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GREEN RECOGNITION FOR SAN FRANCISCO'S ARGONAUT HOTEL

The historic 252-room Argonaut Hotel has been named an "SF Green Business" by the San Francisco Department of the Environment. The recognition comes after a yearlong effort to implement comprehensive eco-friendly initiatives at the hotel and its Blue Mermaid Restaurant & Bar. These green initiatives include a 100 percent retrofit to LED lighting, a new energy system that shifts to stored energy when demand is highest, the use of nontoxic environmentally friendly cleaning products, the installation of low-flow water valves and toilets, and, to reduce waste, switching from single-use bathroom amenities to refillable pumps for body soap, shampoo and conditioner.

Argonaut Hotel, which is located in San Francisco Maritime National Park and is the city's closest hotel to the water, was originally built as a warehouse for Del Monte Foods. It was converted to a hotel in 2003 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. (The property has 8,850 square feet of total meeting space and an additional 2,200 square feet of prefunction space, and can accommodate a cocktail reception for up to 300 guests or a seated dinner for 260.)

"As one of San Francisco's historic hotels, we understand how essential sustainability is for our city and are thrilled to be recognized for our hotel and restaurant's eco-friendly practices," says Stefan Muhle, area managing director of the Argonaut. "Sustainability is a priority for travelers today, and we plan to continue expanding our green efforts to preserve not only our iconic property, but the environment around us." argonauthotel.com

