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## Memphis Business Journal

## Hunt Valley firm to construct \$30M 'green' headquarters

Baltimore Business Journal - February 9, 2007 by <u>Ryan Sharrow</u> Staff KCI Technologies will be the latest Baltimore County company to go "green."

The Hunt Valley-based engineering firm will construct a 120,000 square foot "green building" at the Highlands Corporate Office Park in nearby Sparks where it will house its headquarters.

The project will cost KCI around \$30 million, and should be completed by fall 2008, said company spokesman Chris Carbone in an e-mail.

Carbone said KCI has not gone far enough in the design process to determine which green components the building will boast.

KCI hopes to achieve the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design's (LEED) silver rating, Carbone said. The rating requires between 33 and 38 points, out of a possible 69. Points can be earned for preserving the developed site, conserving energy during construction, minimizing post-construction vacancy, and using manufacturing soils instead of importing farmland soils.

LEED-certified projects cost less to maintain, and are both energy- and water-efficient, according to the U.S. Green Building Council.

KCI says it needs more space in anticipation of a growth spurt over the next several years.

The four-story building will be constructed by Cignal Corp. of Timonium. KCI was represented by MacKenzie Commercial Real Estate Services in the transaction.

In August, Northwest Honda in Owings Mills was the first Baltimore County business to feature a "green roof."

The car dealership opened a 40,000-square-foot facility on Reisterstown Road boasting more than 100,000 plants on a environmentally beneficial roof.

The project cost Northwest \$12 million.

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