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**Heartland Native Named Finalist in 2009  
Sustainable Florida Leadership Award**

**Kyle Abney Recognized as a Leader in Florida's Sustainability Movement**

**PALM CITY, Fla. – June 30, 2009** – Abney + Abney Green Solutions, the full service green building consulting firm for commercial and residential projects, announced today it's founder and Principal, Kyle Abney, was named a finalist in the 2009 Sustainable Florida Best Practice Awards - Leadership Category. Kyle was recognized for his more than 10 years of work to promote sustainable development in Florida through green building education, advocacy and practice.

"I am honored and humbled to be recognized by Sustainable Florida," Kyle Abney notes. "I was introduced to green building in a college class more than 10 years ago and it completely changed my life. Suddenly thanks to the concept of sustainable development, building in a way that conserves resources and doesn't degrade the environment made perfect sense."

Originally from Okeechobee, Kyle went on to become the first person in the United States to obtain a construction degree with a concentration in "green building," obtaining his master's in 2001. University of Florida was the nation's first university to offer such a degree and Kyle was the program's first graduate. He is currently the President of the South Florida Chapter of the US Green Building Council and a board member of the Florida Green Building Coalition chairing the organization's Florida Green Commercial Standard Committee.

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Once known to a limited group, the benefits of green building are widely becoming recognized as the premier standard of construction. An integral component of green building is supporting the local economy. Infill construction is rewarded which in turn promotes more community connectivity. The very concept allows for local businesses to thrive. Sustainable development puts Florida and our nation on the path to resolving three interrelated challenges: energy independence, global competitiveness and climate change.

"I was impressed with Kyle's knowledge of and commitment to creating a business climate where we'll no longer even call it 'green building'. It will eventually be the way everything is built. Green will become the norm."said Stacy Ranieri, one of the judges of this year's Sustainable Florida Best Practices awards and Past President of Sustainable Treasure Coast, Inc.

### **About Abney + Abney Green Solutions**

Located in Palm City, Florida, Abney + Abney Green Solutions is a leader in sustainable development consulting. It's founders, Harmony and Kyle Abney are both fifth generation Floridians raised in the Heartland – Harmony from Sebring and Kyle from Okeechobee. From the earliest stages of design, through construction and into the operation phase, the firm guides and supports a project team to make the best decisions to ensure a green building. Specializing in both the commercial and residential sectors, AbneyGreen provides green building certification management for projects pursuing the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system or one of the Florida Green Building Coalition standards. Kyle Abney, the firm's principal, is a licensed general contractor, LEED AP and most recently became one of the first persons in the country to receive the designation of LEED AP + Homes. For more information please visit [www.AbneyGreen.com](http://www.AbneyGreen.com).

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