Our Commitment to the Environment
Tanasbourne Campus; Hillsboro, Oregon

Sustainability at The Standard
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Water and Landscaping
Heating Water and Solar Energy
Interior and Exterior Materials
Our LEED Gold Building
Sustainability at The Standard

The Standard believes healthy environments create healthy, vibrant communities. Demonstrating those beliefs, we built the second building on our Tanasbourne Home Office Campus to green building standards and earned a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) Gold-level certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). We believe the cost-savings harnessed by this building makes good business sense.

We’re proud to be part of a sustainable solution by ensuring our employees are comfortable and working toward a better tomorrow for the community.

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) Green Building Rating System ensures that an independent source verifies green building claims. It also encourages and accelerates adoption of sustainable green building practices by creating universally understood and accepted performance criteria.
Choosing Sustainable Features
Several features make the Tanasbourne campus a showcase of sustainability. The newest building, Building #2, is LEED Gold-certified, and The Standard also made several retrofits to the existing building on campus. The Standard became a renewable energy leader by signing on as a “sponsor-level supporter” of PGE’s Clean Wind℠ product for medium to large businesses, supporting 100 percent new wind power from wind farms in the Northwest.
Harnessing Natural Light
“Daylighting” is a design technique that harnesses sunlight and offsets electric lighting. Exterior shading devices positioned near windows protect building occupants from the sun’s direct glare. These shades, paired with windows mounted high on the wall, throw light deep into the workspace, triggering automatic sensors to adjust electric lights accordingly.

Conserving Energy
Efficient electric and mechanical systems enable this building to use 34 percent less energy than a conventionally designed building. Energy conservation measures that contribute to these savings include: high efficiency motors, an efficient lighting system and controls, shading devices, a domestic solar hot water system and photovoltaic solar panels.

Conserving Water
The Standard is working to reduce total water consumption to help preserve this finite resource. In both buildings, dual-flush water closets use significantly less water to flush liquid waste. Combined with low-flow faucets and shower heads, these measures help us use about 30 percent less water each year.

Landscaping: Back to Our Roots
Using native landscaping instead of lawn cuts water use in half while also promoting biological diversity. Native plants are naturally adapted to Oregon’s dry summers and require little irrigation once established. Pesticides and fertilizers can also be reduced or eliminated because native plants are resistant to pests and diseases.
Choosing Smart Interior Materials
Carpets, paints and adhesives used in the building interior are low in volatile organic compounds. VOCs are chemicals emitted as gases from certain solids or liquids and may cause adverse health effects. Because concentrations are often higher indoors, the building minimizes emissions by using low-VOC materials.

Using Recycled Exterior Materials
The building structure is primarily made from steel, the most recycled product on earth. About 20 percent of the steel for this building came from sources within 500 miles of the site, reducing transportation energy and providing local jobs. More than 90 percent of the construction waste created during construction was recycled, saving valuable landfill space and providing raw materials for manufacturing.

Heating Water with Solar Hydronics
On the roof there are two different types of solar panels: solar hydronic and photovoltaic. The first, a domestic solar hot water system, uses the energy of the sun instead of fossil fuels to pre-heat water. This water is used to provide hot water for faucets and showers. Read more about photovoltaics below.

Converting Solar Energy to Electricity
Photovoltaic panels use the energy from the sun and convert it directly into electricity. This type of energy can be used to power lights and equipment, and accounts for approximately seven percent of the power generation needs of the entire campus.
The Standard: Proud of our LEED Gold Building

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Standard Insurance Company
1100 SW Sixth Avenue
Portland OR 97204
800.378.4578
www.standard.com

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