



DISCOVERY WORLD AT PIER WISCONSIN

**Grand Award Winner,
ACEC-WI 2008
Engineering Excellence
Awards**

Best in State, ACEC-WI 2008
Engineering Excellence
Awards

ASCE-WI Chapter 2007
Engineering Achievement
Award

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The very complex Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin is an architectural and engineering feat. As the latest addition to Milwaukee's Lake Michigan shoreline, the building demonstrates creative structural engineering solutions, technically innovative mechanical engineering design, and attention to sustainability throughout the entire facility.

The beautiful new museum affords 360 degree views of Lake Michigan and the City of Milwaukee due to its innovative, over-water design. Engineers had to overcome many issues to assure a sound structure that appears to float above the water. A unique Z-frame pile system, an aquarium constructed beneath Lake Michigan, and an innovative heat pump system that uses Lake Michigan water to cool the building. All of these design feats were accomplished while keeping sustainability a key design factor. Among the environmentally sensitive design features are the "green roof" of the underground parking structure, halide lighting that reduces energy costs by 50% per square foot, natural ventilation using the air over Lake Michigan to cool public spaces, upper story glass featuring white ceramic lines baked within to reflect sun and heat, refrigerants selected with zero ozone depleting potential, and wood species selections based on sustainable forestry practices.

The Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin proudly houses a learning environment and a scenic treat that all may enjoy. The quality entertainment that is experienced during a visit is only surpassed by the engineering and science that make it all possible.


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