The corporate headquarters of Pile Dynamics, Inc. (PDI) and GRL Engineers Inc. (GRL), located at 30725 Aurora Road in Solon, was recently awarded LEED Certification through the U.S. Green Building Council.

The structure, formerly a manufacturing facility for King Nut Companies, was transformed into office and manufacturing space for PDI/GRL, which moved into the building in 2010. The certification recognizes the building’s energy efficiency, as well as sustainable strategies used throughout the adaptive reuse construction project, designed by Alan Burge Architects and built by Neshkin Construction.

Among highlights of the project, existing concrete flooring was stripped, stained and sealed and numerous skylights were installed to provide natural light throughout the building. The project also included installation of a reflective roof to reduce cooling costs in warmer months and two 25-ton, high efficiency HVAC units to heat and cool the facility.

“Converting an existing facility into a high performance, LEED-certified building is a difficult process that requires the designers’ creative juices to flow twice as hard,” says Yolita Rausche, LEED project administrator for the project. “It is exciting to be able to preserve this building and turn it into something new.”

PDI manufactures electronic instruments to evaluate the quality and control the execution of deep foundations that support bridges, stadiums, high-rises, wind towers, residential buildings and other structures. GRL provides deep foundation testing services.