



We Provide the Ride

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MEDIA RELEASE

QBP Receives MN Governor's Award for Environmental Practices

Quality Bicycle Products (QBP) and LHB, Inc., an architectural design firm, have been selected as dual recipients the 2008 Governor's Award, an honor recognizing environmental achievements by Minnesota businesses, nonprofits, government and institutions. Sponsored by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the award sites the companies' collaboration to build an environmentally sustainable distribution center for QBP.

"The organizations we honor today have discovered unique ways to prevent waste and pollution through creativity, innovation and resourcefulness while often increasing efficiencies at the same time," commented Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty during an awards ceremony at the Bloomington Sheraton in late February. More than 1,500 people attended.

Over the last two years, QBP has launched a slate of aggressive initiatives to reduce the organization's environmental footprint. Central to this effort was designing and constructing its new 35,000-square-foot office complex and 100,000-square-foot distribution center according to standards set by the U.S. Green Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). The warehouse and office space features numerous energy-saving and waste-reducing interior features like extensive natural lighting, high-efficiency florescent lights, wall panels made from recycled paper products and water-stingy lavatories that save 45,000 gallons of water a year. QBP also installed a 40-kilowatt solar panel array—the largest installation in the Upper Midwest.

"This award gives us a good bench mark for assessing our own progress. As we look at other award recipients, we can learn from them and explore areas where we can improve," said Steve Flagg, president of QBP. "Not only do these efforts make sense in terms of energy conservation and business economics, they're great for employee morale and retention. It's a classic case of win, win, win."

Currently, QBP saves \$12,000 a year in energy costs. As the price of fossil fuels continue to rise, the company anticipates even greater savings, reducing its estimated 11-year return on investment. In another initiative, QBP recently contracted Hennepin County Organics Recycling to compost all its organic waste including food scraps, paper plates and cups, paper towels and more. Additionally, the company recycles old bike tires and tubes and packing waste like plastic straps, shrink-wrap and pallets. QBP also sponsors a thriving employee bike commuter program. In 2007, QBP cyclists racked up a collective 273,000 miles.



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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 a vigorous advocate for the cycling industry. For more information, please contact Jo Wright, director of marketing at 952 -941-9391, or visit: www.QBP.com.

About LHB, Inc.

LHB is a full-service architectural and structural engineering firm with offices in Duluth and Minneapolis that can complete all facets of a project using dedicated, in-house teams. Using the principles of high performance design, LHB focuses on creating environments that are valued for their economic, environmental, and social justice considerations. To assure this happens, our design documents undergo a thorough internal and external review to ensure accuracy. Our design excellence values are maintained through continuous inspiration from our creative staff and client and community collaboration.