



WAUSAU

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Photos by Carpenter Sellers Architects*

Wausau's Window System Contributes to Riverpoint Center's Green Goals, Southwest Style, Award-Winning Design

Wausau, Wis. (March 2008) – Apollo Group, Inc.'s employees have begun moving into Riverpoint Center, their new corporate campus in Phoenix. Along with celebrating the desert region's natural colors and materials, Apollo's design-assist team challenged Wausau Window and Wall Systems to help control the Southwest sun and reduce energy consumption, while maximizing daylight.



Riverpoint Center's first 200 tenants moved into their offices during November 2007. By the end of February 2008, more than 6,000 people will work on site. Half work for Apollo's corporate headquarters and half are employed with its online operations supporting the University of Phoenix and other educational programs throughout the world.



Rick Mason, director of construction for subsidiary Apollo Development Corporation says that his co-workers' response to their new offices has been very positive. "It's a beautiful building and a nice place to work." Industry and community leaders seem to agree: The project was nominated for a "Best of NAIOP" award for Outstanding Build-to-Suit project of 2007, and the American Institute of Architects' Nevada honored the project as one of only seven built projects to earn a 2007 Merit Award.

Taking an active role in shaping the project's success, Apollo selected a joint venture design team composed of Carpenter Sellers Architects (CSA) of Las Vegas and SmithGroup of Phoenix. Sundt Construction was chosen as general contractor, responsible for the overall budget estimated at \$107 million.

Sundt recommended KT Fabrication of Chandler, Ariz., as the project's glazing contractor. Together, Sundt and KT drew on past experiences with Wausau to complete the curtainwall and window system team. KT was involved from the earliest stages of design conception through construction completion. "KT has past experience working with both Sundt and the architects," says Mason. "They were a great fit for the project. Their input was helpful and influential. And they thought Wausau's systems would be right for our job."

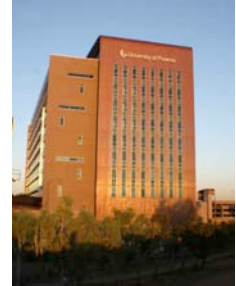
Following KT's referral, Mason and other key members of the Riverpoint Center building team traveled to Wausau, Wisconsin and met with the company's executives and engineers, and toured the fabrication facilities. "[Wausau's Vice President] Gary Houdek was a gracious host. We were quite impressed with their operations and their people," says Mason. He adds, "Throughout the entire process, we remained very pleased with the team. In fact, we were able to finish the project on time and under budget."



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Martin Hedlund, Sundt's senior project director who led the construction team's efforts through design and construction, also notes, "We were going through design and pricing during a period of unprecedented volatility in the labor and material market. One area that was steadfast in conformance to budget was the window system. It was really a testament to team commitment and open communication throughout the three and half year process."



"We've been growing so fast that we've been grabbing property all over the Valley and signing short-term leases just to put bodies at desks," says Mason. "It's nice to have one central campus where we are all in one place. And, it's in a great location right off I-10, which is convenient and provides extremely good signage visibility."

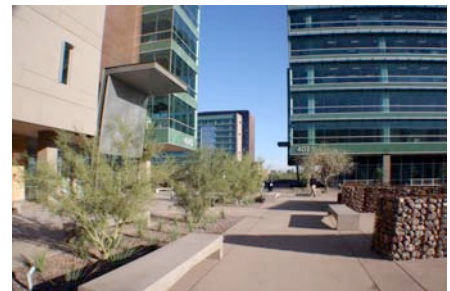
As an owner-occupant, Apollo found the 37-acre site ideally suited to its needs, although it required constructing three new buildings encompassing 630,000-square-feet to fit the company's sizable staff and growth. One 10-story building, two six-story buildings and two structured parking garages were added.



Apollo's design-assist team gave thoughtful consideration to the productivity and comfort of its workforce, as well as for the performance demands and natural aesthetic of its Arizona climate. "The land is actually an old, old riverbed, so the flow of the buildings is like the flow of the former river. We also incorporated the Southwestern flavor using a lot of copper on the building. After all, we are the copper state."

CSA and SmithGroup designed the buildings along the site's east-west axis maximizing natural light into the open office spaces. Each building's façade responds to its own exposure: On the west and east, shading is accomplished with narrow, deep-set vertical windows and small apertures that allow views to the outside, while minimizing the amount of exposure to the low sun. On the south, KT fabricated the horizontal sun shades that shield the openings from harsh summer sunlight, while positioned to invite solar light and warmth in winter months. On the north, glazing areas are maximized to welcome year-round daylighting, significantly reducing reliance on artificial illumination and its associated energy costs.

Meeting the performance and aesthetic needs of the building, Wausau manufactured a total of 186,000-square-feet of window systems ranging from 4.75- to 8.75-inch depths. The majority was factory-fabricated in Wisconsin as vertical silicone-glazed curtainwall, then shipped to KT as knocked-down framing members for installation on site. Bob Thiede provided estimating and design assistance from Wausau and notes that pre-assembled units also were provided for the lower levels, punched openings, vertical strip, and glazed wall system.



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Each of Wausau's systems meets the industry's most stringent requirements for air infiltration, water resistance and structural integrity. High-performance insulated glass from Viracon was used throughout Riverpoint Center mitigating unwanted solar heat gain and the adjacent freeway noise. Furthermore, Thiede says, "The project was required to meet a typical wind load of 23.5 psf." Complementing the systems' high-performance, all of the aluminum was finished in durable, clear anodize by Linetec.

"The materials were there when they were suppose to be, so everything could go in and up as planned." Mason praises, "KT and Wausau did an outstanding job for an outstanding project." For Sundt's part, Hedlund summarizes, "We specialize in delivering value to our customers through a team-based project model. It works extremely well when we have great team members like Apollo, KT Fabrication and Wausau."



Nationally recognized for its innovative expertise, Wausau Window and Wall Systems is an industry leader in engineering window and curtainwall systems for commercial and institutional construction applications. For more than 50 years, Wausau has worked closely with architects, building owners and contractors to realize their vision for aesthetic beauty and lasting value, while striving to maintain the highest level of customer service, communication and overall satisfaction.

Wausau is a part of Apogee Enterprises, Inc., a publicly held, U.S. corporation. For more information on Wausau Window and Wall Systems, please call 877-678-2983, or visit www.wausauwindow.com.

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