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Contact:

Trish Donnally
Public Relations Manager
Perkins Eastman
+1.202.239.4588 o
+1.703.434.9178 m
t.donnally@perkinseastman.com



Photography Courtesy of Andrew Ruge/Perkins Eastman

PERKINS EASTMAN OPENS ENERGIZING NEW STUDIO IN STAMFORD

Technology invigorates new office design

New York, NY (April 16, 2019) Global architecture and design firm Perkins Eastman has opened a new studio that energizes and inspires on the ground level of the complex at 677 Washington Blvd. in downtown Stamford, CT. The move is a game-changer. The firm, which has worked on many projects and initiatives over the last 15 years with UBS, the international bank that formerly occupied this colossal building, had been asked to reposition the first level of the building when the bank moved back to New York City. After transforming the lobby and amenity spaces in the tower building at the request of George Comfort & Sons, Inc., who owns the complex with AVG Partners, Perkins Eastman liked the space so much, it decided to relocate its offices there. WWE also recently completed a lease for 415,000 square feet to relocate its headquarters to 677 Washington Blvd.

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The move has energized Perkins Eastman, which has been in Stamford for almost 25 years. The firm's new, 13,300 square-foot-studio, which features natural light streaming in through 10-foot-high windows on three perimeter walls and 14- to 16-foot high ceilings, is just across the street from the Stamford Transportation Center.

"We're creating the next generation of space for the next generation of leaders," said Mark Van Summern, AIA, Principal of Perkins Eastman, and a firm-wide leader in Workplace. "We're one minute from the train. You walk out the front door and across the boulevard and get on the New Haven line of Metro-North or Amtrak. Plus, we're really close to I-95."

People feel connected in the new studio. "We had been compartmentalized in our old office. With the open office, we have one studio—it's so much more democratic. We have impromptu meetings, flexible furniture types, and spaces for small groups to come together and huddle, or large groups to gather in multipurpose areas," said Stuart Lachs, AIA, LEED AP, co-Managing Principal of Perkins Eastman Stamford.

The technology integrated into the new studio differentiates the design. "We have no receptionist, we have comfortable hospitality areas, and we installed an underfloor air distribution system, so there are no visible air ducts. Each person can adjust the air flow around his or her work area with vents in the floor, and the space functions really well for us," said Mark Creedon, AIA, LEED AP, co-Managing Principal of Perkins Eastman Stamford, who oversaw the design. And that's not all.

"Everybody has a sit/stand desk; there are ceiling fans, which help with air quality; daylight harvesting, so when there's enough natural daylight in those zones, the lights will automatically dim; and automated window coverings on the three exposures, plus remote controls for people closest to the perimeter," Creedon added. With all of these sustainability features, Perkins Eastman is pursuing LEED v.4 Gold certification for its new Stamford studio.

Design Team

The Perkins Eastman design team included: Mark Creedon, AIA, LEED AP; David Hutchinson, AIA; Shannon Cole, NCIDQ; Leia Cadotte, NCIDQ; Alex Hidalgo; and Rebecca Spangler, Graphic Design.

ABOUT PERKINS EASTMAN

Perkins Eastman is a global design firm founded on the belief that design can have a direct and positive impact on people's lives. The firm's award-winning practice draws on its 1,000 professionals networked across 17 offices worldwide. By keeping the user's needs foremost in the design process, the firm enhances the human experience across the spectrum of the built environment. For more information visit perkinseastman.com.

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