



Working together to make a difference!

Structure:

- Newly constructed two-story combined-use office, training, and assembly facility
- 33,000 square feet

Furnishings:

- 48 workstations of Classic XXI systems furniture
- 3 private offices in Concerto
- 1 executive conference room in Concerto
- 2 conference rooms in Harmony
- 2 lounge areas in Minuet
- Legacy I and Matchmaker seating
- Silhouette seating



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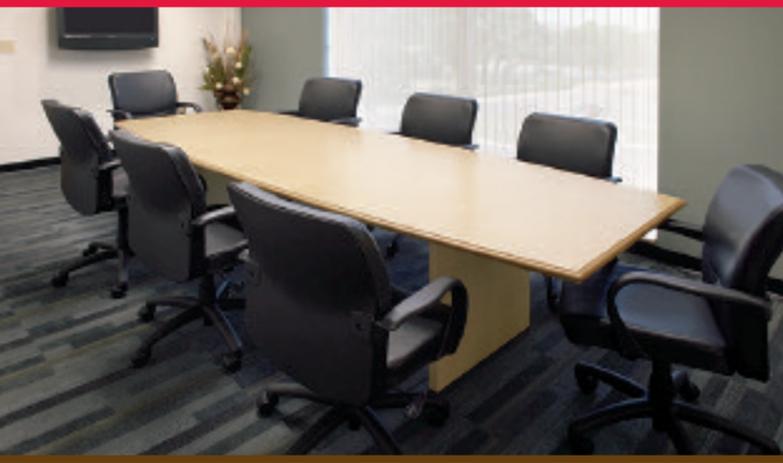


CASE STUDY

133rd Airlift Wing
Minnesota Air National Guard
St. Paul, MN
Composite Maintenance Facility



Working together to make a difference!



"UNICOR has always had reliable products and service. We always know what to expect and the consistency in quality is exceptional," commented Barbara O'Brien, Architect for the Minnesota Air National Guard.

A Critical Mission, A Trusted Partner

The mission of the 133rd Airlift Wing of the Minnesota National Guard is clear: provide safe

and efficient transport of personnel, patients, and cargo whenever and wherever needed. In 2007, how they were going to continue to accomplish that mission with their current aircraft maintenance facility had become less clear. When they decided to undertake construction of a new two-story Composite Maintenance Facility, the 133rd called upon the UNICOR Office Furniture Group (OFG) to be their ground crew.



"Our experience (with the OFG) was great. Everything was orchestrated very well to include the unforeseen issues that are naturally part of a large project like this," stated O'Brien.

The More Things Change...

Adaptability remained the theme of this project well beyond the design phase. Through on-going user group meetings, the engineering and maintenance staff remained involved in the project

through the final days of construction, continuously evaluating the layout of the space and adjusting as needed.

However, this was no problem for the UNICOR OFG. Short lead-times and flexible delivery schedules guaranteed that the 133rd would receive what they needed to complete their design plan, regardless of how many revisions it went through. Even the changes requested during installation didn't faze the OFG specialists.



"UNICOR has had a presence here for over twenty years, and many of our facilities are outfitted entirely with UNICOR products," said Barbara O'Brien.

Many Points of View, One Vision

The new Composite Maintenance Facility not only houses shop and assembly spaces for the aircraft itself, but also provides room for the administrative functions and training of the maintenance personnel. Developing a space to suit so many diverse needs would challenge many a design team, but not this one.

The building architect (from the base's Engineering Department) worked closely with the maintenance staff to design a flexible space that could anticipate the future needs of the group. She then maximized the adaptability of the shared spaces by working with an OFG designer to create a panel-based office layout that can be re-configured as needed.

Not only does the new Classic XXI systems furniture complement the vision of the 133rd, it also complements the look of the base. UNICOR products in a neutral color palette have been the "base standard" since its inception, benefiting the base in two ways. Furniture components can be interchanged between facilities, making re-configurations faster and easier, and warehouse space that had been occupied by parts from multiple furniture lines could be reclaimed to store mission critical supplies.



When we enter into projects with the UNICOR OFG "we anticipate the same professional service we have come to expect as standard," said Barb O'Brien.

...The More They Stay the Same

"The users made the determination that a few of the wall panels were too high,...and that a second pathway would maximize (another) area's flow. We worked together with the installers to use parts we already had and order (what we needed) to ensure

the result was nothing less than perfect," explains Barbara O'Brien.

In this case, the perfect result consisted of 48 stations of Classic XXI systems furniture, three private offices and an executive conference room of Concerto wood case goods, two contemporary conference rooms featuring Harmony tables and Matchmaker chairs, and two lounge areas in Minuet.

And how does the maintenance staff feel about their new home? "The users are extremely happy with the product. They enjoy spaces that allow them to do their jobs with efficiency and have pride in their work environment," says Barbara O'Brien.