



News Release

Contact: Ralph Pitts, Belk, Inc., 704-426-8402, ralph_pitts@belk.com

Belk Awarded LEED Silver Certification for New Store at the Pavilion at Port Orange, Fla.

CHARLOTTE, N.C., July 19, 2010 – Belk, Inc. today announced that it has been awarded LEED® Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council for the new Belk department store at the Pavilion at Port Orange, Fla., which opened March 10.

Belk's new store project achieved LEED Silver certification by implementing sustainability measures that incorporate the efficient use of energy, lighting, water and materials. LEED certification of the project, which was verified by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI), is based on green design and construction features that produce positive environmental benefits for the building site and the community at large. LEED is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

Tim Belk, chairman and CEO of Charlotte, N.C.-based Belk, Inc., stated, "This is an important step for Belk in our sustainability efforts. We're pleased to receive the LEED Silver certification which recognizes the outstanding green performance of our new Port Orange store. There are many positive benefits of investing in sustainable building practices. By using less energy and water, our store will save money for families, businesses and taxpayers, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and contribute to a healthier environment for both our store associates and the larger Port Orange community."

"The green building movement offers an unprecedented opportunity to respond to the most-important challenges of our time, including global climate change, dependence on non-sustainable and expensive sources of energy and threats to human health," said Rick Fedrizzi, president, CEO and founding chair, U.S. Green Building Council. "The work of innovative building projects such as the new Belk store in Port Orange, Florida, is a fundamental driving force in the green building movement."

The Belk Port Orange store project earned exemplary performance ratings from LEED in the following categories:

- Heat Island Effect – use of landscaping and reflective pavement
- Water Efficient Landscaping – use of native plants, drip irrigation system and reclaimed water
- Water Use Reduction – use of water-efficient toilets and faucets
- Use of Regional Materials – use of materials manufactured within 500 miles of the building site, and
- Green Housekeeping – use of "green" cleaning products for building maintenance.

In addition, most of the construction waste from the project was recycled and diverted from landfills, a high percentage of the wood used in the building came from certified forests and a high priority was placed on using construction materials with recycled content.

About Belk, Inc.

Charlotte, N.C.-based Belk, Inc. (www.belk.com) is the nation's largest privately owned mainline department store company. It operates 306 Belk stores located in 16 Southern states. The company was founded in 1888 by William Henry Belk in Monroe, N.C., and is in the third generation

-More-

of Belk family leadership. Its Belk.com Web site is designed with many special features to make online shopping exciting, convenient and easy for customers. It offers a wide assortment of fashion apparel, shoes and accessories for the entire family along with top name cosmetics, a wedding registry and a large selection of quality merchandise for the home.

U.S. Green Building Council

The Washington, D.C.-based U.S. Green Building Council is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. With a community comprising 80 local affiliates, more than 18,000 member companies and organizations, and more than 155,000 LEED Professional Credential holders, USGBC is the driving force of an industry that is projected to contribute \$554 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product from 2009-2013. USGBC leads an unlikely diverse constituency of builders and environmentalists, corporations and nonprofit organizations, elected officials and concerned citizens, and teachers and students.

Buildings in the United States are responsible for 39% of CO2 emissions, 40% of energy consumption, 13% water consumption and 15% of GDP per year, making green building a source of significant economic and environmental opportunity. Greater building efficiency can meet 85% of future U.S. demand for energy, and a national commitment to green building has the potential to generate 2.5 million American jobs.

LEED

The U.S. Green Building Council's LEED green building certification system is the foremost program for the design, construction and operation of green buildings. Over 32,000 projects are currently participating in the commercial and institutional LEED rating systems, comprising over 9.6 billion square feet of construction space in all 50 states and 114 countries.

By using less energy, LEED-certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community.

USGBC was co-founded by current President and CEO Rick Fedrizzi, who spent 25 years as a Fortune 500 executive. Under his 15-year leadership, the organization has become the preeminent green building, membership, policy, standards, influential, education and research organization in the nation. For more information, visit www.usgbc.org.

###