

French American Chamber of Commerce to Recognize Saint-Gobain for Sustainability Efforts

2020 FACC FÊTE

With recent news surrounding sustainability and climate change, the Paris Agreement has been on many people's mind lately. An example of one company leading the industry in several areas along the sustainability trajectory is French company, Saint-Gobain.

A key example of Saint-Gobain's efforts to reduce the environmental impact of the company's operations: in 2016, Saint-Gobain opened its 277,000 sq ft US headquarters located in Malvern, Pennsylvania, achieved [LEED](#) Platinum certification as a result of numerous products from its construction products subsidiary, CertainTeed, that were used in construction and design. CertainTeed products allowed Saint-Gobain to create a modern work environment, while maintaining employee comfort and increasing productivity. On the sustainability side, the materials enhanced daylighting sensors to replace artificial electric lights, achieved 90% construction and demolition recycling rate, instituted a green housekeeping program, and provided incentives for low emissions vehicles on site. Over 38,600 people have visited this building since its opening.

"With each new LEED-certified building, we get one step closer to USGBC's vision of a sustainable built environment within a generation," said Mark Rayfield, President and CEO of Saint-Gobain in North America and CertainTeed LLC. "That vision connects deeply with our values at Saint-Gobain and reinforces the purpose of our new headquarters, which is to honor the past accomplishments of 14 generations of employees, and invigorate today's employees who uphold Saint-Gobain's rich heritage of improving the built environment and driving the green building movement."





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Saint-Gobain has been an industry leader and trailblazer for sustainability efforts. On the material efficiency front, using recycled glass called “cullet” in the manufacturing process saves raw materials

and lessens the demand for energy. Back in 2008, the company was able to use enough cullet to save nearly 10 million cubic feet of landfill space. Laid end-to-end, containers made from this amount of glass would circle the earth 11 times.

Most recently, the company entered into a 12-year virtual Power Purchase Agreement (vPPA) that will reduce Saint-Gobain’s overall carbon footprint in the U.S. by 21%. The company has contracted to buy 120 megawatt (WM) of the 250MW wind farm in Illinois, which is scheduled to be operational in late 2020. It is a key contribution to the company’s commitment by Pierre-André de Chalendar, Chairman and CEO of Saint-Gobain, during the UN Climate Action Summit of September 2019.

On March 5th, 2020, the global Chairman and CEO of Saint-Gobain, Pierre-André de Chalendar, will be honored in Philadelphia at the FACC FÊTE. Please click [link here](#) for information.