

Teknion Case Study

client
Tower Companies
Rockville, Maryland
Commercial and
Residential Developer

designer/dealer
Kishimoto+Gordon+Dehlia
(KGD)
McLean, Virginia
OM Workspace

products featured
District Furniture Systems
Files
Contessa Task Seating

The Project

The striking interior design of the Tower Companies' new office offers a perfect example of eco-conscious design that is equally elegant. The client wanted no compromise. Specializing in "eco-progressive real estate that transcends traditional approaches", this forward-thinking property development and management company set an ambitious goal—to achieve LEED® Platinum certification, create a carbon-neutral building and furnish its headquarters with a sophisticated furniture product aligned with that sustainable model. After comparing the aesthetic qualities and the "green" attributes of other products, Tower selected District workstations, along with storage and Contessa seating.



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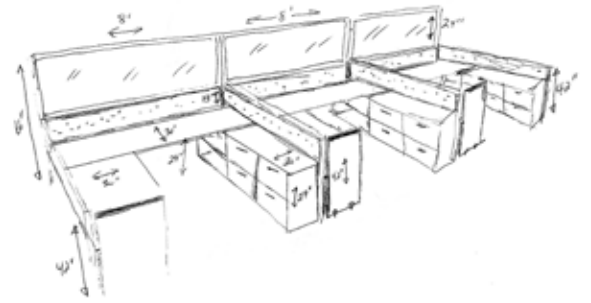
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The Challenges

The Tower Companies' mandate — eco-friendly furniture with a sleek, modern, high design look — presented a unique opportunity for the project's designers, dealers and product manufacturers. Tower wanted innovative solutions and straightforward answers to specific questions posed about materials and finishes, manufacturing processes and supply sources. The Teknion team ably answered those questions and when Tower stipulated the use of FSC-certified wood veneers, was able to fulfill that specification — an important point of differentiation. Teknion's solution offered proof that a focus on environmental responsibility does not preclude aesthetic quality or affordability.



The Teknion Response

District proved to be ideal for a client with high aspirations for beauty, harmony and health. Influenced by the classic work of mid-century modernists, District's low horizontal lines and light floating presence suited the building architecture with its great expanses of glass and abundant daylight and views. Further, District added elements of warmth and elegance with light-toned natural wood veneers and smooth, seamless worksurfaces with soft edge details. In addition to meeting LEED requirements for light, views and air quality, the space gave an effect of simple purity reminiscent of a contemporary European residence. The Contessa chair, in addition to its graceful ergonomic design, is 85% recyclable. Both products are Greenguard certified for indoor air quality. Finally, Teknion could contribute to Tower's carbon zero goals thanks to regional manufacturing within 500 miles. The availability of a LEED Accredited Professional at Teknion brought Tower's considerations to a conclusion.



Delucchi, Tower's corporate marketing arm, had a similar eco-conscience requirement to furnishing its offices in the award-winning LEED-EB (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, Existing Building) certified building. They were looking to create an inspiring and creative environment. An environment ideal for Teknion's ie post and beam system because of its ability to create open, collaborate work areas and organic and creative layouts.

