

For Immediate Release Spokane, Washington May 10, 2011

## The Davenport Hotel Tower Awarded LEED® GOLD Green Building Certification

It was announced today that the Davenport Hotel Tower has been awarded LEED® GOLD Certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), making it the only hotel in the state of Washington to obtain "Gold" status and amongst only 33 in the world. LEED is the USGBC's leading rating system for designing and constructing the world's greenest, most energy efficient, and high performing buildings.

"We are delighted with this news! It was just over one year ago we set out to pursue LEED® certification. We worked to improve our usage of energy, lighting, water and materials, and added a variety of other sustainable strategies," stated Lynnelle Caudill, Managing Director. "Owners, Walt and Karen Worthy, have a tremendous commitment to the environment and to the staff and guests of the hotel, who increasingly want to know what our efforts are in this area. This was absolutely the right thing to do" she continued.

"The Davenport Hotel Tower's LEED® GOLD certification demonstrates tremendous green building leadership," said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, U.S. Green Building Council. "The urgency of USGBC's mission has challenged the industry to move faster and reach further than ever before, and this serves as a prime example with just how much we can accomplish," he continued.

"More and more meeting planners, travel managers and even government organizations are requiring their attendees or travelers to use LEED® certified hotels and convention centers," states Matt Jensen, Director of Marketing. "This certification will open many new markets for not only the Davenport Hotel and Tower but also for Spokane as our downtown convention center now has a LEED® Gold certified hotel to partner with its LEED® Silver Certified building," says Jensen.

The LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System<sup>™</sup> is a feature-oriented rating system that awards buildings points for satisfying specified green building criteria. The six major environmental categories of review include: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality and Innovation and Design. Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum levels of LEED green building certification are awarded based on the total number of points earned within each LEED category.

The U.S. Green Building Council is a nonprofit membership organization whose vision is a sustainable built environment within a generation. Its membership includes corporations, builders, universities, government agencies, and other nonprofit organizations. Since UGSBC's founding in 1993, the Council has grown to more than 17,000 member companies and organizations, a comprehensive family of LEED® green building rating systems, an expansive educational offering, the industry's popular Greenbuild International Conference and Expo (www.greenbuildexpo.org), and a network of 78 local chapters, affiliates, and organizing groups. For more information, visit www.usgbc.org.

For more information, visit <u>www.usgbc.org/LEED</u>.

For more information please contact:

Matt Jensen Director of Marketing The Davenport Hotel and Tower 10 South Post Street Spokane, WA 99201 509.789.6810 / phone 509.789.6832 / fax mjensen@thedavenporthotel.com www.thedavenporthotel.com