

University of Oregon – Eugene Lillis Business Complex

On October 24, 2003, the new Lillis School of Business Building at the University of Oregon was opened after a design and development process which started in 1999. The design team, led by Kent Duffy, AIA of SRG Partnership, was challenged to create a technologically advanced building, integrating cutting edge technology for both educational equipment and systems and environmental equipment and systems. The project was designed to receive the USGBC LEED Gold certification, and it employs daylighting, efficient HVAC and lighting equipment, and other environmentally responsible building components and finishes. Now, the Lillis Business Complex serves as the University's centerpiece for the new century.

The lighting for Lillis presented a significant challenge. Every classroom and lecture hall includes laptop portals for each student and sophisticated lecture equipment such as video projectors. Environmental equipment includes ceiling fans, motion sensors, advanced windows, and a unique dropped ceiling system. All these factors needed serious consideration when choosing light fixtures and making the lighting design. This challenge went to Benya Lighting Design and Balzhiser/Hubbard Engineers.

For the case study classrooms, hallways, lecture hall and auditorium, the designers employed Smedmarks Minisize T5 Pendel lighting systems. Not only does their unique modern appearance fit well into the "cutting edge" design of the building, but Smedmarks light fixtures utilize efficient T5 lamp technology. The Smedmarks lighting systems easily adapted to the unusual wood ceiling and acoustic tile clouds, their flexible suspension system and feed and suspension points making varying mounting conditions possible. The unique aesthetics and photometric characteristics provided exactly the performance and appearance necessary to satisfy the project's goals.

In the classrooms and seminar rooms, Smedmarks Minisize T5 Pendel luminaires, utilizing internal metal slat louvers and standard Osram Sylvania T5 lamps, produce task light with precise cut-off necessary for viewing the video projection screen at the front of the room. At the perimeter and for the chalk board, Pendel luminaires utilizing high output Osram Sylvania T5 lamps and lenses are rotated and used as wallwashers. All luminaires are coupled with an advanced Lutron Grafik 7000 dimming and control system, which integrates motion sensors, daylight sensors, dimming ballasts, motorized blind and louver controls, and audio video interfacing to maintain an optimal light level in the room under control of the teacher. The result is a lighting system that maximizes both the learning environment and the efficiency of the building.

University of Oregon, Lillis Business Complex

Architects: SRG Partnership Inc., Portland, Oregon, Kent Duffy, AIA principal in charge, Greg Williams AIA and Gary Danielson AIA architects; Laura Hill IIDA Interiors.

Lighting and Electrical Designers: Benya Lighting Design, West Linn, Oregon, James Benya, PE, FIES, IALD, LC and Balzhiser/Hubbard Engineers, Eugene, Oregon, James Krumsick, PE and Greg Hansen, LC