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## Green Leadership awards recognize sustainable N.J. businesses

By Beth Fitzgerald

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**Emanuel Stern**, president and chief operating officer of Secaucus-based **Hartz Mountain Industries**, was named Green Executive of the Year on Tuesday afternoon at the inaugural **NJBIZ Green Leadership** awards for the company's effort to launch green initiatives in its real estate portfolio.

"This is the type of event that will grow in popularity with the green movement, and provide the litmus test for companies like ours as we gauge our environmental efforts," Stern said.

Hartz Mountain owns and operates 38 million square feet of retail, hotel, office and industrial properties, and it was Stern who decided to launch a \$3 million program to improve the green profile of that portfolio through sustainable materials and energy-efficient heating, cooling and lighting.

"As tenants began to realize the relatively short payback period for making sustainable choices, these changes were embraced by essentially all of our tenants," he said.

Monmouth University, winner for Energy Conservation, has installed 33,000 square feet of rooftop solar panels, retrofitted lighting to slash energy consumption 30 percent in the gymnasium, added energy-efficient police vehicles and replaced 1,000 light bulbs with bulbs that use one-third less energy.

"We educate 6,000 students a year, and this is a large critical mass of people that we can educate and that we can lead by example," said spokeswoman **Susan A. Doctorian**. As the school's carbon footprint shrinks, Monmouth is being a steward of the environment for the entire region, she said.

**Middlesex Water Co.**, of Iselin, the Green Education winner, has for more than a dozen years provided elementary school teachers with a program called Water Education for Teachers, or WET, a free, one-day professional development workshop.

"It is very important to teach young children to conserve water and to remind their parents to shut off the tap and get leaks fixed," said Bernadette Sohler, vice president, corporate affairs.

Other winners of today's NJBIZ Green Leadership awards were:

— The College of New Jersey, winner in the Alternative Energy Use category, has a plan designed to make the college carbon-neutral over the next few years through solar photovoltaic cells, geothermal heat pumps, natural gas fuel cells and a cogeneration facility.

— **Vulcana**, of Westfield, converts car tires into sheet rubber that is used in upholstery and handbags, and is the Environmental Innovation winner.

— **Alliance Environmental**, the Green Building winner, built its own high-performance green headquarters at the Carriage Farm Business Community, in Hillsborough.

— **Metrofuser LLC**, of Roselle, a remanufacturer of laser-printer parts for the office equipment industry, is the Recycle/Reuse winner.

— **White Petal Cleaning LLC**, of Bridgewater, is the winner in the Pollution Prevention category. A green janitorial service, White Petal uses eco-friendly products in its home and office cleaning services.

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