1. The platinum certification for “Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design” (LEED®) was issued for Building B, which opened in 2006. This marked the first time a building in Arizona had received the platinum award.

2. Building A, completed in 2004, earned a gold-level LEED® certificate, despite being a fast-track construction project that originally had not targeted certification. The green features in Building A were optimized for Building B, making it possible to earn the platinum-level certificate.

3. The Biodesign Institute installed more than 700 rooftop solar panels as part of ASU’s renewable energy commitment through the largest deployment of solar power infrastructure by any U.S. university. Energy savings were 58 percent less in comparison to non-LEED® buildings.

4. Fly ash, a waste by-product of coal burning power plants, was used to offset the energy demands of a typical concrete structure.

5. A reflective roof membrane and high-albedo paving materials mitigated the Phoenix area’s urban heat island effect.

6. A 5,000-gallon irrigation water cistern collects air conditioning condensate water, which eliminates the use of potable water in landscape irrigation. Rainwater from the roof and paving are routed directly via pipes to the drought-resistant native desert landscaping.

7. Low-flow lavatories, kitchen sinks, showers and waterless urinals use 30 percent less water than conventional fixtures.

8. An exterior shading system on south and west facades controls unwanted heat from the hot desert sun. The top portion of the interior shade louver system is automatically controlled to maximize daylight penetration by reflecting diffuse light onto the ceilings.

9. Office occupancy sensors automatically control artificial lighting, reducing both lighting energy demand and associated cooling loads. These strategies reduced energy use by 29 percent.

10. Terrazzo floors were made with locally available materials, including area river rock. This pays tribute to the Salt River that once flowed through the site centuries ago.