

The Grain Exchange Buildings have earned the ENERGY STAR



In May 2011, the Grain Exchange Buildings received the ENERGY STAR certification. ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the US Department of Energy. In order to become ENERGY STAR certified, the Grain Exchange Buildings had to meet standards within the following categories:

- Energy performance
- Thermal comfort
- Indoor air quality
- Illuminance levels

To qualify for the ENERGY STAR, a building must earn a 75 or higher on EPA's 1-100 energy performance scale, indicating that the facility performs better than at least 75% of similar buildings nationwide. The ENERGY STAR performance scale accounts for differences in operating conditions, regional weather data, and other important considerations.

MGEX is devoted to providing our tenants an environmentally efficient building. As a tenant of the Grain Exchange Buildings, you can benefit from partnering with an organization that takes sustainability and energy efficiency seriously. Only two other office buildings in the 55415 zip code are ENERGY STAR certified.

For more information on ENERGY STAR, visit www.energystar.gov.

Thanks for Renewing

- **Columbia Grain, Inc.**
Suite 808 M
- **Mayco Export, Inc.**
Suite 308 M
- **St. Paul Pioneer Press**
Suite 272 N
- **Bay State Milling Company**
Suite 707 M

Barkalow's Extended Hours

MGEX is pleased to announce Barkalow's Convenience Store, located in the lobby of the Main Building, has extended its hours. New hours are 6:00am-4:30pm Monday through Friday.

Stop by the family run convenience store for a newspaper, lunch, greeting cards, office supplies, lottery tickets or a late afternoon snack. Barkalow's has all this and more just a short walk away from your office.



Welcome Andy

Please join us in welcoming Andy Wilhelmy to the MGEX Maintenance Team. Andy comes to MGEX with extensive maintenance experience and skills. Andy will be working as a Building Engineer.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Real Estate Office if you have any maintenance concerns. All maintenance requests can be submitted to Crystal Holt at cholt@mgex.com or by phone at (612) 321-7170.





Downtown Resurfacing

Several streets surrounding the Grain Exchange Buildings will undergo a resurfacing process throughout the summer and fall months. Streets immediately surrounding the Grain Exchange Buildings scheduled for resurfacing are 3rd Street, 4th Avenue and 5th Avenue. The scheduled start date for 3rd Street is July 25, while 4th Avenue and 5th Avenue projected start dates are each August 8. Construction is expected to last 12 days on each of the listed streets. For more information on Minneapolis street resurfacing, visit the City's website at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/cip/resurfacing2011-downtown/.

Tenant Referral Program

All tenants and their employees can receive compensation for referring new tenants to the Grain Exchange Buildings. We have many options for office spaces and we are able to create an office space to suit your needs.

Contact Crystal Holt at (612) 321-7170 or cholt@mgex.com for more information.

Tenant Ice Cream Social

Plans are underway for the next MGEX tenant event. Mark your calendars for **Friday, July 29**. Join us in the 1st floor lobby of the Main Building from 12:00 to 1:30 for an ice cream social. Details to come via hand-delivered memos to all offices.



Welcome CoCo Minneapolis New Tenant on the Historic Trading Floor

MGEX is thrilled to welcome CoCo to the 16,000 square foot historic Trading Floor. Already with a location in Lowertown St. Paul since January 2010, CoCo will open its doors at the Grain Exchange on Friday, July 22.

CoCo is an acronym for co-working and collaborative space. It provides an alternative work space for a variety of independent professionals to meet, work and socialize in a forward-thinking work environment.

The historic Trading Floor provides CoCo a Minneapolis location rich in history. Once the center for grain trading in the upper Midwest, CoCo hopes to write a new story for the historic Trading Floor by garnering creative business and boosting the local economy. "The Trading Floor was, at one time, the cradle of the Minneapolis economy," Don Ball, co-founder of CoCo said. "I am confident CoCo Minneapolis will reignite that spirit and energy the historic Trading Floor produced throughout the 1900s. One look at the space and we all experienced the 'wow' effect. What better place to host co-working, co-location, meetings and events," Ball said.

According to Ball, CoCo is most enthusiastic about the ability to host meetings in such a vibrant space with the flowing "entrepreneurial energy" its tenants will create. Ball believes using the historic Trading Floor for meetings will be a perfect alternative to existing meeting spaces.

Companies or individuals in search of a state of the art yet historic office environment have the option to choose from a variety of office space layouts at the CoCo Minneapolis site on the historic Trading Floor. CoCo also offers campsites which are individual workstations.

To find out more about CoCo Minneapolis, locating your office on the historic Trading Floor or to book a meeting or event, visit CoComsp.com.

Summer in The Cities

July 15 - July 23: The Minneapolis Aquatennial This annual celebration recognizes the spirit of the City of Minneapolis with a variety of events including parades, fireworks, carton boat races, a sand castle competition, music and more. View the full list of activities at www.aquatennial.com.

July 23: ArtCar + ArtBike Parade Cruise Spend a Saturday evening in July at Lake Harriet to watch a parade of uniquely decorated cars and bikes. The parade begins at 6:00 p.m. For pictures of other ArtCars, and for more information on the parade visit www.artcarparade.com

August 4 - August 14: Minnesota Fringe Festival The mission of this annual 11-day performing arts extravaganza is to connect adventurous artists with adventurous audiences. All shows are 60 minutes or less. The 15 Fringe venues are located around Minneapolis' Uptown, West Bank and Northeast neighborhoods. For more information, visit www.fringefestival.org.

August 5 - August 7: Uptown Art Fair Join nearly 400,000 others to experience 360 professional artists, 40 youth artists, 25 performers and 20 food vendors in this annual Uptown event. Only the State Fair sees more visitors. Browse creative and original works of art including sculptures, paintings, photographs, woodcarvings, glasswork, jewelry and more. Information can be found at www.uptownartfair.com.

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