



The Quantum Quote

Issue 2, April 2011

Yep, it's that time again! Welcome to the Quantum Quote, Issue 2! Our first template has been discontinued by our email carrier, leading to this new look. I'll likely tweak it a bit over the next few issues, so please remain patient!

There are a couple of great articles in this issue, including a chance to pick your favorite charitable cause for a \$100 donation and an announcement on Quantum's sustainable building line.

We had a fantastic response to our "Night With A Contractor" last issue, so expect to see a date set up soon, pending a potential remodel of our conference room.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or recommendations, please let me know!

Josh

Quantum Goes Green!

It's no secret that Quantum Construction is all about supporting community. This March, we took it one step when we became a provider of [Built Green Washington](#), a certification system that matches sustainable building to the Pacific Northwest in a very affordable manner.

Building green is ultimately about the comfort of the occupants and preserving resources and the environment for our children. It fit so well with our focus at Quantum that it was a natural step. While many people don't connect green buildings with occupant comfort, both Built Green and

LEED award points for indoor air quality, thermal comfort, accessibility, and user-friendly lighting designs. Personally, my favorite part about Built Green is the checklist approach. I can sit down with clients and choose the elements that match up with their taste and budget. No two buildings have to be the same. And while some of the elements like solar power come with a larger price tag, there are quite a few options that actually save the client money. Ultimately, building green conserves resources so there's often a natural savings when things are done right. I like to refer to it as high efficiency building.



In support of Quantum's efforts, I also obtained accreditation as a [LEED Green Associate](#), which signifies a broad understanding of green building.

Love the idea but tired of the word "green?" Watch our next issue for a poll on your favorite term for sustainable building!

Charity Choice

Quantum has a long history of supporting local charities, from youth sports to medical and charitable organizations. Now, we'd like you to help us choose who receives a \$100 donation for each newsletter. It's easy: just reply to this email with the name of your favorite charity! Load the odds in your favor by forwarding this newsletter to your friends or coworkers and have them submit a response too! Remember, it has to be a recognized non-profit. Make sure that the newsletter is at the bottom of their email, that's the ticket to making their entry count! The deadline for entries is April 30th, so get going!

Business After Hours

On June 16th from 5:30 to 7:00pm, we'll be opening our doors to Anacortes Chamber of Commerce members (and prospective members!) for a Business After Hours! Stop on by for food, fun and fantastic networking! We're on Padilla Heights at 12761 Quantum Lane in Anacortes and no RSVP is necessary to us, though the [Anacortes Chamber of Commerce](#) would appreciate a heads up.



Images of the interior and exterior of our building

Sustainable and Efficient

Another new regular column in our newsletter is *Sustainable and Efficient*, a column that will introduce readers to the ins and outs of green building and easy ways to implement green features into both new construction and existing remodels. Let's begin by introducing green building, an often misunderstood concept. We're covering a lot, so this issue is a little longer than future columns.

Green building is constructed on the three pillars of People, Profit, and Planet. "People" refers to the importance of healthy, comfortable and productive spaces in which to live and work. Points are often awarded to projects that raise indoor air quality by reducing contaminants and mold and to those that increase thermal and luminary comfort. "Profit" acknowledges that few companies and individuals are willing to invest any funds in sustainable construction, unless there is a financial incentive for efficient building. The focus on "Planet" is conservation of our resources and the beautiful outdoors that we enjoy in the Pacific Northwest.

Most features in sustainable projects can be categorized in to one of four categories: energy efficiency, material selection, site and water, or indoor air quality. Some options, like the HVAC system, may fall into more than one category. The focus on energy efficiency is to decrease the overall power usage or to offset it with alternative energy sources. Next, material selection examines regional, recycled and rapidly renewable resources. Site and water options help you choose building locations and orientation that compliment these and other factors, and also reduce storm water runoff and potable water usage. Finally, indoor air quality is focused on creating a healthy and comfortable environment.

What does all this mean? What does a certified green building really look like? That's easy. It's a place that you want to be because it's comfortable, looks fantastic and fits your lifestyle and workflow. It'll save you money, sometimes up front, and always over the course of several years because it is highly efficient. Your resale value 10% higher than a comparable building in the Puget Sound and it's likely to spend 30% less time on the market. The Built Green Certification fee is *very* affordable (currently paid for by Quantum in our projects). In commercial applications, certification is a powerful way to show your customers your true values. Finally, you'll be able to rest assured that you've taken a significant step to help your environment.

Next Issue

Stay tuned to the next issue for our article on “What is a General Contractor?” With the introduction of *Sustainable and Efficient*, we ran out of room in Issue 2!

[Quantum Construction, Inc.](#) is a family-owned general contractor based in Anacortes, WA. Quantum has been building high quality commercial, custom residential and industrial projects since 1984. For information on how we can give you the best building experience, please contact us by [email](#) or by phone at (360) 293-0656.



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Quantum Construction, Inc.
12761 Quantum Lane
Anacortes, WA 98221
US

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