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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Daylighting Key in Award-Winning Sustainability Strategy

LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y.—The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Headquarters has been named one of the ten most sustainable buildings of 2013 by the American Institute of Architects.

Daylighting is a key part of PUC's sustainability strategy, complementing a novel wastewater recycling system, a roof-mounted photovoltaic array, vertical-axis wind turbines, and an earthquake-resilient, concrete structure.

The 13-story glass office tower requires up to 45% less energy to illuminate its interior than typical Class A office buildings. It welcomes daylight, but also manages it automatically, using SolarTrac®.

SolarTrac is MechoSystems' automated shade-control system. It raises and lowers interior window shades based on the position of the sun and sky conditions. The system harvests the maximum amount of natural light to reduce the energy consumption from electric lighting. It also improves the comfort of occupants by adjusting the shades to control brightness and glare.

The SolarTrac System also provides automated control of exterior Venetian blinds (EVBs) on the top two stories of the PUC building. EVBs under automated control reduce the workload of the building's HVAC system by helping to alleviate solar-heat gain.

PUC Headquarters is expected to consume 32% less energy than similar-size buildings and is projected to reward taxpayers with \$118 million in savings over 75 years.

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