



DESIGN SOLUTION

OPEN-PLAN OFFICE



PROJECT	EF North America HQ Cambridge, MA
DETAILS	K-13 White 1" Thickness 300,000 sq. ft.
ACOUSTICAL CONSULTANT	Acentech Acoustics Boston, MA

Represented in over 100 countries, Education First is an internationally recognized global leader in education. Education First recently debuted its new headquarters in Cambridge, MA. In addition to expansive office space, meeting rooms, and auditoriums; the six story, 300,000 square foot facility includes a salon, gym, a Hubway station, and a 250-seat bar and restaurant with an outdoor patio overlooking the Charles River. The facility was designed by Swedish based Gert Wingårdh, who is internationally recognized for organic building, with collaboration and direction from Wilson Architects, who served as the architect of record.

One of the main objectives for this project was to create an engaging, open space. In order to do this effectively, acoustical consideration was key. For this reason, Acentech Acoustics of Boston, MA was enlisted to provide architectural acoustics. The facility's striking top-to-bottom open glass atrium and exposed, industrial elements, presented an acoustical challenge. To address this without compromising the design, K-13 White was utilized for all six floors of the facility. K-13 White provides

optimum acoustic performance, and reflects natural light pouring in from the oversized windows. K-13 is made in the USA from recycled, plant-based fibers, organic in nature, and met the stringent environmental objectives of the project. This spectacular facility is currently the largest, open-plan office in the North East.

Noise is the number one issue with open-plan offices. To create a functional space of this type, acoustical absorption is needed. Unlike hard surfaces and materials, which reflect sound, K-13 absorbs echo, reverberation, and excessive noise. Available in standard and custom colors, K-13 is ideal for new construction, renovation and historic preservation projects.

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ACOUSTIC SOLUTIONS

OPEN-PLAN OFFICES

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WHY DO OFFICES NEED ACOUSTICAL TREATMENT?

Excessive Noise can be detrimental in the workplace. These types of areas require special attention to acoustics. In addition to being a distraction, excess noise decreases productivity, inhibits communication, and increases workplace accidents and aggressive behavior.

Despite growing awareness of workplace noise, sound levels in offices across the nation are on the rise. The reason for this is, in part, design, specifically the use of many hard surfaces and materials. Sounds generated by HVAC equipment, phone calls, exterior noise, communication equipment, activities, etc. are reflected off these surfaces.

Unlike hard surfaces and materials that reflect sounds, ICC's line of high-performance, spray-applied, acoustic & thermal finishes absorb echo, reverberation and unwanted noise. Spray-applied to the ceiling- the most reflective surface aside from the floor, these products deliver optimum acoustic performance.



HNK

K-13 BLACK

HNK is a flexible office space for traders, free-lancers and multinationals. Conveniently located in a vibrant neighborhood, HNK offers individuals an ideal setting to get work done. To ensure a productive, functional environment, without compromising the design, HNK utilized K-13 Black. Spray-applied to the ribbed metal decking throughout the facility, K-13 provides optimum acoustic performance.



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K-13® is manufactured with:
Minimum 80% recycled content

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