

# NASA Sustainability Base - Building N232

case study  
By Emily Rosa

Moffett Field, California



**Architect:** William McDonough + Partners and AECOM

**Owner:** NASA Ames Research Center

**Year of completion:** 2013

**Climate:** Mediterranean Climate

**Material of interest:** Steel; aluminum

**Application:** Exterior

**Properties of material:** The steel and aluminium used were chosen because they had high recycled content and were regionally available, thereby reducing transportation energy. The steel frame is disassembleable and repairable after a seismic event, lightweight insulated panel reduces the amount of material required for construction. Exterior cladding was provided in pre-fabricated unitized components. The light metal and glass building allows enough daylight so that artificial light is only needed 10-20% of the year. Operable windows allow for passive cooling of the building, and photovoltaics on the roof allow the building to generate 30% of its energy.

## Sources:

<http://www.archdaily.com/231211/nasa-sustainability-base-william-mcdonough-partners-and-aecom/>

[http://www.aecom.com/News/Sustainability/\\_project-sList/NASA+Ames+Sustainability+Base,+Building+N232](http://www.aecom.com/News/Sustainability/_project-sList/NASA+Ames+Sustainability+Base,+Building+N232)

[http://greensource.construction.com/green\\_building\\_projects/2013/1303-nasa-sustainability-base.asp](http://greensource.construction.com/green_building_projects/2013/1303-nasa-sustainability-base.asp)