

Clif Bar home takes 2012 Livable Buildings Award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Berkeley — The new headquarters of Clif Bar & Company, a California-based maker of organic foods and drinks for people on the go, has been recognized as the winner of the 2012 Livable Buildings Award by the University of California, Berkeley's Center for the Built Environment (CBE).

The warehouse-turned-office space in Emeryville, Calif., is home to more than 200 employees, and includes features such as sports-inspired sculptures, courtyard gardens, a rock-climbing wall, bocce court, cafe, and on-site childcare. Illustrating the company's commitment to the environment, the building uses reclaimed building materials, solar panels, occupancy sensors, optimizes daylighting, and has achieved Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum status from the United States Green Building Council (USGBC).

The Livable Buildings Award jury also recognized the Midtown Community Elementary School in Neptune City, N.J., with an honorable mention. The school, which also received LEED Platinum certification, demonstrates to students and the larger community key areas of sustainability such as water conservation, energy efficiency, material selection and healthy indoor environments.

Now in its sixth year, the Livable Buildings Award recognizes buildings with exceptional performance in terms of occupant satisfaction, resource efficiency and overall design.

To be considered for the award, buildings must rank among the top scorers in CBE's Occupant Indoor Environmental Quality Survey. The survey focuses on occupant satisfaction with the quality of the indoor environment, and has been implemented in more than 575 buildings in North America and other countries around the world.

The 75,000-square-foot Clif Bar & Company Headquarters was transformed from a World War II valve manufacturing facility into an open office working space, designed by ZGF Architects, LLP.

The project team interviewed employees and conducted surveys to better incorporate the Clif Bar ethos in its design. While incorporating sustainability and striving to have a minimal impact on the environment, the team also placed high value on meeting the needs of those using the space. Employees can take advantage of collaborative workspaces, conference rooms and "telephone booths" for small meetings and private conversations. They can also visit the on-site cafe and gym, drop their kids off at the daycare, and test new recipes in the research and development kitchen.

"Clif Bar has created a benchmark of what it takes to make a space that people enjoy being in. They incorporated sustainability with occupant satisfaction, and did a great job capturing the unique attributes of their community," explained one award juror. "It's very pleasing to see that 90 percent of the space is naturally lit by the clerestory windows."

Jurors also appreciated the "telephone booths" that allow employees to hold private conversations, and to not distract their peers in the open office space.

"We're very honored to receive the Livable Buildings Award from CBE," said Bruce Lymburn, Clif Bar's general counsel and headquarters project manager. "Our headquarters is a reflection of our commitment as an organic food company to sustaining our business, brands, people, community and the planet. Earning LEED Platinum certification speaks to one level of that commitment, but just as importantly our

offices are fun, functional, collaborative, light, airy and great to work in. Our employees love to come to work here every day.”

In its honorary award, the jury commended the Midtown Community Elementary School for its approach to creating a green school and outstanding occupant survey feedback in the face of restrictive budgets and district standards.

More details about each project, including photos and their CBE survey results, can be found at: www.cbe.berkeley.edu/livablebuildings.

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