

Rothstein Kass Picks Kimball's Xsite

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Project Focus

When clients visit the new headquarters for Rothstein Kass, they may be a little awed. This is exactly the reaction that Steven Kass and David Liebman, principals, had in mind when they sat down with David J. Fournier, principal of The Aztec Corporation, to plan their 71,000 square foot Roseland, NJ, headquarters.

Mr. Kass and Mr. Liebman were responsible for overseeing the infrastructure for all of the international accounting firm's offices, and they had their priorities, which began with consolidating personnel from two buildings into a single, high-quality work environment. They also wanted to make sure that:

- the new headquarters would support the evolving needs of their clientele and staff
- incorporate state-of-the-art technological capabilities
- carry a theme of professional elegance and success throughout the entire workplace

"Our goal was to establish a new office design concept to Rothstein Kass commensurate with its status as a top ranked international accounting and consulting firm," said Mr. Fournier. The aesthetic, objective, he added was "to create something unique and contemporary, but at the same time, classic and timeless."

"It was a challenge to accomplish both, but with the help of Kimball Office and its Select Dealership Office Furniture Partnership (OFP), the team was able to accomplish the precise look and function that we had envisioned."

Furnishings played a key role in shaping the design concept. Working with Mr. Fournier and OFP, Rothstein Kass selected Kimball Office's Xsite System because its style and design complemented the architectural intent for the space. The array of material and finish options, combined with the flexibility of its tile layouts, allowed Mr. Fournier to create a workplace environment that would make the employees of Rothstein Kass proud.

"Oftentimes furniture is incidental to the architectural intent, or is limited in its ability to enhance its surroundings," said Mr. Fournier. "For Rothstein Kass' headquarters, the systems furniture is as integral to the architecture as the architecture itself. Xsite allowed me to design to a level of detail that in my 20 years of experience I have never been able to do before with a furniture system. I was able to make panel connections disappear, span long distances without seams, and create design features within its frame-and-tile structure that complemented the architectural detailing."

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“In an open workspace environment that is almost as long as a football field, creating a systems layout that was not monotonous and boring was of the utmost importance,” Mr. Fournier stressed. “With Xsite, I was able to combine the open area floor plan with detailed workstation elevations to create a visual sequence of space that does not reveal itself from any one location. Juxtaposing private office walls, workstations, and their respective materials and finishes at different junctures throughout the space creates a unified space that is scaled appropriately.”

“We couldn't be more pleased with our new headquarters,” said Mr. Liebman. “Not only did we achieve the exact look and feel that we envisioned both architecturally and in our furnishings, we received tremendous value throughout the process, thanks in large part to Bob Rigby and his OFP team. Their ability to work in tandem with David and the Aztec team to achieve this magnificent end result is a credit to both organizations.”

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