

The United States Green Building Council (USGBC) has recently released the latest version of the LEED Rating System - LEED 2009. Beginning in June 2009 all new LEED projects in the United States<sup>1</sup> are required to comply to LEED 2009 rating systems. This means the current version, LEED v2.2, will be upgraded to LEED v3 in June 2009.

### HOW DOES LEED 2009 AFFECT LOGIX?

The new LEED 2009 rating system focuses even more attention to buildings that can be built with the least environmental impact. LEED 2009 has also changed to a standardized 100 point system. The points are distributed more to credits that provide a relatively lower impact to the environment. As a result, there are now more points awarded to Optimize Energy Performance - LOGIX now potentially contributes 19 points (10 points in LEED v2.2<sup>2</sup>).

The new LEED for Schools v3 now includes a point for new schools that provide good STC values. A point is awarded under the new Enhanced Acoustical Performance credit for projects having at least STC35. LOGIX can provide STC50+, which is well above the minimum STC35 for new schools.

In addition, a minimum of 40 points are now required to achieve a LEED certified project (26 points were required in LEED v2.2<sup>2</sup>). In total, LOGIX can potentially contribute 27<sup>3</sup> of the 40 points required for a LEED-NC certified project (as opposed to 20 of 26 points in LEED v2.2<sup>2</sup>), and 28<sup>3</sup> of the 40 points required for a LEED for Schools certified project. Four additional points may apply to projects wherein ICFs, found in an existing building, are salvaged during de-construction and included in a new building constructed on the same site. Under the Building Reuse Credit, points are achieved as follows: Maintain 55% to 95% of existing walls, floors and roofs (3 points); Maintain 50% of interior non-structural elements (1 point).

### MAJOR CHANGES

LEED 2009 was made in an effort to create a more harmonized and integrated point system between the different commercial LEED rating systems (i.e., NC, Schools, CS, etc), and to consider the environmental impact each LEED credit may have on a project based on a weighted point system. The major changes are described below.

#### Harmonization and Standardized Point System

Each credit is now more aligned between the commercial rating systems under a common criteria. In addition, the points system for each rating system are now standardized to 100 points with an additional 10 bonus points for Innovation and Design (6 points), and Regional Priority (4 points).

With the rating systems more aligned and based on the same point scale, performance of LEED projects between the rating systems are easier to compare.

#### Weighted Distribution of Points

LEED 2009 distributes the standard 100 point system such that more points are available to credits that can help reduce a building's environmental impact.

For instance, LEED 2009 now considers climate change as the most important environmental impact. This is reflected in the Energy & Atmosphere credits where the total points have changed to 35 in LEED-NC v3 (up from

17 points in LEED-NC v2.2).

Category	Comparison of Maximum Points Awarded between LEED-NC V2.2 <sup>2</sup> & V3	
	LEED-NC v2.2 <sup>2</sup>	LEED-NC v3 (released April 2009)
Sustainable Sites	14	26
Water Efficiency	5	10
Energy & Atmosphere	17	35
Materials & Resource	13	14
Indoor Environmental Quality	15	15
<b>Total points</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100</b>

### New Credits

Over all the point system for LEED-NC and LEED for Schools has changed, as described above, but the credits remain the same.

### Regional Priority Credit

Regional Priority is a new credit that provides a potential for 4 bonus points for LEED projects that specifically address local environmental importance.

### LEED 2009 Certification

Points required for LEED 2009 certification has changed due to the change in point system. Based on the number of points given under each category a minimum of 40 points are now required for LEED certification.

LEED Certification between LEED-NC V2.2 <sup>2</sup> & V3		
Category	LEED-NC v2.2	LEED-NC v3 (released April 2009)
Certified	26-32 points	40-49 points
Silver	33-38 points	50-59 points
Gold	39-51 points	60-79 points
Platinum	52-69 points	80+ points

For information on how LOGIX can potentially contribute to LEED projects see LOGIX Technical Bulletin No. 18 & No.19, LEED-NC and LEED for Schools, respectively, at [www.logixicf.com](http://www.logixicf.com).

<sup>1</sup> Currently the LEED rating system for New Construction in Canada is based on LEED Canada-NC 1.0. For information on LEED Canada-NC with LOGIX see LOGIX Technical Bulletin No.9, "LEED Rating System with LOGIX Insulated Concrete Forms" available at [www.logixicf.com](http://www.logixicf.com).

<sup>2</sup> For a background on the LEED Rating System or LEED V2.2 with LOGIX see LOGIX Technical Bulletin No.9, "LEED Rating System with LOGIX Insulated Concrete Forms" available at [www.logixicf.com](http://www.logixicf.com). Or visit [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org).

<sup>3</sup> See LOGIX Technical Bulletin No. 18 and 19, LEED-NC and LEED for Schools, respectively, at [www.logixicf.com](http://www.logixicf.com).