

LOS ANGELES, CA. Tower General Contractors announced that it has been awarded the design and construction of the Construction Laborer's Local 300 headquarters building in Los Angeles. The headquarters will be two stories tall and will include two levels of underground parking.

The new headquarters for the Union will seek Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, the rating system of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). Some of the building's "green" design elements will include:

- A Photovoltaic System
- Reusable Building Materials
- Water Efficiency Fixtures
- Rooftop Garden

"Tower is honored to be working with an organization that is so vital to the US economy," commented Nato Flores, President of Tower General Contractors. "We look forward to designing and constructing a building that will fulfill the growing needs of the Union and, as a green building, will benefit the health of its occupants and the community at large. As a member of the USGBC, Tower is committed to the design and construction of sustainable green building practices."

Founded in 1903, the Union represents more than 800,000 construction workers in 650 Locals in 50 different industries in the US and Canada.

Local 300 Business Manager, Sergio Rascon said, "We are pleased in our selection of Tower General Contractors for our new headquarters. It was essential for the Laborer's Union to choose a contractor with an excellent reputation in California as well as a commitment to sustainable building, both of which are qualities Tower General Contractors possesses."

Tower will be constructing the headquarters using a three-dimensional, real-time, dynamic building modeling software called BIM, which stands for Building Information Modeling. Building Information Modeling has long been used in the aerospace industry. Companies such as Boeing have used the technology to design and build their aircraft. The use of BIM in construction has proven to be an enormous asset, particularly in hospitals.

Alex Guerrero, Executive Vice President of Tower explains, "BIM allows us to create a digital model of the structure before we even put a shovel in the ground. Using BIM will help us see and solve systems-integration problems before we start construction. This has the effect of eliminating potential change orders caused by conflicts, not only between the various trades but also within the design itself. It also has the added benefit of reducing the time lost in solving these problems during construction.