

Case Study

Kimball® Office



Daylight floods this executive office, highlighting the rich Caramel Maple finish of the Definition casegoods. Also shown are Stature ergonomic desk seating and Acapella guest chairs.

When clients visit the new headquarters for Rothstein Kass, they find themselves a little awed by what they see. Which is exactly what Steven Kass and David Liebman had in mind when they sat down with David J. Fournier, Principal of The Aztec Corporation to plan their new 71,000 square foot Roseland, New Jersey headquarters.

Rothstein Kass



Prevail casegoods give Rothstein Kass both the timeless look and the high-tech function that the firm envisioned.

Design Challenge

Kass and Liebman, the two principals with Rothstein Kass responsible for overseeing the infrastructure for all of the international accounting firm's offices, had a list of priorities for Fournier that began with consolidating personnel from two buildings into a single, high quality work environment. They also wanted to make sure that the new headquarters would support the evolving needs of their clientele and staff, incorporate state-of-the-art technological capabilities and carry a theme of professional elegance and success throughout the entire workplace.

"Our goal was to establish a new office design concept for Rothstein Kass commensurate with their status as a top ranked international accounting and consulting firm. We wanted to create something unique and contemporary, but at the same time, classic and timeless," explains Fournier. "It was a challenge to accomplish both, but with the help of Kimball Office and its Select dealership Office Furniture Partnership (OFP), the team was able to accomplish the precise look and function that we had envisioned."



"Kimball Office was able to translate the firm's warm and sophisticated personality into furniture better than any other manufacturer."



Carrington chairs and bench complement the artwork and architectural details in the executive conference center.



Xsite played a key role in shaping the design concept. Its array of material and finish options, combined with the flexibility of its tile placement, helped carry a theme of professional elegance and success throughout the office.

The Kimball Office Solution

Furnishings played a key role in shaping the design concept. Working with Fournier and OFP, Rothstein Kass selected Kimball Office's Xsite system because its style and design complemented the architectural intent for the space. The array of material and finish options, combined with the flexibility of its tile layouts, allowed Fournier to create a workplace environment that would make the employees of Rothstein Kass proud.

"Oftentimes furniture is incidental to the architectural intent, or is limited in its ability to enhance its surroundings," says Fournier. "For Rothstein Kass' headquarters, the systems furniture is as integral to the architecture as the architecture itself. Xsite allowed me to design to a level of detail that in my 20 years of experience I have never been able to do before with a furniture system. I was able to make panel connections disappear and create design features within its frame-and-tile structure that complemented the architectural detailing."

"In an open workspace environment that is almost as long as a football field, creating a systems layout that was not monotonous and boring was of the utmost importance," Fournier stresses. "With Xsite, I was able to combine the open area floor plan with detailed workstation elevations to create a visual sequence of space that does not reveal itself from any one location. Juxtaposing private office walls, workstations, and their respective materials and finishes at different junctures throughout the space creates a unified space that is scaled appropriately."

The design flexibility continues into the private offices, which feature Priority and Definition casegoods in Caramel Maple. "I was pleased at how perfectly the casegoods match the style and finishes on the systems furniture and architectural elements," says Fournier. "I also appreciate the careful detail Kimball Office puts into its products. Hinging the approach-side doors on the desk pedestals so that they open makes the routing and hiding of computer cabling much quicker and more convenient."

Rounding out Fournier's design concept are several seating lines from Kimball Office. Delano with its clean lines complements the reception area, while Carrington and Acapella were selected for the conference rooms and executive offices. All three are detailed in the same medium-tone maple that Fournier used in the custom wood paneling, cabinetry, doors, furniture systems and casegoods.

"The unified design scheme embodies the firm's corporate culture and symbolizes a brand experience that Rothstein Kass has nurtured and developed since its inception in 1959. Kimball Office was able to translate the firm's warm and sophisticated personality into furniture better than any other manufacturer."

"We couldn't be more pleased with our new headquarters," says Liebman. "Not only did we achieve the exact look and feel that we envisioned both architecturally and in our furnishings, we received tremendous value throughout the process, thanks in large part to Bob Rigby and his OFP team. Their ability to work in tandem with David Fournier and the Aztec design team to achieve this magnificent end result is a credit to both organizations."

Kimball® Office. A place that works for you.



The library features Array tables with Acapella seating, and Xsite carrels with Wish chairs.



Cetra workstations express the firm's strength and integrity.

Product specifications: Xsite® and Cetra® systems; Definition® and Prevail® casegoods; Footprint® worksurfaces and storage; Acapella®, Carrington™, Delano™, Event™, Stature®, and Wish™ seating; and Array® tables.

Project team: Steven Kass and David Liebman, Rothstein Kass; David Fournier, Dave Johnson, Susan Baumann, and Jamie Occhipinti, The Aztec Corporation; Bob Rigby, Lori McEwan, Jen Meredith, and Marybeth Harrington, Office Furniture Partnership.

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