



LEED BUILDING CERTIFICATION

May 2025

Background

Building Resilience in a Warming World

Climate change continues to intensify, manifesting not only in more frequent and severe weather events - such as extreme heatwaves, floods, wildfires, and droughts - but also in the long-term disruption of ecosystems, economies, and infrastructure. According to the IPCC's¹ Sixth Assessment Report (2023), global warming has already reached approximately 1.1°C above pre-industrial levels, and we are on track to exceed the 1.5°C threshold by the early 2030s unless rapid, systemic action is taken.

In the built environment, which accounts for nearly 40% of global energy-related CO₂ emissions ([UNEP Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction, 2023](#)), the need for transformative change is urgent. Buildings are not just passive backdrops to climate impacts - they are active contributors and potential leverage points. Energy use, material choices, water management, and occupant well-being must be integrated into a forward-looking strategy.

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), as one of the world's leading green building certification systems, is increasingly seen as both a framework and a catalyst for climate resilience, circularity, and carbon reduction. With over 195,000 certified commercial projects worldwide ([Green Building Law Update, 2024](#)), LEED has evolved to emphasize not only operational efficiency but also climate adaptation, social equity, and long-term resource stewardship. At the same time, efficient energy and water management remain core components of sustainable building practice.

GROHE

Water-saving devices

GROHE has taken up the challenge of facilitating a resource-efficient day-to-day life through the development of smart products and innovative technologies. The key: Sustainability is automatically incorporated into the products to enable less resource use without the need for strict behavioral adjustments.



With bathing and personal hygiene accounting for the largest share of domestic water use², water-saving fittings can contribute significantly to the conservation of water in the household without sacrificing comfort. Conversely, they also hold large financial saving potential for consumers. GROHE's innovative EcoJoy technology can reduce water consumption by nearly 50%, while also reducing the cost associated with heating water. A four-person household that uses a water-saving shower head can save up to 47,000 liters of water and €521 per year in combined water and energy costs, potentially offsetting initial cost of the showerhead in under a month³.

The core technology behind this is GROHE EcoJoy: Reducing the water consumption without compromising on comfort, EcoJoy is available on numerous models of showers and faucets across most of all design and price segments. The integrated flow restrictor automatically reduces water consumption up to 50% while also reducing the cost associated with heating water.

The core benefits of GROHE EcoJoy are:

- Running costs are reduced substantially - savings up to 50% on water costs and further savings on energy costs are possible.
- Available on numerous models of showers and faucets across most of all design and price segments. This full range of water saving products enables easy specification from one supplier.
- GROHE EcoJoy can help to meet international green building certification systems such as LEED.

GROHE Support – For every type of project

Our global projects team has assisted in the specification of a magnitude of different projects, worldwide. Whatever type of project our clients are working on, GROHE offers not only a full spectrum of products but as well a full proposal service including product codes, pricing, images and technical specifications.

For your clients, tailor-made service packages are available for major projects and can include:

- Training and support to meet international sustainability standards like LEED or BREEAM Experiential sample rooms.
- On-site installation training and supervision - to ensure trouble free installation.
- Standby Service - a GROHE technician on standby to deal with any initial teething problems.
- Annual Service Weeks - our check up and maintenance service including refresher training for maintenance staff.



LEED building certification system

Building projects aiming for a LEED certification will need to be assessed by trained professionals but as a guide - please see below information when it comes sanitary fittings and how GROHE can contribute.

Please check the respective detailed product data sheet for exact flow of products.

The below LEED requirements refer to version 5, New buildings as of May 2025*. For all new and existing fixtures and fittings within the project boundary, reduce aggregate water consumption by 20% from the baseline listed. The below requirements are measured at various pressure ranges depending on the region of the building. In Europe, standard reference pressure is 3 bar.

Product areas	LEED base requirement	GROHE performance/products
Toilet (water closet) **	6.0 lpf*	GROHE dual flushing systems come with either 3/6 or 3/4,5-liter flushing standard settings and can often be reduced to 1,8/3,6 flushing volume with flow reducer component.
Urinal	3.8 lpf	Grohe urinals can be operated manually or electronically and have a flushing volume from 1 liter and upwards depending on installation settings and water pressure.
Public lavatory (restroom) faucet	1.9 lpm	GROHE basin mixers standard flow at ca 5 liter/ min at 3 bar and can be reduced further with water saving kits.
Private lavatory faucets*	8.3 lpm	GROHE basin mixers standard flow at ca 5 liter/ min at 3 bar and can be reduced further with water saving kits.
Kitchen faucet	8.3 lpm	GROHE kitchen assortment ranges from water saving ca 5 liter/ min up to true power faucets, suitable for professional kitchens.
Showerhead*	9.5 lpm	GROHE showerheads and hand showers are available in all ranges from water saving 5 liter/ min to luxurious and customizable SPA modules.

*As published on USGBC.org LEED BD+C: New Construction v5 - LEED v5 Minimum Water Efficiency, May 16, 2025.

** For dual-flush toilets, the full-flush volume shall be equal to or fewer than 1.28 gpf/4.8 lpf; a weighted average cannot be used.

¹Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

²[Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft e.V.](#), 2024

³This calculation example is based on the following parameters: Household of 4 people using 7 minutes of shower time per person per day. The costs are based on the following estimate: Energy cost (electricity) 0,289 €/kWh, water cost (without wastewater) 0,0035€/litre. Assumption of flow rates (measured flow at 3 bar pressure): Old product flowrates: 12 l/min for shower. New product flow rates: 7.4 l/min for shower. New product is equipped with water-saving EcoJoy technology. GROHE does not guarantee the accuracy and correctness of the results, as the calculation depends on many unforeseeable factors and is therefore non-binding. In particular, it depends on water and energy prices, consumer behavior and the technical installations on site.