

Sizeler Thompson Brown Architects Joins '2030 Challenge' to Reverse Growth of Greenhouse Gases; First Louisiana Firm to Commit to Challenge

Sizeler Thompson Brown Architects (STBA) has joined 'The 2030 Challenge'—a global initiative to reduce and, ultimately, reverse energy demand and production of greenhouse gasses (GHG). "The 2030 Challenge' was developed by internationally-recognized Sante Fe, NM architect Edward Marzia who launched the effort in 2006 through the non-profit, non partisan organization, *Architecture 2030*.

Marzia, author of "The Passive Solar Energy Book' -the fundamental resource for solar design, has undertaken the challenge in response to the global-warming crisis. The mission of *Architecture 2030* is to rapidly transform the US and global building sector from a contributor to the global-warming crisis to a central part of the solution. US Energy Administration figures show that buildings are responsible for 48% of all greenhouse gas emissions annually.

Architecture 2030's immediate goal is to galvanize the building industry to adopt new energy-efficient planning, design and construction techniques that will achieve a 50% reduction in fossil fuel consumption and GHG-emitting construction by 2010 and then incrementally increase the reduction for new buildings to carbon neutral by 2030. 'The 2030 Challenge' has been endorsed by the US Conference of Mayors (Resolution #50), American Institute of Architects (AIA), US Green Building Council (USGBC), Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA/Target Finder), Royal Architecture Institute of Canada (RAIC), International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), Union Internationale des Architectes (UIA).

"STBA is proud to be the first architectural and design firm in Louisiana to commit to the challenge advanced by *Architecture 2030*," states Billy Sizeler, principal in Sizeler Thompson Brown Architects. "STBA has been committed to the principles of energy-efficient, non-carbon emitting design and construction,' he notes.

STBA currently has five professionals who are LEED Accredited Professionals (LEED PA) and the remaining technical staff is working towards their certification. LEED professional accreditation means that recipients have demonstrated a thorough understanding of green building practices and principles and the LEED Rating System. In addition, they are committed to applying their knowledge to design and construction.