

Buildings that are more comfortable, energy efficient and inexpensive to operate are now possible, using information from a new CD-ROM.

Architects, planners and builders can now get new, up-to-date tips on how to create buildings and developments that are more profitable and more environmentally friendly. The know-how comes from *Green Developments 2.0*, a newly revised and updated version of a CD-ROM created by the Green Development Services team at Rocky Mountain Institute.

Green Developments, Version 2.0 is an in-depth resource on environmental construction and development—creating fundamentally better buildings and communities by making them more efficient, more appealing, more in tune with nature, more comfortable and ultimately more profitable. The CD is a tool for educating designers and builders and a resource for project development research. It is designed to be used by architects, planners, engineers, community leaders and financiers. At least 5,000 copies of the original Green Developments CD-ROM have been distributed since its release in 1997.

For the developer and building owner, green building and development offers many potential benefits: reduced operating costs of buildings and grounds; improved sales or leasing rates; higher property values; reduced liability risk; better health and higher worker productivity; avoided regulatory delays during permitting, and even reduced capital costs. Not all of these benefits will be realized in every project, but all are documented frequently throughout the case studies in the CD-ROM.

Ben Shepherd, a member of RMI's Green Development Services team, said the case studies are the core of the CD, and the most-used section. "It's one thing to talk about efficiency benefits and cost savings, and another to really see a building that achieves them. It's not so much the numbers. It's the lessons learned." A "Lessons Learned" section found in each case study describes the things that didn't work as well as intended, but it also details the amazing reductions in resource consumption and increases in productivity that are often achieved.

The most significant change in the new CD-ROM is the addition of more than 100 additional case studies, bringing the total to more than 200. The case studies from the previous version were updated with expanded information. In addition, the photographs are larger and clearer thanks to advances in technology. The general information in such areas as design, financing and further research has been updated as well.

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Rocky Mountain Institute, located in Old Snowmass, CO., is an entrepreneurial nonprofit organization engaged in research and consulting. RMI fosters the efficient and restorative use of resources to create a more secure, prosperous, and life-sustaining world.

RMI's Green Development Services unit works to improve the efficiency of buildings and projects through consulting and research. The GDS team has produced numerous articles and books on green development and home resource efficiency for both professionals and consumers.

Copies of *Green Developments, Version 2.0* are available for \$20 plus \$5.50 for shipping and handling, from RMI, 1739 Snowmass Creek Rd., Snowmass, CO 81654, or on the RMI website at This CD is no longer from Rocky Mountain Institute.