



Applebees opens LEED Gold location; Designed by Sterling Interiors

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Apple-Metro, Inc., the New York Metro-Area Applebee's franchisee, has opened one of the city's first USGBC LEED Gold certified restaurants. This environmentally-friendly restaurant, located in the East River Plaza at 117th St., East of Pleasant Ave., will mark Apple-Metro, Inc.'s 35th Applebee's location.

This USGBC LEED Gold certified location is equipped with over 40 environmentally-friendly upgrades including rainwater and daylight harvesting, waterless urinals, LED light fixtures, Energy Star equipment, living walls, and reclaimed wood. At the front of the restaurant there will be a green education touch screen, which will inform customers about the features that make the restaurant environmentally-friendly and the benefits of living in a green environment. Free Wi-Fi service and personal viewing systems, enabling guests to hear what they are watching on Applebee's flat screen TVs are also available.

Team members for this \$4.1 million project include: Michael Berry, director of construction & facilities, Apple-Metro, Inc.; architect - Joseph Siladi, AIA, Sterling Interiors Group, Inc.; engineer - Steven Fox, Jr., LEED green assoc., KMB Design Group, LLC; LEED consultant - Alice Wurth, LEED, AP, ID+C, KMB; food equipment design and install - Amdy Burrows, Food Service Supply International, Inc.; general contractor - John Muscat, Castle Construction Group; and living wall - Melissa Daniels, Plant Connection, Inc.

"I am so proud we are continuing our green initiatives culminating in a LEED certified location! As we began construction on the 117th St. location, it became apparent that this needed to be New York City's first USGBC LEED Gold Certified Restaurant. We felt it would pave the way for all other restaurants to move towards making environmentally-conscious upgrades. It's about being a good neighbor, both locally and globally," said Zane Tankel, founder and CEO of Apple-Metro, Inc. "We are focusing on green practices and are on a regular schedule of renovating and remodeling our existing restaurants to ensure that Applebee's in New York City is becoming more environmentally-friendly."

On November 5th, Apple-Metro opened another restaurant located in Parkchester on 75 Metropolitan Oval, Bronx. With the addition of Applebee's 117th St. and Parkchester, Apple-Metro, Inc. will create more than 300 local neighborhood jobs. Apple-Metro, Inc. plans to open additional restaurants throughout 2013 and is confident that their continued growth and environmental focus will be met with customer and neighborhood acclaim.

Expanded List of LEED Gold Certified Elements:

- * Rainwater harvesting
- * White reflective rubber roof - partial
- * Larger Planters on small setback roof

- * Energy reduction
- * Daylight harvesting -Skylights and Rooftop Greenhouse that work in conjunction with sensors that control the lighting levels automatically
- * Automatic window shades
- * Green education - Touch screen
- * Waterless urinals
- * Tankless HW Heaters
- * LED light fixtures
- * Dimmer controls
- * Occupancy sensors
- * Energy star TV's
- * Air curtains
- * LED Exterior Signs
- * Recycled foam in walk in cooler walls
- * Recycled PVC floor in the Kitchen and Recycled carpet in the Dining Room
- * Bamboo bar& counter tops
- * High R walls/Roofs - Metl Span
- * Eco power flushometers
- * High efficiency toilets
- * Daikin - Energy efficient Condensing Units and AHU's with heat recovery
- * Air Purification Unit
- * Energy star equipment
- * Steel, Rebar, Drywall, Ceiling tiles, wallpaper, and flooring with a high recycled content
- * Rapidly renewable resources
- * Sourcing materials locally
- * Recycle construction debris'
- * Outdoor Air Delivery Monitoring - CO2 Sensors
- * Stormwater design - Quality control
- * Heat island effect - roof
- * Water efficient landscape
- * Storage and collection of recyclables
- * Pulper and Extractor at the dishwashing unit
- * Heat Loss Recovery
- * VFD hood and HVAC Controls
- * Living walls
- * Reclaimed wood
- * Bamboo Chandeliers