

# LEED Certification



*RAM Industries is dedicated to designing and producing energy-efficient window products that utilize sustainable materials and provide long lasting performance.* We are excited to see the principles of “Green Building” now flourishing. Everyday, more and more architects, contractors, owners and investors are specifying environmentally friendly building products and practices. They know that building green impacts more than the environment; it means lower operating costs, greater marketability and increased productivity.

The U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System™ is an important factor in this emerging environmental awareness. Whether pertaining to new construction (LEED-NC), existing buildings (LEED-EB) or homes (LEED-H), LEED certification recognizes projects that meet stringent standards of environmental and public health excellence. While individual building components themselves are not certified, they can contribute to the points awarded to a project as a whole.

RAM’s long-lasting and energy-efficient windows can be an integral part of your project’s LEED certification. *In fact, RAM windows were utilized on the first LEED Platinum certified new construction home in Houston.* Below, you’ll find details regarding the LEED-NC credits RAM windows can help you earn. We invite you to contact us if you would like more information pertaining to your specific project or for details on certification in other LEED programs.

## ENERGY & ATMOSPHERE

### EA Prerequisite 2 – Minimum Energy Performance

**Intent:** Establish the minimum level of energy efficiency for the proposed building and systems.

RAM windows meet or exceed current ASHRAE 90.1 provisions which assists projects in achieving this Energy Performance criteria.

### EA Credit 1 – Optimize Energy Performance

**Point Level:** Up to 10 Points (Note: 2 Points are mandatory)

**Intent:** Achieve increasing levels of energy performance above the baseline in the prerequisite standard to reduce environmental and economic impacts associated with excessive energy use.

RAM windows can help achieve increased levels of energy performance in the following ways:

- **High performance glazing and frames:** All RAM windows are offered with double pane, insulated glass, which includes a low-e coating and optional argon gas-fill. In addition, our aluminum window frames and sashes contain a structural thermal break that also reduces energy transfer and offers U-factors as low as 0.34.
- **Low infiltration rates:** High levels of structural performance (DP ratings) on all RAM windows translate into low air and sound infiltration rates.
- **Solar heat gain:** We offer a number of options for our RAM windows that can reduce solar heat gain, especially when used in conjunction with overhangs and other design strategies.

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## MATERIALS & RESOURCES

### MR Credit 2.1-2.2 – Construction Waste Management: Divert 50% or 75% from Disposal

**Point Level:** Up to 2 Points

**Intent:** Divert construction, demolition and land-clearing debris from disposal in landfills and incinerators. Redirect recyclable recovered resources back to the manufacturing process. Redirect reusable materials to appropriate sites.

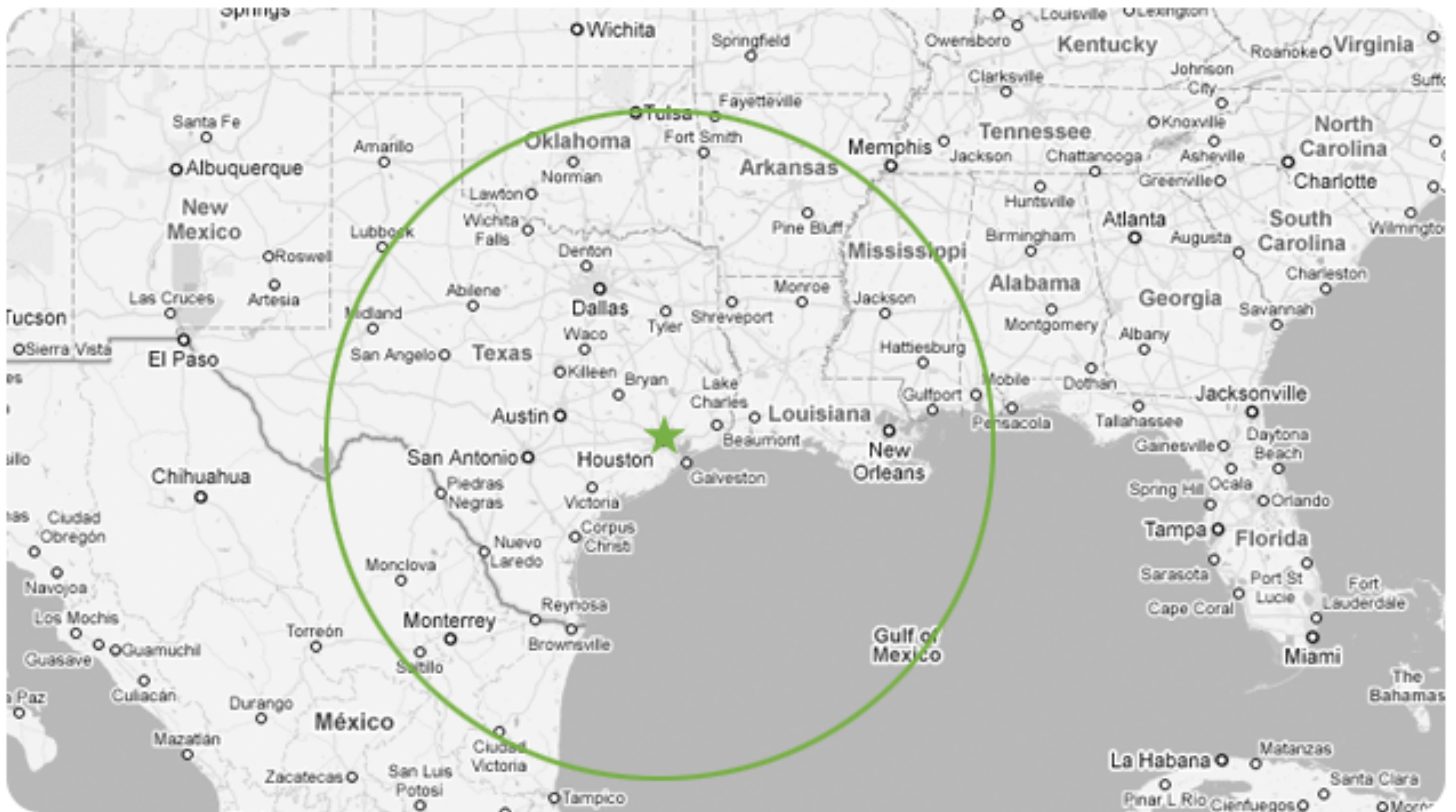
RAM delivers all our products with re-usable wood corner blocks that are fully recyclable. These heavy wood corner blocks also help protect the window from any construction site damage during storage and handling.

### MR Credit 4.1-4.2 – Recycled Content: 10% or 20%

**Point Level:** Up to 2 Points

**Intent:** Increase demand for building products that incorporate recycled content materials, thereby reducing impacts resulting from extraction and processing of virgin materials.

RAM windows extensively incorporate recycled materials. Our glass contains 20% or more recycled content. Our aluminum extrusions contain an average of 70% recycled content, of which approximately 30% is post-consumer. Our hardware contains approximately 10% recycled content. This meets the LEED requirements for 4.1 and 4.2 for using “materials with recycled content such that the sum of the post-consumer recycled content plus one-half of the pre-consumer content constitutes 10% or 20% (based on cost) of the total value of the materials in the project.” Average composition of a RAM window is 60-70% glass and 30-40% aluminum.



### MR Credit 5.1-5.2 – Regional Materials: 10% or 20% Extracted, Processed & Manufactured Regionally

**Point Level:** Up to 2 Points

**Intent:** Increase demand for building materials and products that are extracted and manufactured within the region, thereby supporting the use of indigenous resources and reducing the environmental impacts resulting from transportation.

RAM windows are manufactured in Stafford, TX, a southwest suburb of Houston. Our glass and aluminum extrusion suppliers are also located in Texas. RAM windows can contribute to this credit for projects within 500 miles of the manufacturing site.

