

CASE STUDY

THE BUSINESS WORLD



*EDWARD J. MINSKOFF PAVILION
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
EAST LANSING, MICH.*



DIVISION 9 ENGINEERED-TO-ORDER WOOD CEILINGS

The new Minskoff Pavilion at the MSU College of Business favors socially active learning under the warm canopy of a wood grille ceiling from 9Wood. The project features nearly 21,000 sq. ft. of wood grille ceilings and walls.

“Generous use of wood ceiling and wall panels provides warmth and adds ... acoustical absorption.”

The geometric glass and metal, Edward J. Minskoff Pavilion at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., serves as a new face for the Eli Broad College of Business. The pavilion is three stories tall, has 100,000 sq. ft. of interior space and features nearly 21,000 sq. ft. of wood grille systems.

“Generous use of wood ceiling and wall panels provides warmth and adds much needed acoustical absorption for the active social spaces,” says Masako Wada, IIDA, LEED AP, principal LMN Architects, the project’s design architect.

Integrated Project Delivery. The project followed an IPD framework. “We were hired as a design assist,” says Matt Gaglio, vice president at Mod Interiors, Ira Township, Mich., the installing subcontractor. Gaglio and his team met frequently with the university and architects.

“We came up with the acoustic values for the wood ceilings and walls,” he says.

The Minskoff Pavilion atrium has a 7,294 sq. ft., trapezoidal wood ceiling with 842 cross-piece panels. The ¾” by 3¼” grille members are rift sliced, veneered white oak.

“This big ceiling is more than 50 ft. off the floor and irregular in shape,” Gaglio says. “We had to figure out how to hang it and incorporate all the HVAC and lighting in one, big, long process.”

The subcontractor staged materials using the second-floor corridors.

“We’d take each piece, about 1 ft. wide in various lengths, apply needed cuts, mobilize to where it was needed and hang it,” says Brad Webb, project manager at Mod Interiors.

Quick Thinking. The multipurpose room is two stories high and has wood wall grilles wrapped



The multipurpose room features 360 degrees of cross-piece wood grilles — 390 individual panels that integrate with lighting, AV equipment and projection screens. The panels in front of the windows are removable.



PROJECT

Edward J. Minskoff Pavilion at the Eli Broad College of Business at Michigan State University
East Lansing, Mich.

ARCHITECT OF RECORD

Fishbeck
Grand Rapids, Mich.

DESIGN ARCHITECT

LMN Architects
Seattle, Wash.

CEILING AND WALL CONTRACTOR

Mod Interiors
Ira Township, Mich.

SYSTEMS

Custom engineered wood ceilings from 9Wood, Springfield, Ore.

entirely around it, including the windows. It features a 2,240 sq. ft. cross-piece grille system with 280 panels, and a 880 sq. ft. dowel/cross-piece system with 110 panels. The 1" by 5¼" grille members are made of rift sliced, veneered white oak.

While the grilles were discussed early on, some parties pushed for changes after work began.

"They wanted grilles to run completely around the room and have blackout screens move up and down behind them at the windows," Gaglio says.

Initially, the blackout screens were to be 5-ft. rolls, but they were changed to 10-ft. rolls. So, the subcontractor changed the cable and mounting bracket designs and hung them off every other mullion.

“ WE HAD TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO HANG IT AND INCORPORATE ALL THE HVAC AND LIGHTING IN ONE, BIG, LONG PROCESS



Mod Interiors, 9Wood and LMN Architects collaborated closely in choosing durable, solid wood cross-piece grilles for most walls.



Mod Interiors, along with the design team, developed an attachment system to suspend the wood grille panels ¼" in front of blackout window shades in the multipurpose room.



"We came up with the change in one week," Webb says.

CAD Layout. In the career center, the subcontractor installed a 1,545 sq. ft. cross-piece grille ceiling with 240 panels. The grille members are solid poplar, 5/8" by 3¼" and finished with opaque white lacquer.

"The panels finish to the width of the room, flush to the soffits," Gaglio says. "The wood slats span a ceiling divided by glazing. We came up with a way to bury the track and get that thing installed early."

The effect is for the grilles to run continuously through the glass walls of one space to another. All the slats line up.

"We did a CAD layout of all light fixtures," Gaglio says. "We put a template on the floor, and the electrical contractor plumb-bobbed up to find their light locations. We laid out a lot of stuff on this job."



The Minskoff Pavilion features a steel frame with composite concrete decks, brick veneer walls and wood slat ceilings and walls.



Slats behind the desk in the career center line up with those in the ceiling.



Almost every corridor features a cross-piece wall and ceiling grille. Wood grilles run the length of the building on three levels.



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