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Contact:
Nathan Carpenter
312.294.0365
ncarpenter@adlernet.org

Adler Planetarium Praised for Energy Efficient Upgrades

Energy User News awarded the Adler Planetarium its 2003 Energy Efficient Building Award for the Best Public Space Facility. The award underscores the Planetarium's energy efficient improvements made last year. These improvements cut costs, made the building more comfortable and set a benchmark for other institutions.

With a grant from the City of Chicago, and the help of ComEd Innovative Energy Solutions (IES), the Adler completed a number of energy efficient projects, including:

- replacing ballasts, lamps and fixtures throughout the lower staff level to improve light levels, efficiency and quality
- replacing worn boiler linkages to increase heating efficiency
- converting an automated control system to a Metasys system to save on operating costs
- adjusting outside air dampers, the cooling tower valve and air handling units to ensure efficient cooling

Presenting the award, *Energy User News* editor Kevin Heslin challenged engineers, saying, "We want these projects to be models for the wise use of energy nationwide."

The Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum, America's first planetarium, has inspired tens of millions of visitors since its opening in

1930. The world's first StarRider Theater, the most technologically advanced, audience-interactive planetarium, features daily virtual flights through the cosmos. The Adler's mission to promote a better understanding of the Universe is led by educators and PhD scientists and historians, working at the forefront of research in astronomy and its fascinating history.

Energy User News is the leading source of information on building energy use and energy efficiency. This magazine features energy management solutions for the commercial, industrial and institutional markets.

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