



We Provide the Ride

#### Media Information 4 October 2007 QBP

6400 West 105<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bloomington, MN 55438

[www.qbp.com](http://www.qbp.com)

Contact: Jo Wright

[jwright@qbp.com](mailto:jwright@qbp.com)

1-800-346-0004, Ext. 1250

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## MEDIA RELEASE

### Governor Pawlenty Says QBP is on “Front Edge” of the Nation’s Clean Energy Future

Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty outlined his vision for a “clean energy future” Tuesday night at the annual meeting of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) Mississippi Headwaters Chapter, a non-profit organization dedicated to sustainable building design and construction. Speaking before a group of 170, the governor, who also serves as chair of the National Governor’s Association (NGA), discussed that organization’s ambitious platform for practicing conservation and developing alternative energy sources. The meeting was held in the modern offices of QBP, a bike parts distributor that designed and constructed its new distribution center according to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards established by the USGBC.

“Green building activities, eco-friendly materials, conservation of material is front and center of where we want to head. The US Green Building Council has done a remarkable job of identifying the standards through LEED,” said Pawlenty. “This building is on the very front edge of where our country is headed in respect to these practices. And I’m proud that Minnesota continues its tradition of innovation and leadership.”

“This could mark the beginning of a cascade effect,” observed Steve Flagg, president of QBP, noting that while there are currently only five other LEED certified buildings in the state, more than 30 are slated for construction.

The QBP facility, which the USGBC awarded Gold level LEED certification in April, features innovative wastewater technologies, high-efficiency appliances, and a design capitalizing on natural light. A 40-kilowatt solar power array—the largest in the Midwest—replaces energy normally provided by coal-fired power plants, preventing 65,000 fewer pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere each year. The structure, which is 30 percent more efficient than required by Minnesota state code, will generate significantly lower long-term maintenance and operation costs than a conventional building.

During a follow-up question-and-answer session, a local restaurant owner asked the governor why waterless urinals were recently outlawed in Minnesota. Her concern referred to a provision in HF 122, a bill passed by the Minnesota House of Representatives in September concerning jobs and economic development.

“That’s the first time I’ve heard about this issue,” Pawlenty responded. “I do not remember that being in a law or provision. But I will look into it and if there’s a way to reverse that or modify it I would certainly be willing to consider that.” The governor continued, saying a rider must have been “slipped into the bill at the end of the session” by a special interest group.

At this point, David Eijadi, a director of the USGBC Mississippi Headwaters Chapter, presented the governor with a trophy-sized replica of a waterless urinal.

The men’s bathrooms in QBP’s new distribution center are outfitted with waterless urinals that save 45,000 gallons of water per year. Due to the new law, it is not clear whether the company will be able to upgrade the bathrooms in the older part of its facility with the new technology.

#### About QBP

Based in Bloomington, MN, QBP is a leading distributor to the cycling industry. QBP offers domestic and international retailers a wide array of products and services including a 1,500-page catalog, a robust online ordering system, a renowned custom wheel service, a specialty bike-building program and more. QBP continues to be an active advocate for the cycling industry. For more information, please contact Jo Wright, director of marketing at 952-941-9391, or visit: [www.QBP.com](http://www.QBP.com).

#### About the U.S. Green Building Council

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is a non-profit composed of leaders from every sector of the building industry working to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy places to live and work. Our more than 11,000 member organizations and our network of 75 regional chapters are united to advance our mission of transforming the building industry to sustainability.