The Sandy Hook Pilots Association has a rich and storied tradition of piloting larger vessels in New York Harbor, Hudson River, Hell Gate, and Long Island Sound since the 17th century. A critical maritime institution, they pilot more than 10,000 ships annually—all foreign-flag and U.S.-regulated vessels—and have responded to numerous emergencies throughout the region over the years. Their former Staten Island headquarters was destroyed by Superstorm Sandy in 2012, and they decided to build back better and stronger, ensuring they passed on a more resilient facility to future generations. The new state-of-art facility, built from the ground up, overlays resiliency in all aspects of its design, while also being a good neighbor to the local community. The design elements found below contributed to its designation.

The Sandy Hook Pilots Association’s new headquarters will be completely rebuilt on its North Shore, Staten Island, property.

Amenities for the local community include a more transparent site perimeter to maximize views to the waterfront, a historical display regarding the role of the pilots in the maritime industry, and educational partnerships and programs with local high schools and SUNY Maritime College.

Designers evaluated future vulnerabilities to assess how rising sea levels, higher and more frequent storm surges, and other coastal flooding would affect the facility, and raised the building outside of the floodplain as a resilient strategy.

Storm-resilient materials, such as a zinc-titanium exterior, were used.

In case of emergencies, redundancies were built in and include back-up generators, communications systems and servers, and raised electrical equipment and materials.

The facility employs over 100 persons, preserving the vital working waterfront within the port of New York and New Jersey.

The reconstructed edge includes a new bulkhead to provide stability and withstand future climate conditions, removes old debris and historic fill, and avoids building into the water. Later, the bulkhead will be cathodically protected to prevent corrosion.

**CASE STUDY 4**

**Industrial / Maritime**

**Sandy Hook Pilots Association Headquarters**

**SITE SELECTION & PLANNING**

- Site Selection & Planning 34 / 54

**PUBLIC ACCESS & INTERACTION**

- Public Access & Interaction 18 / 38

**EDGE RESILIENCY**

- Edge Resiliency 32 / 96

**ECOLOGY & HABITAT**

- Ecology & Habitat 16 / 36

**MATERIALS & RESOURCES**

- Materials & Resources 24 / 49

**OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE**

- Operations & Maintenance 8 / 24

**INNOVATION**

- Innovation 0 / 20

**TOTAL 132 / 317**

Certification is at +100 Points