

CUSTOMER CONNECTION

Challenger Motor Freight goes green

There have been many milestones along Challenger Motor Freight's road to success, a journey that began back in 1975 when Dan Einwechter, Chairman and CEO, started the company as a one-person one-truck operation. It has grown dramatically since those humble beginnings; in 1988, Challenger was the first Canadian carrier to use two-way satellite tracking, and in 1994, it became the first carrier under the NAFTA agreement to receive authority for Mexico. Today, Challenger has more than 1,500 tractors and 3,000 trailers hauling to locations all over North America, and is known in the industry as one of the most technically advanced carriers in Canada.

Challenger has been recognized repeatedly by its customers and the industry for its outstanding service, and most recently, was honoured as one of Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies, for the sixth consecutive year.

But perhaps none of these achievements has been more significant than the construction of the firm's new environmentally friendly headquarters in Cambridge, Ont., a 113,000-square-foot facility that features 50,000 square feet of maintenance space, an 8,000-square-foot parts mezzanine, and 55,000 square feet of office space. "This facility rep-

resents commitment – to our employees and their well-being, to our customers in providing improved operating efficiencies and enhanced services, and to the environment and a healthy future for our community," says Einwechter.

The building has been con-

structed according to a majority of the materials that were used contained recycled content, and as many as possible were locally sourced and manufactured to minimize the environmental impact of transportation. Over 75% of construction waste was diverted from landfill through separate bins for steel, concrete, wood, plastic, gypsum, cardboard building materials, and packaging.

Challenger took all of these elements into consideration in the construction of its new headquarters. For example, the

ings as well. Low-flow plumbing fixtures generate a water savings of over 34%, while ground-source heat pumps provide heating and cooling. Other energy-saving features include a heat-recovery ventilator for all ventilation air supplied to the facility; increased insulation levels in roof and wall assemblies; high-performance windows; and reduced lighting power density.

Air quality is also a top priority, for employee comfort and well-being. Besides a ventilation system that complies with strict standards, the company has incorporated low-emitting adhesives, sealants, paints, coatings, and carpet throughout the building. All furniture is "GreenGuard Certified," meaning it meets stringent requirements for the prevention of indoor air contaminants.

Of the over 300 employees who work at the new headquarters, 90% of them enjoy a work space with a view, making the environment more pleasant and helping to reduce eye strain.

The company has even installed bicycle racks and showers to encourage employees to use alternative transportation, making for a green workplace coming and going!



Challenger's new headquarters in Cambridge, Ont., have been built according to a recognized standard in the construction industry for assessing the environmental sustainability of building designs.

structed according to the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building rating system. Originally developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) to provide a recognized standard for the construction industry to assess the environmental sustainability of building designs, the system has since been adapted by the Canadian Green Building Council to the specific concerns and requirements of buildings in Canada.

LEED focuses on all aspects

of a building: site development, water efficiency, energy efficiency, material selection, indoor environmental quality, and innovation in design.

The building has been designed to attain energy savings of 47% over conventional buildings, leading to substantial cost sav-

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