

## MANKO, GOLD, KATCHER & FOX, LLP BUILDS LEED® ACCREDITED TEAM TO HELP CLIENTS WITH SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PRACTICES

**Philadelphia**, **PA** (October 24, 2008) – With green development already filling the landscape, developers and building operators are looking for knowledgeable legal assistance. Toward that end, Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox LLP (MGKF), an environmental, energy and land use law firm in Bala Cynwyd, has begun forming a LEED accredited team of professionals with the recent LEED accreditation (LEED AP) of in-house technical consultant Michael Nines.

The accreditation is issued by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) to signify mastery of sustainable design and building practices. LEED stands for the USGBC's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and is a voluntary, consensus-based, market-driven building rating system based on existing proven technology. The LEED program evaluates environmental performance from a whole building perspective over a building's life cycle, providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a "green" building.

"Our firm at its core has always been committed to the promotion of sustainable building practices," said Managing Partner Robert Fox. "With the recent LEED accreditation for one of our key in-house technical advisors, we are now in an even better position to provide the support and counsel necessary for our clients when it comes to high performance sustainable building practices."

The first at MGKF to become LEED accredited, Nines has served as an in-house technical consultant at MGKF since 2005. He has more than ten years of diverse environmental engineering experience gained through previous employment in the environmental consulting and chemical manufacturing industries, and with an international manufacturing trade association. Nines is a member of the Delaware Valley Green Building Council, Air & Waste Management Association, Water Environment Federation, National Society of Professional Engineers, and Auditing Roundtable. He received his Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Drexel University.

MGKF concentrates its practice in environmental, energy, and land use law and litigation. It represents clients ranging from Fortune 100 corporations to small, privately held enterprises, both in the Mid-Atlantic Region and on a national basis. MGKF's offices are located at 401 City Avenue, Suite 500, Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania and 535 Route 38, Suite 145A, Cherry Hill, New Jersey. For additional information, visit <u>www.mgkflaw.com</u> or call 484-430-5700 or 856-317-1299.

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