

Living with our solutions as

occupants

so we can improve them as

experts



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CertainTeed
SAINT-GOBAIN

CertainTeed Ceilings | Ecophon® | Decoustics® | Gyptone® | Performa®

Highlighting the role of ceilings in creating a model

modern workplace



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Interiors Project Designer Pier Derrickson treated Ecophon® Solo™ Hexagon panels “like pieces of jewelry,” suspending them against the stark black background of the exposed structure. The sculptural installation served an acoustic function, absorbing conversation in the impromptu meeting area and preventing it from carrying to nearby workstations.

The difference is, almost literally, night and day.

The collection of buildings that made up the CertainTeed headquarters was constructed more than 40 years ago. More than old buildings, they were built for an old way of working: siloed, hierarchal and tethered to desks. Like many modern enterprises, CertainTeed had moved beyond that model philosophically, but were trapped in it architecturally.

In October, 2015, the organization walked out of the architectural past and into a new facility that is 180° from its previous workspace. But the most compelling part of the story is not the transition from CertainTeed’s past to its present: it’s that the entire facility was so consciously designed for the future.

It’s no surprise that an architectural products company would feature its wares throughout its headquarters. But the goal for CertainTeed/Saint-Gobain was never a mere showroom. The new headquarters was created to serve as a

living laboratory, where the company’s research teams can measure the impact CertainTeed products have on a real workplace, and use that data to improve performance.

No single division has more products inside the headquarters than CertainTeed Ceilings and its sister brands, Ecophon, Decoustics and Gyptone. CertainTeed pushed for the creative use of ceilings on all levels, not just as a matter of brand pride, but as a vital component of achieving acoustic comfort, energy use reduction and indoor air quality goals. One or two ceiling products is simply not enough to meet the diverse acoustic and aesthetic requirements within a 277,000 square-foot office building. The building features 20 total.

The result is a high-performance workplace where living with the products every day as occupants gives CertainTeed Ceilings teams the first-hand experience and measurable data to improve them as experts, developing new solutions that will benefit architects, designers and occupants for decades to come.

On the cover: In the main lobby, custom Decoustics Claro ceilings follow the curve of the building’s façade. Made of sound-absorbing fiberglass, the high-NRC panels minimize reverberation from the tile floors and extensive glazing. Visual drama and acoustic performance are further enhanced with Decoustics Solo-M and Quadrillo natural wood veneered wall panels. Perforated surfaces allow sound to be absorbed by the acoustic core and fiberglass backing.



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The “identical” ceilings throughout the open office space are actually two products. Symphony *f* fiberglass makes up the largest area, with an NRC of 0.95 to absorb open-office noise. Directly below the heat pumps in the plenum, Adagio composite ceilings perform a dual acoustic function: a fiberglass face absorbs sound, while a mineral fiber backer blocks the mechanical noise. The matching surfaces have a 90% light reflectance to maximize daylight penetration and minimize energy costs.



Gyptone BIG Quattro 46 is uniquely suited to the acoustic requirements of the large training rooms on each floor. By both absorbing sound through a pattern of perforations and reflecting it from the gypsum surface, it allows speech to carry and keeps it live in the space without being covered by background echo or reverberation noise. Full-sized gypsum sheets finish like standard drywall ceilings, and present an unexpected look.

Combining the clean look of a solid ceiling with the accessibility of a suspended ceiling, Ecophon Focus™ Ds panels fully conceal the standard 15/16” grid system. Featured in the pantry, as well as the cafeteria and several executive boardrooms, high NRC fiberglass increases speech privacy for those in the casual dining and collaboration area.



Photo © Jeffrey Totaro, 2015



CertainTeed/Saint-Gobain North American Headquarters Vital Statistics

- 320,000 sq. ft. total houses 800+ employees in two buildings on a 65-acre campus
- 119,000 sq. ft. of open-concept office space
- 116 collaborative spaces
- Expected to achieve LEED Platinum certification for Commercial Interiors and Core & Shell
- Interior planning and design by Jacobs, Philadelphia, PA
- Core and shell design, including lobby, by Bernardon, Kennett Square, PA
- Ceiling and wall system installation by Benner & White Construction, Harleysville, PA

20 CERTAINTEED CEILING PRODUCTS, REPRESENTING FOUR BRANDS

CertainTeed

- Symphony® *m* mineral fiber panels
- Symphony® *f* fiberglass panels
- Adagio™ fiberglass/mineral fiber composite panels
- Theatre Black *f* fiberglass panels
- Rx Symphony™ *m* stain resistant mineral fiber panels

Suspension Systems

- Classic Stab 15/16" Suspension in both white & black
- Elite Stab 9/16" Suspension
- Drywall Suspension
- Gyptone GK Suspension
- Cloud Perimeter Trim

Ecophon®

- Solo™ Hexagon free hanging fiberglass panels
- Texona™ fiberglass wall panels in 3 vibrant colors
- Focus™ Ds fully-concealed fiberglass ceiling
- Gedina™ A high density fiberglass ceiling

Gyptone®

- BIG™ Quattro 46 large-format perforated gypsum panels

Decoustics®

- Claro® on Ceilencio downward accessible ceiling
- Baffles in custom fabric-wrapped fiberglass shapes
- Quadriello® Acoustical Wood veneer ceilings & walls
- Solo-M Acoustic wood wall & ceiling panels
- LED Ceilencio® suspension system

FOR MORE ON HOW CERTAINTEED CEILINGS CAN FACILITATE YOUR OFFICE DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE GOALS, VISIT CERTAINTEED.COM/LIVINGLAB

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CTC-05-500

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