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CM Engineering's Efficient Design is Recognized by EPA's Energy Star

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*Columbia, Missouri, July 1, 2016--*The Environmental Protection Agency has awarded an Energy Star rating of 98 to the OHM office building in Columbia. This very high rating means the building is among the top 2% of US office buildings in the efficient use of energy.

“This rating validates what we do every day” said CEO Kent Hayes. “From the outset, our goal was to design the most energy efficient building in Columbia. We monitor the building’s operating efficiency around the clock, so we knew early on that it was performing even better than our expectations. It’s very gratifying to see our vision brought to reality and confirmed by this rating.”

The building showcases a number of system designs that have earned CM Engineering an international reputation in energy efficiency. The heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system consists of eleven ground source heat pumps connected to eighteen vertical geothermal bores. Water is circulated through the entire system with a single, one-pipe, closed loop. This allows for less pumping power, simpler controls and much lower installation and operating costs. LED lighting systems provide balanced light with less electrical consumption. The inside air is completely exchanged several times daily with a total energy recovery ventilation system. This system features a CO₂ demand control which allows for further savings when the building is unoccupied and increases fresh air as the number of occupants rises. Insulation and efficient windows far exceed normal building code minimums. Combined, these strategies allow the 12,000 square foot office building’s total electrical requirements to be operated for maximum comfort at a cost of \$22 per day.

CM Engineering is a consulting engineering firm founded in 1993.

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