



NEWS RELEASE

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219 Eighth Street Building Earns LEED Gold Certification

DES MOINES, Iowa (Aug. 29, 2018)—EMC Insurance Companies has earned a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification for its four-story office building at 219 Eighth Street in Des Moines located on the northwest corner of the block bordered by Seventh and Eighth Streets and Walnut and Mulberry Streets.

“This certification marks our commitment to sustainability in the Des Moines community,” says EMC Director of Facilities Harold Capps. “We wanted 219 Eighth Street to complement the other buildings in our downtown campus, as well as our efforts to support the environment.”

LEED, the most widely used green building rating system in the world, recognizes healthy, highly efficient and cost-saving green buildings. Certifications are based on criteria in several categories, such as energy use and air quality. Buildings can achieve one of four LEED rating levels: Certified, Silver, Gold or Platinum.

Completed in 2017, EMC’s 219 Eighth Street building includes below-grade parking, tenant space and an employee entrance on the ground level facing Walnut Street, with additional space for essential electrical, mechanical and printing equipment. The entire second floor is a new wellness facility. The third floor includes a 124-seat auditorium, training rooms and an open collaboration area. The fourth floor accommodates Information Technology office space. Brooks Borg Skiles Architecture Engineering in Des Moines designed the new facility; Neumann Brothers was the general construction contractor.

Several features helped earn the 219 Eighth Street building its LEED Gold certification, including high-efficiency hot water boilers and heaters to replace traditional steam boilers. An environmentally friendly energy recovery system allows the building to recoup waste heat and transfer it to incoming services, saving up to 3 million BTUs in gas and electric input energy. In addition, a triple-pane glass curtain wall system contributes to a 39-percent reduction in energy costs and allows for a naturally lit environment with views of downtown Des Moines.

Visit new.usgbc.org/leed for more details about LEED-certified buildings.

About EMC Insurance Companies

EMC Insurance Companies is among the top 50 insurance organizations in the country based on net written premium, with more than 2,500 employees. Employers Mutual Casualty Company (EMCC) was organized in 1911 to write workers’ compensation protection in Iowa. Today, operating under the trade

name EMC Insurance Companies, the company provides property and casualty insurance products and services throughout the United States and writes reinsurance contracts worldwide. EMCC is licensed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. For more information, visit www.emcins.com.

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