

## Interaction Associates & The Interaction Institute for Social Change Take New Space in Seaport Center



Margulies Perruzzi Architects, Gilbane, and Integrated Interiors Provide Design and Construction Services for New Offices

**BOSTON, Mass. – February 16, 2011** – [Margulies Perruzzi Architects](#), [Gilbane](#), and [Integrated Interiors](#) announced today that the firms are jointly providing design, consulting, and construction services for a new Boston office in the Seaport Center on Fargo Street that will house Interaction Associates, a 40-year old global firm specializing in the development of Facilitative Leaders, and its not-for-profit sister organization, the Interaction Institute for Social Change.

Margulies Perruzzi Architects provided interior architecture and design services, and Gilbane's Special Project Group provided construction management services for this fast track project. Integrated Interiors provided raised flooring materials for a large portion of the 11,460 square foot project.

Interaction Associates' new space reflects the firm's unique workstyle and focus on collaboration. The new office includes public space for on-site leadership events, quiet workspace for associates, and a vibrant and creative collaboration space in the middle of the office for informal discussions with clients and in-house working sessions. Raised flooring was constructed to facilitate window views in associate work areas and offices at the perimeter. Margulies Perruzzi Architects' design for the collaboration space creates a "sunken living room" effect, complete with sofa and ottoman seating, oversized worktables, and mediascape tables for flexible interactive work. The program also includes a series of conference rooms, some with

videoconferencing, four enclosed offices, a catering kitchen, and private telephone rooms for Skyping.

Showing a commitment to green design and a healthy working environment for all its associates, Interaction Associates instructed Margulies Perruzzi Architects to achieve a sustainable design for the project. During the design process, a conscious effort was made to specify products with recycled content, such as drywall, acoustic ceiling tiles and carpet, as well as regional materials manufactured within a 500-mile radius. Wood products were selected in accordance with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) principles and criteria for responsible forest management. Low-emitting materials were selected, including paints, adhesives, and sealants that have low or no VOCs, as well as furniture that is Green Guard certified. Energy Star rated equipment and appliances were chosen for the new space. Construction waste was separated for recycling, and dedicated recycling areas for paper and other materials were provided for employees. The project will also achieve a 20% reduction in water use, incorporate fundamental commissioning of building energy systems, and optimize energy performance for HVAC.

Interaction Associates founded, and is a major funder of the non-profit, Interaction Institute for Social Change (IISC), which provides network-building, consulting, facilitation, and training services to leaders and organizations in the non-profit and public sectors – developing their collaborative capacity to achieve greater social impact. The new office was co-designed by both organizations to reflect the importance cross-sector collaboration – a current and continuing trend.

Beal is the landlord for the Seaport Center building, and RDK Engineers provided mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering for the project. Total Office provided workstation, office and conference room furniture, and Office Environments of New England provided furniture for the collaboration area.

#### ***About Margulies Perruzzi Architects***

Consistently ranked as one of Boston's top architectural and interior design firms, Margulies Perruzzi Architects creates buildings and corporate interiors for clients who value design. The firm services the corporate, professional services, healthcare, research/lab, and real estate communities with a focus on sustainable design. Clients include Manulife/John Hancock, Nuvera Fuel Cells, Fallon Clinic, Sapien, Hobbs Brook Management and Forrester Research. For more information, please visit [www.mp-architects.com](http://www.mp-architects.com).

#### ***About Gilbane***

Recently named to FORTUNE Magazine's 100 Best Companies in America to Work For, Gilbane is a full-service construction and real estate development company comprised of Gilbane Building Company and Gilbane Development Company. The company ([www.gilbaneco.com](http://www.gilbaneco.com)) is one of the nation's largest construction and program managers providing a full slate of facilities-related services for clients in the educational, healthcare, life sciences, mission-critical, corporate, sports and recreation, criminal justice and aviation markets. In addition, Gilbane Special Project Group (SPG) responds to the construction needs of our clients for whom construction is a non-core business, and includes such work as management of capital improvements programs or seasonal peaks of construction activity. Gilbane consistently ranks a top education builder by Engineering News-Record and Building Design and Construction, holding the number one or two positions over the past several years.

#### ***About Integrated Interiors***

Integrated Interiors provides architectural interiors products including moveable walls, raised flooring, and modular power, as well as design-build construction services for mission critical or

data center environments. The company is the region's only source for the integrated procurement and installation of modular architectural products through a single manufacturer - Haworth. Combined with Haworth's Organic Workspace™ products, Integrated Interiors' modular solutions provide flexible, high performance workspace that adapts to companies' changing needs while meeting the growing demand for sustainable and LEED-supportive design. For more information, go to [www.iiawne.com](http://www.iiawne.com).

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