Iconic ArtScience Museum Achieves LEED Certification

ASM is first museum in Asia Pacific to attain this prominent level of certification

Marina Bay Sands’ ArtScience Museum is not only a museum but also a striking lotus-inspired iconic cultural landmark in Singapore that has exhibited artwork by world-famous artists including Leonardo da Vinci, Andy Warhol, and Vincent Van Gogh. The building, which serves both as a platform for sustainability and a model of design excellence, is the first museum in Asia Pacific to secure the prestigious LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification under the Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance rating system.

The ArtScience Museum’s high-performance building systems and optimized operations conserve an impressive amount of energy, water, and waste each year. Overall, the museum is 47% more energy efficient than comparable building structures and recycles over half of all operational waste. The lotus flower petals that peak out from atop the structure serve not only an aesthetic architectural feat but also act as an integrated rainwater capturing system that collects approximately 370,000 gallons of rainfall each year which is used for landscaping and other non-potable needs.

The museum also provides spaces to engage and inspire the community on sustainability issues. Inside, art exhibits explore the intersection of art, science, technology and culture, and is home to mesmerizing environmental showcases. A new experience called Into the Wild: An Immersive Virtual Adventure, welcomes visitors into a lush digital world of Southeast Asian rainforests inhabited by pangolins, tapirs, and tigers. Further, inspirational lectures covering topics ranging from natural history to particle physics are given by esteemed scientists, thought leaders, and industry influencers and are open for the community to enjoy.

The ArtScience Museum’s design excellence combined with its continued exploration of the natural world through programs and exhibitions make this space standout as a leader in the sustainability industry.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

80,000 Hygiene Kits Assembled in 2018

Hygiene kit builds with Clean the World once again took place this year with great success. Kit builds are an annual worldwide volunteer effort where Team Members (TMs) and community members assemble suite amenities including soaps, shampoos, toothbrushes, and toothpastes into hygiene kits for delivery to populations in need. The kits are essential for good health and preventing the spread of disease while also diverting waste away from landfill. In total, 35,000 kits were assembled at Sands China Ltd., 15,000 were assembled at The Venetian Resort, 20,000 were assembled at Marina Bay Sands, and 10,000 were assembled at Sands Bethlehem.
Beyond the Burger
Fourteen Restaurants at Sands China Ltd. Offer Unique Planet-Friendly Bites

This November, Sands China Ltd launched its Green Cuisine campaign, an initiative which introduces vegan and plant-based dishes in 14 restaurants, making it easier for guests to eat with the planet in mind. The campaign is part of a broader partnership with the social enterprise Green Mondays, which helped bring more vegetarian options to Team Member Dining Rooms in September. New dishes incorporate innovative plant-based foodtech ingredients, including products of pioneers like Beyond Meat, Omnipork, Just Scramble, Daiya and Gardein. The unique offering of such a comprehensive range of non-meat substitutes and tasting opportunities at select restaurants provides new options for guests looking to enjoy tasty dishes and also reduce their carbon footprint. Many dishes are not only planet-friendly but also have less saturated fats and no added antibiotics or hormones.

AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT
Club Ride Clean Commutes Program Recognized for Dedication and Excellence

Since The Venetian Resort first became Platinum partners of the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada’s (RTC) Club Ride commuter program on Earth Day 2012, more than 2,000 Team Members have signed up. In 2018 alone, more than 72,076 clean commutes were logged. With each carpool, public transportation, or alternative commute, TMs help reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality, and create a more sustainable community. This November, the property won the first ever 2018 Star Award for Commitment of Excellence, an award specifically created for partners that demonstrate a long-standing commitment to the RTC program and continue to excel in green initiatives. The honor follows numerous other achievements including Best Workplace for Commuters in 2013, Platinum Partner in 2015, Star Partner of the Year in 2016, and many more. TMs can sign up for free at Team Member Concierges (TMC). TMs that report 4 green commutes per month are entered into a monthly raffle to win prizes.

Want to learn more? Check out RTC’s Club Ride website: https://www.rtsnv.com/club_ride/ or visit TMC to sign up.

Darcy Martinez, manager of engagement and HR engagement, accepts Club Ride Award

72,076 Clean Commutes logged in 2018
2,000 Team Members signed up for Club Ride

AWARDS
LEED Gold Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance (p. 1)
CDP A List for Climate Change and Water (p. 5)
RTC 2018 Star Award for Commitment of Excellence (p. 2)

IN THE NEWS
YouTube: The diet that helps fight climate change
What we put on our plate impacts the planet. Small changes to diet can help fight climate change! Check out the video to learn more.

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GREEN EVENTS

Macao Fashion Week

Sustainable Styles Stride Down The Parisian and The Venetian Runway

This October, the Parisian Macao hosted the annual Sands Macao Fashion Week which featured zero-waste elements and sustainable runway styles. Celebrity models wore apparel made of vegetable fibers, recycled polyester, and other eco-friendly materials. Multiple designers were showcased including an entire collection of innovative and sustainable pieces from CPTTM, a local non-profit that provides training at the nexus of fashion, environment, and technology to the local community. A display, titled “Fashion Rejuvenation—Exhibition of Eco-Friendly and Functional Fashion” was presented by the Macao Fashion Gallery and aimed to inspire and encourage local fashion designers to find and promote the use of recycled fabrics in their garments. Zero waste elements were incorporated into the special event including eliminating plastic bottles and using reusable dinnerware in lieu of plastic and paper alternatives.

Oceans, Insects, and Jane Goodall Grace Films at this Year’s Eco Film Festival

An annual event since 2016, the Singapore Eco Film Festival (SGEFF) brings together environmental advocacy organizations and storytellers in Singapore to celebrate and accelerate solutions for the environment. Held at Marina Bay Sands’ LEED Gold certified ArtScience Museum from November 1st to the 4th, the festival featured an exciting program line-up including environmental films, insightful panel discussions, as well as activities and workshops for all ages.

Headlining the festival were 10 acclaimed eco-themed documentary feature films like JANE, which covers Jane Goodall’s early explorations and primatology research in Tanzania, and BLUE, a provocative journey into the ocean realm which emphasizes the fragility of our oceans and presents a call to action to protect them. Festival goers and TMs also enjoyed The Gateway Bug, a story about how insects are expected to be the world’s next low environmental footprint protein source.

This year, the MBS Sustainability Department collaborated with SGEFF to organize a TM exclusive preview of the festival where they watched films and participated in yoga classes and gong bathing sessions to rejuvenate their minds and bodies. The menu featured Beyond Meat plant-based sliders, miso-marinated responsibly-sourced black cod, organic rice, milk mango puddings and natural, herbal iced teas hand-blended locally. Over 370 TMs attended the film festival preview.

Sands Supplier Excellence Awards

Sands Supplier Excellence Awards were held at our resorts around the world honouring Las Vegas Sands (LVS) most noteworthy and outstanding suppliers. Dr. Wilfred Wong, President and Chief Operating Officer, of Sands China Ltd. noted “From micro-enterprises and SMEs to large corporations, each company plays a role in helping us deliver world-class experiences to guests and visitors of our Integrated Resorts.”

The award category Corporate Culture and Sustainability is given to suppliers that have worked with LVS to help us meet and exceed our sustainability goals. At Sands China Ltd., Diversey Hong Kong Limited Macau Branch, took home the award for their excellence in supplying 100% biodegradable cleaning chemicals to housekeeping. At The Venetian Resort, Flag Communications took home the sustainability award for outstanding creative support for the Sands ECO360 program.

During each awards dinner, the Sustainability Departments incorporated zero waste elements. The Venetian Resort and Marina Bay Sands went above and beyond by striving to hit a 90% diversion rate. The Venetian achieved a 93% diversion rate. Marina Bay Sands achieved a 86% diversion which is a 5% improvement compared to last year. Both properties reduced, reused, and recycled to make the event a sustainable success.
Second Grader Seeks to Save the Planet

Benji Bach, a seven-year-old second grader at American Heritage Academy in Las Vegas, is on a quest to save the environment. After learning about how plastic bags enter our oceans and harm sea life like storks and sea turtles, he decided to take matters into his own hands. Earlier this year, he wrote a heartfelt letter to The Venetian Resort requesting a donation of reusable bags for all 498 of his classmates. He wanted to lessen the use of plastic bags, writing in his letter that he “would like all of [his] friends at school to stop using plastic bags to make the sea turtles smile again.”

Pranav Jampani, executive director of sustainability for The Venetian Resort responded to this call to action by presenting Benji and his classmates with 500 reusable shopping bags and speaking with students about ways they can reduce, reuse, and recycle to protect our planet.

“I would like all of my friends at school to stop using plastic bags to make the sea turtles smile again.”

Benji Bach, second grader, American Heritage Academy

SANDS ECO360 INTERVIEW

Joining Forces with Procurement

Jesse Low and Rachel Tan, both directors of procurement and supply chain, sat down in an interview with Sustainability to discuss how procurement is bringing environmental initiatives to life.

Q: What are some of the Procurement department’s recent sustainability initiatives?

In partnership with the Sustainability and F&B departments, we have been working hard towards the 2020 goal of having 50% of our seafood responsibly-sourced. We are well on track to achieving this target, having achieved close to 30% in 2018. We have also begun the switch to sustainable supplies, using pens made from bamboo and recycled bottles, bio-plastic straws, and even a lectern made from paper waste.

Q: What are some future projects that the Procurement department is planning to make Marina Bay Sands even more sustainable?

Procurement has been working closely with Sustainability on a study aimed at reducing single-use plastics on property – we have started to identify over 60 packaging items, and will be exploring alternatives to these. We have also been studying opportunities towards achieving our goals of using 100% sustainable paper, 100% green cleaning chemicals, and 100% LED lighting on property by 2020. We are also exploring the possibility of purchasing more-energy efficient kitchen equipment, and sustainably-sourced material for our furniture, fixtures and equipment.

Q: What do you see as some of the biggest opportunities in procurement at Marina Bay Sands in terms of sustainability?

Marina Bay Sands operates on a scale like no other business in the hospitality industry, and this gives us tremendous opportunities in terms of sustainable procurement. Our massive scale translates into economies of scale during procurement, not just for the Integrated Resort, but for the suppliers as well. Ample opportunities are available to suppliers to source for more sustainable products at a lower cost.

Jesse Low, Rachel Tan, directors of procurement

GREEN EVENTS

Eco-Eats
Infuse Haute Cuisine

Haute Cuisine is The Venetian Resort’s annual affair that celebrates the culinary arts and sustainability, featuring several esteemed Maîtres Cuisiniers de France, otherwise known as Master Chefs of France. This year, chefs prepared an assortment of healthy and sustainable, seafood, vegan, and vegetarian dishes paired with organic and biodynamic wine, beer, and spirits. The eco-friendly evening under the stars was full of music, libations, and sustainability initiatives. Dinnerware was made of bamboo, a rapidly renewing resource, while wine glasses were given as a parting gift to reduce plastic use and overall waste generation. A reclaimed crystal chandelier dangled over the event space and a plant-based green wall situated in the entry way provided guests with unique photo opportunities. The Food and Beverage and Culinary Department worked closely with Sustainability to ensure this year’s event once again incorporated the environment into its theme.
Another remarkable year of sustainability

It’s been a year filled with outstanding achievements thanks to the hard work of our Team Members and executive leadership.

In 2015, LVS set an ambitious 2020 science-based target for greenhouse gas emissions reduction. This year, LVS met that goal by completely offsetting The Parisian and St. Regis as well as an additional 6% of emissions!

LVS is proud to once again be recognized as a global leader in environmental performance by CDP, the world’s leading environmental disclosure organization. We achieved the highest possible rank of A List for our responses to both the Climate Change and Water. LVS also retained its leadership in corporate sustainability with its most recent recognitions on the Dow Jones Sustainability Index.

LVS has completely discontinued the use of plastic straws in an effort to reduce consumption of single-use plastics. The move will save 1 ton of plastic annually and is one of several new initiatives to curb reliance on disposable plastics. Mark McWhinnie, Senior Vice President of Resort Operations and Development, SCL, who helped to shape the initiative, states “This ban on plastic straws, along with other plastic-reduction measures, will have a significant impact on our sustainability efforts, resulting in a greener Macao.”

Sands China Ltd. has been recognized for waste reduction; availability of electric vehicle charging stations; establishing an eco-friendly mattress replacement program; improving shuttle bus performance; establishing a food waste reduction plan; and carrying out continuous improvement measures.

Team Members around the world participated in the company’s annual Sands ECO360 Clean Plate Challenge to reduce food waste. During the global challenge, TMIs turned in almost 130,000 empty plates! Sands China Ltd.’s second challenge in December made up 59,203 of the clean plate total!