



Institutional

Greater Toronto Airport Authority



Above: The new Fire and Emergency Services Training Institute is located at the west end of Toronto Pearson International Airport.

Left: It is the first LEED Silver Candidate project for the Greater Toronto Airport Authority.

Background

Innovation is one of the defining features of the new Fire and Emergency Services Training Institute at Toronto Pearson International Airport. The facility will provide leading-edge education and intensive training for emergency and crisis situations, and will operate in partnerships with other airports and some of the colleges in the Toronto area. The project is LEED Silver certified and will enable the Greater Toronto Airport Authority (GTAA) to realize significant benefits, including the reduced consumption of traditional fossil fuels, lower water usage, and a healthier indoor environment.

Solution

A SolarWall® system is one of the prominent visual components of the fire training facility. The black metal paneling was incorporated into the front façade of the building, and features a doubled-angled design. The perforated solar cladding is approximately 240 m² (2,600 ft²) and delivers between 3,800-6,800 cfm (6,460 – 11,560 m³/h) of pre-heated ventilation air. An additional 250 m² (2,700 ft²) of non-perforated metal cladding was installed on the wall directly behind the SolarWall system to match the front wall.

The SolarWall system contributed to the LEED points under the categories EAc1 (Energy Efficiency) and MRc4 (Recycled Content).

Results

As a result of its innovative, unique, and eye-catching design, combined with a variety of sustainable features, the GTAA fire training facility has already received much recognition. The building will be featured in the prestigious Justice Facilities Review by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and has also won two awards from the Canadian Institute for Steel Construction. Most recently, the GTAA was awarded the 2007 Solar Thermal Project of the Year Award by the Canadian Solar Industries Association.



The bold and multi-layered design adds tremendous visual appeal, and gives the building an extremely modern appearance.

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