



News Release

Green Roofs Professional Designation Launched *Exam establishes green roof professional viability in growing industrial sector*

TORONTO, ON – June 10 2009 - Green Roofs for Healthy Cities (GRHC), the North American Green Roof Industry Association, is pleased to announce the launch of the new Green Roof Professional (GRP) Accreditation Program on June 5, 2009 at the 7th Annual International Greening Rooftops for Sustainable Communities Conference in Atlanta, GA hosted by GRHC.

130 Conference Delegates were the first to complete the newly launched Green Roof Professional (GRP) Accreditation Exam. The test covered the key areas of knowledge expected of a Green Roof Professional and encompassed five areas of concentration including pre-design, design, contract management, quality assurance and support, and maintenance. GRP accreditation will verify the designated GRP has attained a level of the interdisciplinary knowledge needed in the design, installation and maintenance of green roof systems. GRP accreditation also provides continuing education credits for AIA, ASLA, APA and LEED.

Green roofs bring roofing professionals, with their knowledge of drainage, waterproofing and structural support, together with landscapers, growing medium specialists, horticulturalists and landscape architects. Many associated industry partners and subject matter experts provided GRHC with information on which the exam was based, including the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), the National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA), green roof industry members and other roofing associations.

Steven Peck, President of Green Roofs for Healthy Cities, pointed out, “Our recent North American industry survey reports the American green roof industry grew by 35 % in 2008, and there is growing governmental policy interest in the use of green roof infrastructure to meet various Municipal, County, State and Federal mandates for stormwater management, air quality standards and energy efficiency standards. We are proud to establish the Green Roof Professional (GRP) accreditation that keeps pace with the growing demand for qualified professionals in the sector”.

Adds Jeffrey Bruce, Owner and Managing Member of Jeffrey L. Bruce & Company, LLC and incoming Chair of the GRHC Board, “The growing use of green roofs means that government agency staff, regulators, permit reviewers, contract officers, project managers and others must increase their own education and confidence level with the technology. The GRP will help to protect the green roof industry from inevitable failures while rewarding those who take the time to learn best practices in design, installation and maintenance”.

GRP Accreditation exams will be conducted in Fall 2009 in Chicago (09/18), Toronto (10/19), New York and Seattle.

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About Green Roofs for Healthy Cities: Green Roofs for Healthy Cities (GRHC) was founded in 1999 as a small network of public and private organizations. GRHC is now a rapidly growing not-for-profit industry association of green roof experts in North America. Our mission is to increase the awareness of the economic, social and environmental benefits of green roofs and green walls, and other forms of living architecture through education, advocacy, professionalism and celebrations of excellence. www.greenroofs.org.