complemented by enhanced commissioning to ensure the system functions at maximum efficiency.

Extensive monitoring and building automation allow ongoing measurement and verification of energy use.

Additional green design features include stringent construction practices that protect indoor air quality by controlling dust and particulates to prevent contamination of building materials, the use of ductwork and equipment, low VOC materials and finishes, building materials contain recycled content and were sourced within 500 miles, adaptive reuse of an existing facility, and low water use fixtures.

Available for lease or sale, South Hill's onsite dual-fed substation has 42.5MW of dedicated available power expandable to 67.5MW providing superior redundancy and scalable density to support all needs, including cloud computing and virtualization.

An additional 60,000 to 70,000 square feet with 17.5MW of dedicated power is also available and ready to fit for a build-to-suit or expansion of the existing completed facility.

Along with the on-site containerized data center area, these enterprise data center facilities are located on a secure 92-acre campus.