LEED Ventilation and Air Measuring Products

he LEED Rating System includes prerequisites and credits for six design categories. These prerequisites must be met before credit points are awarded. Proper selection and implementation of innovative air measuring products can help satisfy prerequisites and earn additional credits in the Sustainable Sites, Energy & Atmosphere, Indoor Environmental Quality and Innovation & Design Process categories.

Voluntary investment in optional design measures is required to earn additional credits toward certification of a "green" building

project. Since participation in the Air Movement & Control Association International (AMCA) Certified Ratings Program is a voluntary option for manufacturers of HVAC components, this is a good step toward earning additional credits. AMCA licensed products provide third-party data to engineers, building owners and users of the equipment that can be used to validate manufacturers published ratings. This gives assurance that the ratings are accurate and reliable. In his article entitled "The LEED Rating System" in the October 2006 issue of inmotion magazine, author Michael Ivanovich states that "specifying products that bear the AMCA Certified Rating Seal is a credible way to ensure accurate and dependable equipment that performs to published ratings as required by green building designers".

Most designers are aware of the ventilation requirements detailed in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1 Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality but they may not be aware that LEED EQ Prerequisite 1 (EQ-P1) requires compliance with the standard. ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1 addresses much more than just outdoor air ventilation rates; it also requires that equipment reduce the potential for microbial growth. The Standard also details air cleaning and startup/commissioning requirements. In addition, the specified air measuring solution must interface with the Building Automation System (BAS) to exceed these requirements in order to earn additional credits.

A successful "green" building ventilation system should include air measuring products that are licensed to bear the AMCA Certified Ratings Seal. The system should also include energy-saving features, such as ultra low-leak dampers to reduce energy loss during night set-back and integral class A louvers that carry a 100% effectiveness rating to reduce water carry-over and subsequent microbial growth. Air measuring products should include innovative controls that automatically adjust with HVAC system changes and allow for changes due to renovations and building occupancy.

To further assist in complying with prerequisites and credits associated with Innovation & Design Process category, include air measuring

products that have controllers with IAQ/ Economizer functionality that are factory calibrated with a job-specific control resolution for sustainable energy savings.

Ruskin has a complete line of AMCA Certified air measuring products that offer the ability to interface with any building automation system (BAS) to provide precise, reliable performance with sustainable results and innovative IAQ products that will help satisfy prerequisites and help earn additional credits for all "green" building projects. When you think "green", think Ruskin.

