

Benefits of Building Green Commercial Buildings

According to McGraw-Hill Construction’s latest analytical reports as cited at a session prior to GreenBuild 2008, by Harvey Bernstein, vice president of Industry Analytics, Alliances, and Strategic Initiatives for McGraw-Hill Construction, “building green results in substantive financial benefits with significant increases in those benefits since 2005. The most pronounced benefit is the decrease in operating costs, followed by the increase in building values. Operating costs in green buildings are 13.6 percent lower, and building values are 10.9 percent higher than for their non-green counterparts.” Let’s let the numbers speak for themselves:

BUSINESS CASE FOR GREEN BUILDINGS		
Financial benefit	2005	2008
Decreased operating costs	8-9%	13.6%
Increased building values	7.5%	10.9%
Improvement in ROI	6.6%	9.9%
Increased occupancy	3.5%	6.4%
Rises in rent	3%	6.2%

Source: McGraw-Hill Construction