

Application Story

ACRYLITE® Satinice

Global Mining Equipment Leader Strikes Gold By Using ACRYLITE® in Headquarter Redesign



Market segment: Architectural
Location: Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Product: ACRYLITE® Satinice

Description of the application: Interior Design
Fabricator: BSI

White ACRYLITE® Satinice Helps Bucyrus International Create Award-winning look in New Multi-Purpose Room

BSI, a leading design firm, drew up a plan that took advantage of the vintage building originally built for heavy-duty storage. BSI emphasized key features of the structure, including high ceilings, and turned the first floor into a corporate cafeteria/general gathering room and corporate museum.

When Bucyrus International, a global mining equipment leader, decided to redesign its corporate headquarters in South Milwaukee, management knew it would be a challenge. Their vision was an attractive and functional space that conveyed the company's history, tradition and products, while being inviting to customers. With the help of one of the region's most respected design/build firms and white ACRYLITE® Satinice acrylic sheet from Evonik Cyro, LLC, they struck gold and created an award-winning design.

One key design element was the implementation of two types of lighting – traditional overhead incandescent and a LED lighting wall, hidden behind taught fabric that would accent the high ceilings. The LED wall would be prominent and offer a subtle lighting feature when other primary lights were turned down for presentations. Additionally, this lighting could silhouette a steel frame that mimicked the company's frame

patterns in its current equipment line. As budgets dwindled and deadlines neared however, the original lighting design elements needed to be altered. An alternative solution to the stretched fabric and multi-colored LED lights was needed.

The solution quickly became apparent when BSI was introduced to ACRYLITE® Satinice sheet. Its frosted appearance gives it excellent diffusion properties and the surface hides scratches and fingerprints very well. It was also affordable and readily available. All of these factors made it the perfect choice, according to Chris Walgren, associate AIA at BSI.

“ACRYLITE® was the perfect solution due to its ability to ‘glow’ when lighting was placed behind it as well as its lead time and ability to be field cut. We had samples of other patterned acrylic but ACRYLITE® was the best fit,” said Walgren.

The final overall design was awarded a 2009 Silver award in the category of Office/Corporate over 25,000 square feet at the 2009 American Society of Interior Designers (WI Chapter) awards last February.

Walgren noted that there was more to ACRYLITE® than just aesthetic advantages. “The product’s ability to meet our code requirements for flame and smoke spread were critical in order to get approval from the building official. I wish I had known about ACRYLITE® at the beginning of the project, as I would have never proceeded with ‘stretched fabric.’ I look forward to another project in which we can specify it again.”

Additional design services were provided by HLA Business Interiors and GRäEF. CG Schmidt served as the general contractor for core and shell on the project.