

Applied Sustainability: Case Studies in Organic Workspace Design

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Subject Codes: 2:10 Interior Design: Sustainable and/or Environmental Design

IIDA Course #5512, Welfare

AIA Course #HAW549, including Health, Safety, Welfare

Course Description: What can two case studies teach us about eco-design for the workplace? Discover one company's vision for large- and small-scale commercial LEED environments. Haworth's corporate renovation along with a regional project challenge conventional construction methods and introduce a holistic design approach. Gain knowledge of methods and materials used to achieve high performance environments.

This course will cover the following objectives:

- Discuss the challenges and opportunities associated with high-performance building design.
- Identify innovations used and lessons learned from two case studies relating to the design of sustainable workspaces.
- Specify a holistic approach to designing spaces to improve the triple bottom line.

Course outline:

1. The challenges and opportunities of high-performance building design:
 - People
 - Economic Performance
 - Environment
 2. Transformational Building Projects: Two case studies involve a collaboration of a holistic approach to the space; an approach based on long-term objectives and over-arching values, aligned around a LEED framework to guide decisions, and a shift from conventional practices and processes. The company's sustainability objectives will also be discussed as a benchmark. The case studies highlight a large and small scale work environment.
 3. The Holistic Approach to Design: This approach to interior construction in no way negates or lessens the impact of the design team. In fact, they are able to not only provide a completely unique project, but give the client an auditable return on investment.
 4. Innovations used in energy-efficient, flexible workspaces and practices: Adaptable interiors require less energy and use less (but comfortable) space through moveable walls, raised access floors, user controlled lighting, and modular furniture.
 5. Infrastructure and strategic alignment
 6. Methodology and a holistic approach:
 - A fully functioning solution that positively impacts the triple bottom line
 - Green building strategies of daylighting, indoor air quality, mobile furniture, and moveable walls to both new and existing buildings
 - Building green does not have to cost more than traditional construction methods
- Summary and Conclusions