

Design Profile Serta International Center HOFFMAN ESTATES, ILLINOIS

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Architecture
Interiors
Engineering
Construction

Creative Solutions for a Sustainable Future

Serta International Center

HOFFMAN ESTATES, ILLINOIS



Epstein provided full architectural and interior design services as well as civil, MEP/FP and structural engineering for the new Serta International Center located in the Prairie Stone Development in Hoffman Estates, Illinois.

Designed by Epstein's director of design, Andrew L. Metter, FAIA, the program for Serta consisted of 60,000 square feet of office, showroom, and presentation areas plus a 20,000 square foot research & development center, and a 10,000 square foot basement for a total of 90,000 square feet. The selected site borders a protected wetlands area and as a result the building

was designed to take advantage of the site allowing all work areas to have vistas to the outdoors.

The 17-acre parcel Prairie Stone site is part of an environmentally sensitive business park. The site is directly adjacent to a protected wetlands area which serves as an integral part of the storm water management system. The net effect of the composition is a building elevated in a sea of green prairie grass. The architectural massing of the building was developed to express the two main programmatic functions: Research & Development and office work space.

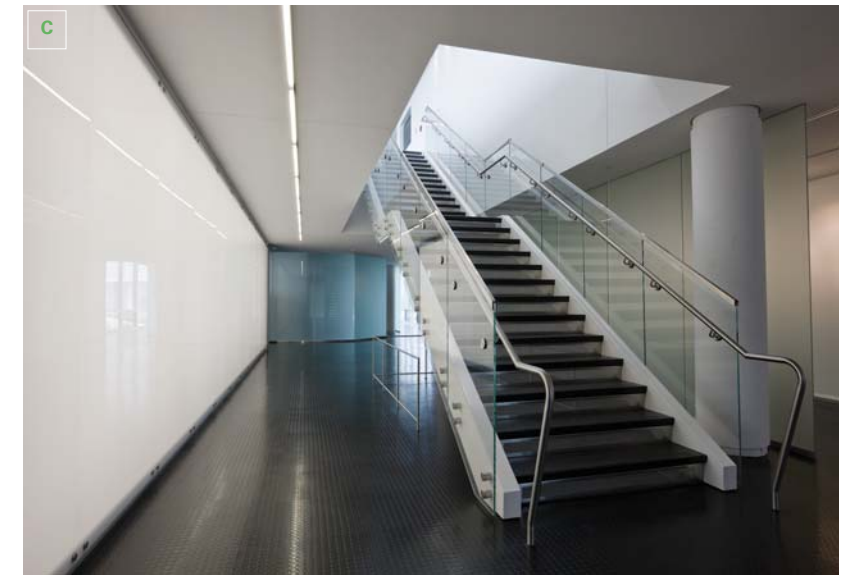
The office work space is contained in the linear "bar" structure which parallels the property line of the site, opening to the wetlands. This allows natural light and equal visual access to the wetlands for all workers in the building.

The structure containing the R&D facility and is designed to engage the "bar" structure at the programmatic center of the building. Located at the heart of the building are the public spaces such as showrooms, lunch room, and training Auditorium.

The second level opens onto an outdoor deck area covered by a sunshade canopy which has been designed as an extension of the R&D roof structure. The canopy is articulated as a pattern which will reflect Serta's interest in textures and fabrics. The curtainwall glass perimeter is shaded by horizontal louvers.

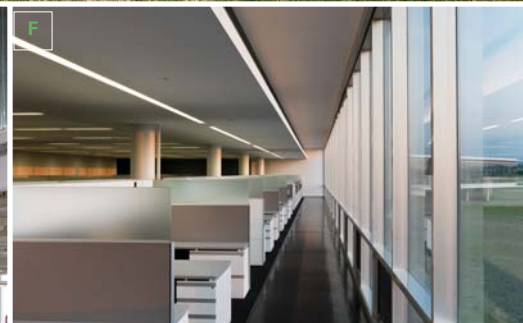
The design intent of the building is to float lightly on the landscape reinforcing the notion of environmental sustainability and echoing the lines of the prairie landscape.

Mr. Metter's design of the Serta International Center was awarded a 2010 Institute Honor Award by the American Institute of Architects. This award will be formally presented to Mr. Metter at the AIAs National Convention that takes place in Miami from June 10- 12th.



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- A: Private Office overlooking Prairie
- B: Elevation from Prairie
- C: Interior Stairwell with Backlit Wall



D: Main Entrance Elevation
 E: R&D Center
 F: Employee Workstations
 G: Lobby Interior

Energy and Sustainability

Numerous energy saving strategies have been employed in the design of the project, from native drought-resistant landscaping to high efficiency boilers and radiant floor heating. The provision of natural light, natural ventilation, glass partitions, individual thermostatic control, and a real-time building management system, all contribute in a measurable way to Serta's commitment to environmental responsibility.

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About the *Design Profile*



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Epstein's *Design Profile* is a brief in-house publication addressing our recent design and construction projects and discussing today's industry challenges.

Since 1958, the *Design Profile* has covered our project history, from warehouse and distribution facilities to award-winning architecture and interior design projects.

Now in our fifth decade of publishing the *Design Profile* has now transformed into a completely electronic publication. In a effort to be as sustainable an organization as possible we no longer print and distribute the *Design Profile* via traditional mail. Each issue is now "published" to our readers through a e-mail message that is linked to our website. We hope that this little step in sustainability inspires you to find opportunities to become "green" with your publications/communications.

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