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Desert Moon Productions

**ARIZONA GREEN DESIGNERS TAKE TOP HONORS IN NATIONAL
COMPETITION**

PHOENIX—November 26, 2003— Arizona green building designers took top honors in the U.S. Green Building Council Design Competition as winners were announced at the 2003 Greenbuild Conference and Expo held in Pittsburgh, PA November 12th through 14th.

This was the first competition of its kind under the USGBC Emerging Green Builders Subcommittee, created to promote and showcase the use of green building knowledge and LEED™ amongst students and young professionals with less than three years experience in the building industry. The contest received an overwhelming response of 125 design entries, with Arizona teams dominating the final competition.

The first place prize of \$2,000 was awarded to the DWL Green Team from Phoenix for their design entry. Team members included Christopher Ilg, Renee Stepp, and Shawn Kaffer.

Christina Neumann of Vint Architects and Kelsi Montgomery of Randel Jacob Design Group, both from Tucson, took second place honors. They will each receive full tuition for a Bio-mimicry and Architecture Course in the Virgin Islands.

Other Arizona entrants making it into the final round of twelve include Thomas Ochterski, a student at Yavapai College in Prescott, and a team from Arizona State University in Tempe with members Vibhav Potnis, Mallika Desai, and Elizabeth Lassuy.

The contest called for design submissions for a new addition to The Pittsburgh Project, which houses after school and summertime programs for children in an urban neighborhood-based community. The designers were given a budget and specific criteria that would satisfy sociological and environmental concerns, while addressing advanced energy efficiency and sustainable building designs.

ABOUT LEED™

The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)™ Green Building Rating System is a comprehensive, voluntary design and assessment tool that helps architecture, engineering, and construction professionals improve building efficiency, and measure the sustainability of their projects. Understanding LEED™ is an important step for reducing environmental impacts and achieving superior building performance. Architects, engineers, facility managers and building owners who master LEED™ concepts and processes become knowledgeable practitioners and consumers of green design and construction.

ABOUT THE U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the U.S. Green Building Council is the nation's leading coalition for the advancement of buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable, and healthy places to live and work. The Arizona Chapter, formalized in October 2002, is the fastest organizing chapter in council history, dedicated to achieving U.S. Green Building Council goals in the arid Southwestern bio-region. For more information on U.S. Green Building Council and its Arizona Chapter, visit www.usgbc.org.

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