



LEED PtD Pilot Credit: Challenges to Implementation

Occupational Safety and Health in Green Buildings: LEED PtD Pilot Credit Analysis

Michael Behm and Annie Pearce. CPWR Report, August 2017.

Overview

Prevention through Design (PtD) incorporates elements into building design that will reduce safety and health risks for the workers who will construct and maintain the building. In 2015, the US Green Building Council launched a PtD pilot credit as part of the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification program. The research team examined early implementation of the pilot credit. Using case studies of two European construction projects that pursued the credit, and surveys and interviews with domestic building industry stakeholders, they explored why U.S. adoption of the credit has been limited.

Key Findings

- Support for Prevention through Design and the PtD Pilot Credit in the United States has come primarily from the construction safety community rather than the design community, but higher order controls are more likely to be identified during the design phase compared to the construction phase.
- Motivation to implement the PtD Pilot Credit in the U.S was limited primarily by the lack of lead designer and architect enthusiasm for PtD. Relatively few designers and architects recognized PtD as a viable concept.
- For PtD to be more broadly adopted as part of sustainable construction, the concept should be included as part of the Integrative Process credit rather than offered a stand-alone credit.
- Opportunities remain limited for construction stakeholders to influence design at the earliest stages, when PtD is most effective. Practice and research opportunities (grants and funding) should be considered that target architects and designers to take the lead in PtD and own the processes involved.

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Read report:

<http://bit.ly/2yKvxge>

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