

## 5.4.7 Arts Center



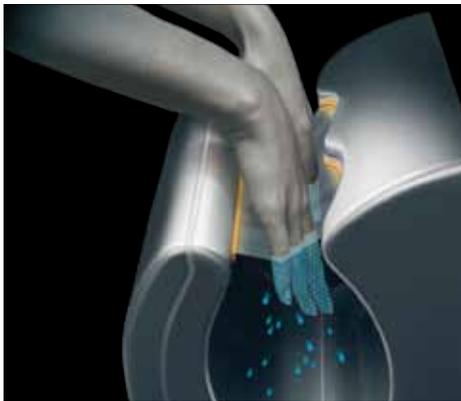
“The Dyson Airblade™ was an obvious choice when it came to select the hand dryer for the 5.4.7 Arts Center to achieve LEED platinum certification.”

Graduate Architecture Student  
University of Kansas, School of Architecture, Design and Planning

The 5.4.7 Arts Center is a non-profit facility in Southwestern Kansas dedicated to raising the awareness of visual and performing arts through exhibits, workshops, art classes, and live performances.

### The Challenge

After a Category 5 tornado destroyed most of Greensburg, Kansas on May 4, 2007, the City Council designated all public buildings in Greensburg be built



to meet the stringent U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) Platinum level of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. The community was also looking to establish art as an essential part of the city's social and economic redevelopment, and decided the first public building should be a center for art.

### The Solution

The task of designing a facility intended to receive a LEED Platinum rating was granted to Studio 804, a University of Kansas School of Architecture, Design, and Planning non-profit organization for graduate architecture students. When considering hand drying options in the facility, the students selected the Dyson Airblade™ hand dryer as the hand dryer of choice and incorporated into the design.

Because the Dyson Airblade™ hand dryer conserves energy (up to 80% less than warm air hand dryers), minimizes the operational waste associated with paper towels, and reduces carbon emissions, it

can qualify under two LEED certification categories: Energy and Atmosphere – Optimize Energy Performance and Materials and Resources – Sustainable Purchasing and Solid Waste Management (Ongoing Consumables).

### The Results

Opened on the one-year anniversary of the devastating tornado, the 5.4.7 Art Center was well received by the community. At the project unveiling, architecture students couldn't keep visitors out of the restroom wanting to see the new hand drying technology. Further, Stacy Barnes, 5.4.7 Art Center Director, commented, “The Dyson Airblade is a wonderful hand dryer to have in our facility, eliminating paper towel waste and expense.”

Dubbed the ‘Sustainable Prototype,’ 5.4.7 Arts Center was the first building in Kansas to be student-led from design to construction and was the first to receive LEED Platinum certification.

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