(Madison, WI, January 24, 2011) – Leonardo Academy announced today that it will be expanding its in-person LEED® training program to include seven cities in 2011: Minneapolis/St. Paul, Miami, Washington, D.C., Madison, Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles. Topics will include training for the Green Building Certification Institute’s (GBCI) LEED Green Associate exam and the LEED AP O+M exam.

The first two training sessions of the year will occur at the Thrivent Headquarters in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota. The training sessions will run from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on February 15 and 16. On the first day, Leonardo Academy will present its LEED Green Associate training course. The training for the second day will cover the LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations and Maintenance (LEED-EB: O&M) rating system and knowledge requirements for the LEED AP O+M exam. Participants are invited to take one or both training courses. Each of the courses provides 8 hours of AIA continuing education credit. Visit the Leonardo Academy website to register (http://www.leonardoacademy.org/training/live-training.html).

GBCI’s LEED Green Associate credential represents that individuals have a basic knowledge of green building principles and practices and LEED. The credential is targeted at individuals that support green buildings in their regular professional work but do not need detailed knowledge of particular LEED rating systems. Examples could include those who sell products or services that can contribute to LEED certification of buildings and who want to have a general understanding of sustainable buildings and LEED.

The LEED AP O+M training will instruct participants on how to successfully use and implement LEED-EB: O&M, a rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), and will prepare participants for the LEED AP O+M exam. Leonardo Academy’s extensive knowledge of LEED-EB stems from ongoing work with the USGBC developing the LEED-EB rating system and reviewing certification applications, and from real-world experience as a consultant on numerous LEED-EB certification projects. The LEED AP O+M exam includes material covered by the LEED Green Associate training, so participants wishing to take the LEED AP O+M exam with no prior experience should attend both days of training.

Leonardo Academy’s training approach cultivates a dynamic interaction with participants and provides opportunities for all four key modes of learning. Leonardo Academy also provides training participants with study tools, such as:
- Self-quizzing tools for increasing and testing knowledge
- Vocabulary exercises
- Model exam questions

As a portfolio provider in the USGBC Education Provider program and an approved provider of AIA continuing education courses, Leonardo Academy offers a wide range of training courses on sustainability and environmental topics. Most Leonardo Academy training courses provide both USGBC and AIA continuing education credits, which can be used by members of these organizations to fulfill continuing education requirements as part of their credentialing maintenance programs.

Leonardo Academy delivers its training courses both in person and by live webinar. The full list of current training courses and registration options is available on the Leonardo Academy website at www.leonadoacademy.org.

**About Leonardo Academy**

**Mission Statement**
Leonardo Academy is a charitable 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing sustainability by leveraging innovative tools and information to motivate the competitive market. By utilizing an interdisciplinary approach to sustainability strategies, education and implementation, we strive to make sustainability practical for everyone.

We develop integrative sustainability solutions designed to enhance the environmental stewardship, social responsibility and economic prosperity of organizations, corporations and individuals. We see a world filled with sustainable opportunities that can transform the way we live today and ensure the prosperity of future generations.

**Programs and Services**
Leonardo Academy works on a broad range of sustainability issues and provides comprehensive sustainability programs and services to help companies, organizations, families and individuals implement sustainability. Our programs and services include: organizational sustainability assessments and implementation; emissions footprints, reduction strategies and offsets; LEED® assessments, implementation and certification application preparation; sustainable land management; sustainability training; and sustainability standards development.
Join Our Work
Individuals, organizations and companies are invited to join in Leonardo Academy’s work on advancing sustainability. One important way to join in our work is by making a charitable donation to support these efforts. Online donations can be made at: www.leonardoacademy.org.

For More Information about Leonardo Academy
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