



Healthy Buildings Collaborates with The New York Palace to Achieve Green Key Certification

August 2, 2011, New York City – Healthy Buildings is proud to have facilitated the achievement of a 4 Green Key rating for The New York Palace on July 22, 2011. This significant distinction through the Green Key Eco-Rating Program confirms that the landmark hotel has demonstrated its leadership and commitment to protecting the environment through its wide-ranging policies and practices.

Healthy Buildings provides environmental solutions on a national scale to commercial building owners and managers, and works with hotels to develop corporate sustainability programs, achieve Green Key certification, improve Energy Star ratings, achieve LEED certification, and analyze and reduce GHG emissions. Healthy Buildings also provides indoor air quality testing & diagnostics, energy and resources sustainability consulting services.

The New York Palace has mature sustainability programs in place ranging from employee participation in volunteer activities to composting food waste. Healthy Buildings provided guidance in implementing and documenting these practices and is working with the hotel to implement additional programs to enhance their sustainability program.

The New York Palace donates untouched food, recycles all recyclable material and composts food scraps. The first hotel in New York to partner with Clean the World, The New York Palace donates more than 500 pounds of gently used soap and guest-room amenities per month to the global relief organization. The New York Palace is the largest hotel in Manhattan to operate using 100% renewable energy, offsetting 22 metric tons of carbon dioxide annually, as well as following best management practices to operate the hotel efficiently. Energy efficiency measures include variable speed drives on HVAC equipment, high efficiency lighting, and conducting regular performance audits. Visit <http://www.newyorkpalace.com/> for more information.

Healthy Buildings' Director of Corporate Sustainability, Gwen Sheinfeld explains, "Working closely with Whitney Hoover, the Palace's Sustainability Manager has been a fabulous experience. She is highly motivated and takes action that will benefit the hotel's bottom line with thoughtful environmental solutions. Teaming up with Healthy Buildings has enabled The Palace to enhance their sustainability program and achieve 4 Green Keys."

As part of our hotel sustainability practice, Healthy Buildings is offering free consultations to hotels interested in Green Key certification.

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About Green Key

The Green Key Eco-Rating Program is the first of its kind to rank, certify and inspect hotels and resorts in North America based on their commitment to sustainable "green" operations. The program was originally developed for the Hotel Association of Canada by a leading environmental engineering firm. Designed *specifically for hotel operations*, the Green Key Eco-Rating Program is a comprehensive environmental self-assessment that will allow each participating property to benefit on several fronts – cost savings, increased bookings from environmentally conscious consumers and meeting planners and responsible corporate citizenry. Visit www.greenkeyglobal.com for more information.