

## PROJECT PROFILE

### EQUIVALENT DATA

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS  
HOUSTON, TEXAS  
18,865 SQ. FT.

### LEED® NC SILVER

34% energy savings

35% water savings

92% waste diverted from landfill

## LEED® Facts

Equivalent Data  
Corporate Headquarters  
Houston, TX

*LEED 2.1 for New Construction  
Certification awarded August 8, 2007*

<b>Silver</b>	<b>34*</b>
Sustainable Sites	7/14
Water Efficiency	3/5
Energy & Atmosphere	5/17
Materials & Resources	6/13
Indoor Environment Quality	9/15
Innovation & Design	4/5

*\*Out of a possible 69 points*

## PROJECT PROFILE

### EQUIVALENT DATA — HOUSTON, TEXAS

# DATA CENTER & LEED®: A NATURAL FIT

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Located in the Westway Park Development of Houston, Equivalent DATA sought to design a headquarters building that assured the best use of space and also met LEED certification standards. The two-story, tilt wall building is approximately 18,865 square feet and includes offices, a data center, and a customer training facility capable of accommodating up to 300 people. The building is organized by a centrally located server room which serves as a hub for the technology center. The LEED-Silver offices of Equivalent DATA were the first in a series of Green Building Tours organized by the Houston Mayor's Green Building Advisory Committee, the USGBC and the Greater Houston Partnership.

#### MAKING BUSINESS SENSE

Designing the Equivalent DATA headquarters as a green building was essential for the software company's president, Michael Medrano. "...one of (their) most valuable offerings is software and services for litigation related matters that enable customers the ability to look at their data without ever having to convert to paper. Having a headquarters designed around the idea of conservation seemed like a natural fit and it is consistent with our business model."

In addition to creating a dynamic workspace, Equivalent DATA worked with Gensler to use energy efficient and environmentally friendly materials and strategies, as well as educating the client and in-users of environmental efforts.

#### STRATEGIES AND RESULTS

The site includes strategic draining patterns, such as bio swales that take advantage of the development's planned detention areas avoiding site erosion. Minimum parking spaces encourage employees to carpool or use alternative transportation. The landscape design limits the demand of water by using drought tolerant plants and a highly efficient irrigation system reducing site irrigation usage by 50%. Additional water conservation strategies included waterless urinals & low flow fixtures and faucets resulting in approximately 35% water savings.

The building was designed to create an environmentally friendly workspace using regional materials (within 500 miles) that conserved transportation fuel. The interior design provides daylight to 75% of the interior spaces and outdoor views to most spaces while exterior sunshades, efficient lighting, dimming controls, task lighting and motion sensors, helped reduce energy costs. High insulating values, an Energy Star roof with a reflective surface and Low-E, high performance glazing provide a thermally comfortable space and contribute to energy savings of approximately 34% better than code standards. Other sustainable design elements include: CO2 monitoring, Low VOC paint, no VOC adhesives, carpet with recycled face yarns, trims and millwork with certified wood veneers and the use of Energy Star appliances.

Innovative credits included green housekeeping, educational outreach programs and exemplary performance in purchasing 100% green power for 2 years and providing nearly 20% recycled content materials.

SpawGlass Construction helped in following stringent LEED construction requirements by ensuring that a waste management plan was implemented and maintained proper air quality in the building during and after construction.

#### ABOUT EQUIVALENT DATA

Equivalent DATA is a software and service leader in electronic discovery with headquarters in Houston, Texas. Equivalent DATA provides law firms and corporations with insight into data with its award winning software, NeedleFinder®.

"HAVING A HEADQUARTERS DESIGNED AROUND THE IDEA OF CONSERVATION SEEMED LIKE A NATURAL FIT AND IT IS CONSISTENT WITH OUR BUSINESS MODEL."

— MICHAEL MEDRANO,  
PRESIDENT  
EQUIVALENT DATA



**Owner:** Equivalent DATA  
**Architect:** Gensler  
**Contractor:** SpawGlass Construction Corp.  
**MEP Engineer:** Redding Linden Burr  
**Structural Engineer:** Ingenium, Inc.  
**Landscape Architect:** Wong & Assoc.  
**Civil Engineer:** Cobb Fendley & Assoc.  
**LEED Consultant:** Gensler  
**Project Size:** 18,865 SF  
**Total Project Cost:** \$2,500,000  
**Cost PSF:** \$132.52  
**Completion:** June 2006  
Photography courtesy of Hugh Hargrave and Gensler.

#### ABOUT LEED

The LEED® Green Building Rating System™ is the national benchmark for the design, construction and operations of high-performance green buildings. Visit the U.S. Green Building Council's web site at [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org) to learn more about how you can make LEED work for you.

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Greater Houston Area Chapter

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**GREATER HOUSTON  
AREA CHAPTER**

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