



## **The Ashkin Group**

**News release**

**For immediate release**

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**THE ASHKIN GROUP RECOGNIZED AS AN OFFICIAL  
EDUCATION PROVIDER BY THE USGBC**

***First Time The USGBC Has Selected A Member Of  
The Cleaning Industry As An Official Education  
Provider.***

**Chicago – May 5, 2008** - The Ashkin Group has been

recognized by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) as an official Educational Provider. It is the first time the USGBC has selected a member of the cleaning industry as an official Education Provider.

The Ashkin Group was acknowledged for its half-day program entitled “Solving the Green Cleaning Puzzle.” The material and interactive activities enable participants to gain a more thorough knowledge of Green cleaning in both practice and application.

The Education Provider Program (EPP) facilitates access to high quality professional development courses in order to further enrich the knowledge and understanding of Green building theory, techniques, and trends for building professionals. “Solving the Green Cleaning Puzzle” is a perfect fit for the Education Provider Program.

Founded by Steve Ashkin, the Ashkin Group is an internationally recognized consulting firm working to Green the cleaning industry. It is dedicated to creating healthier, more productive indoor environments with lower burdens on

natural systems, while creating sustainable value for its clients.

The company's commitment to Green Cleaning is well established. "It is our passion," says Ashkin. "Our mission is to not only make cleaning healthier but to bolster the respect and value of cleaning people and our industry."

Over the years, a wide variety of organizations, including governments, legislators and policy makers, advocates, building owners and property management companies, labor unions, trade and professional associations, manufacturers, service providers, and janitorial product distributors have tapped into the Ashkin Group's expertise for the purpose of developing more sustainable cleaning practices.

Each course in the Education Provider Program is reviewed by third-party-trained reviewers and meets the criteria and guidelines established by the USGBC Professional Development Committee. Many of these courses also satisfy continuing education requirements of other professional organizations.

The GreenBuild Conference reflects the USGBC's desire to create additional value for attendees specifically from the professional cleaning industry.

The conference will be held November 18-21, 2008, in Boston. Ashkin's workshop will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

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Steve Ashkin is available for interviews, presentations, and commentary on Green Cleaning-related issues, sustainable buildings, industry trends, and facility management. He may be reached by calling (812) 332-7950.

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### **About Stephen Ashkin and The Ashkin Group**

Stephen P. Ashkin is president of The Ashkin Group, a consulting firm specializing in Greening the Cleaning process and Executive Director of the Green Cleaning Network, both based in Bloomington, IN.

In the book *Environmentalism Unbound*, Dr. Robert Gottlieb describes Steve Ashkin as the "leading advocate for a stronger environmental profile among cleaning product manufacturers and suppliers" and the "most visible industry figure advancing the cause of environmentally preferable products."

The Ashkin Group provides Green consulting services for school districts as well as building owners, product manufacturers, and cleaning contractors. For more information on The Ashkin Group, visit <http://www.ashkingroup.com>, call (812) 332-7950, or e-mail: [steveashkin@ashkingroup.com](mailto:steveashkin@ashkingroup.com).