

PRESS RELEASE

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LEED GREEN BUILDINGS GLOW-IN-THE-DARK WITH NEW EXIT SIGNS

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Active Safety Corporation, a manufacturer of architectural grade photoluminescent exit signs, announced today that 3 California building projects targeting LEED sustainability goals are employing photoluminescent exit signs. The 3 projects are: a University of California at San Diego math/physics classroom tower, a Newport Beach Nature Center and a Mammoth Mountain condominium. The nature center and condominium are United States Green Building Council LEED [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design] registered projects. The university tower is part of a 2006 State of California green building initiative [Executive Order S-20-04] fostered by Governor Schwarzenegger.

Exit signs are some of the most important life safety equipment inside a building when a fire or other emergency occurs. Photoluminescent exit signs are a relatively new technology that uses an environmentally friendly formulation of strontium oxide aluminate crystals as the “power source” instead of electricity or radioactivity. Photoluminescent exit signs work by absorbing ambient light during normal operations and using this light energy to glow brightly and designate exit routes when the lights go out in an emergency. Because photoluminescent exit signs are primarily made of recycled aluminum, are non-toxic and are not direct users of electricity, they can help secure credit in 3 LEED categories: Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources and Innovation in Design.

“An increasing number of developers, architects and engineers are incorporating photoluminescent exit signs into their building projects because, in many cases, they are a better alternative than electrically powered LED exit signs or radioactive powered tritium exit signs” said Scot Gordon, Active Safety’s CEO. “Better, because they provide a safer egress environment, they are much less expensive to install and operate, and finally because they support sustainable building objectives.”

Photoluminescent egress systems were first installed in the early 1990s. ‘Look-back’ studies performed after the World Trade Center disasters in 1993 and 2001, found that occupants escaped distressed buildings with photoluminescent egress signage faster and safer. Accordingly, photoluminescent exit signage now must be installed in all New York City buildings over 75 feet. Other municipalities are considering similar measures.

Photoluminescent exit signs are Underwriter’s Laboratories [UL] and Energy Star listed, National Fire Protection Association [NFPA] compliant and approved by fire marshals in nearly every state. With over a decade of experience, Active Safety is a leading manufacturer of specification grade photoluminescent exit signs and egress marking systems for office, condo, school, retail and other facilities. For more information, visit www.activesafety.com or contact a commercial lighting representative agency.

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