

News Release

(W/PHOTOS)

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CAPSTONE ADVISORS GOES GREEN AND GETS GOLD AT CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

CARLSBAD, **Calif**. - Capstone Advisors, a Southern California based real estate services, investment and development company, announces that its corporate headquarters building in Carlsbad has achieved LEED Gold certification along with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) prestigious Energy Star designation for superior energy performance. This is the first existing Carlsbad building to achieve LEED certification, and the only San Diego County building to achieve certification in accordance with the newest (2009) LEED standards.

According to Alex Zikakis, president of Capstone Advisors, the recent awards reflect the company's environmental focus and commitment to create an energy efficient, sustainable and healthy workplace for the benefit of employees, visitors and the Carlsbad community. "Our goal was for our new headquarters building to clearly portray our philosophy, culture and environmental standard for development," said Zikakis. "The building's eco-renovation reflects our commitment to constantly enhance the communities that we are shaping, creating, living or working in."

The 1545 Faraday location began its renovation and redesign following Capstone Advisors' acquisition and relocation to the 14,194-square-foot office building. Capstone Advisors implemented LEED standards by using renewable and recycled materials, incorporating water and energy efficient fixtures, and the integration of green practices into policies and procedures. Specific environmental features include low VOC paint and carpet, bamboo flooring, energy efficient HVAC operating procedures, ultra efficient light fixtures, low flow fixtures and faucet aerators, a reclaimed water system for site irrigation, and the use of green cleaning products, materials and equipment. Capstone Advisors also now recycles more than 85 percent of building waste.

In order to achieve the Energy Star award status, a building must rank in the top 25 percent for energy efficiency among similar buildings in the nation. An Energy Star qualified facility meets strict energy performance standards set by the EPA and uses on an average of 40 percent less energy than typical buildings.

About Capstone Advisors

Capstone Advisors was founded as a diversified real estate investment, development and advisory firm. In addition to the company's active land development business and commercial real estate acquisitions, the company is currently providing third party asset management and receivership services to a variety of banks, investors and private lenders. The company has served as advisor, capital provider, asset manager, operating partner, and developer for some of the world's largest financial institutions. From 1998 to 2005, the Company primarily served as a capital provider to residential real estate developers, building itself into one of the most recognized and respected residential equity investors in the western United States. Capstone's seasoned management team, by itself or through its development partners, has entitled, built, developed or sold over 30,000 residential lots and homes. Currently Capstone Advisors is building on its long track record as a land investor and developer, and has been actively buying land in California for residential, commercial and community development.

The company's competitive advantages include exposure to an extensive network of banks and other financial institutions, public and private developers/homebuilders and residential land brokers, as well as a deep knowledge of the entitlement, development and homebuilding industry. Capstone Advisors has invested in the development of over \$4 billion of residential and land development projects as well as purchased or developed 4.5 million square feet of commercial properties.

Capstone Advisors is headquartered in Carlsbad, CA at 1545 Faraday Avenue. The phone number is 760-804-6900. The company's web address is <u>www.capstoneadvisors.com</u>.



