



## FOR DESIGN OF BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD SERVICE CENTER

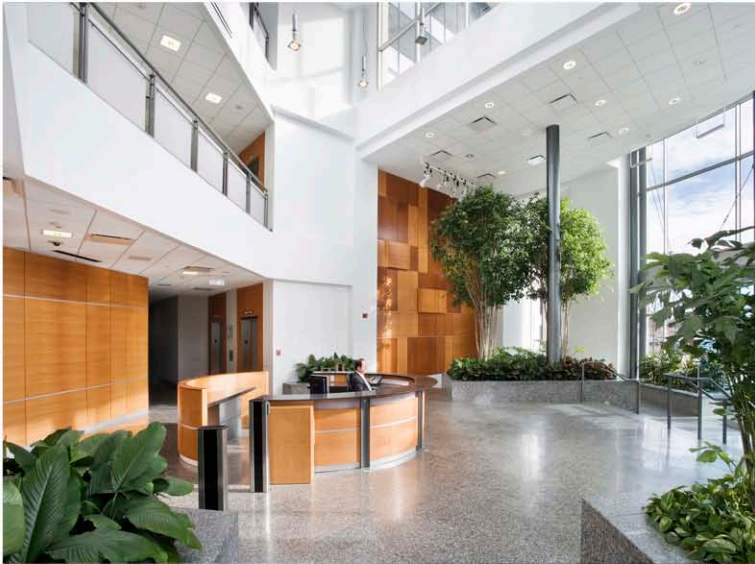
# Margulies & Associates receives Sustainable Leadership Award

**QUINCY, MA** Margulies & Associates, one of Boston's most innovative architectural and interior design firms, its design of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts' LEED-certified Member Services Center has received a commended designation in the 2007 Sustainable Leadership Awards for Design and Development.

Sponsored by the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) and CoreNet Global, the award honors sustainable design by design/client teams whose buildings integrate sustainability practices with design excellence while meeting the organization's objectives for the project.

"Early in the planning for the revitalization of this facility, our design team realized that Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts (BCBSMA) intended to incorporate many green and healthy workplace design features," said Janet Morra, AIA, LEED AP, principal in charge of the project at Margulies & Associates. "We introduced BCBSMA to the LEED certification process, and found that the LEED standards were a great fit with BCBSMA's interests in the well-being of its associates, reduced long-term operating costs, and lower-impact construction practices."

In 2004, BCBSMA purchased



**Interior space of the Blue Cross Blue Shield member service center, Quincy, Mass**

a 345,000 s/f building to house its Member Services Center. When they took ownership of the building, the existing property did not meet the company's standards for supportive workspace design. Of primary importance were environmental considerations that contribute to a healthy and comfortable work setting. BCBSMA was especially committed to reducing the environmental footprint of the renovation project and maintaining a high standard for indoor air quality for its associates. Accommodating the business needs of the more than 1,500 associates

who work in the center required reconfiguring the building's floor plan, replacing building systems, renovating and redesigning the existing full-service kitchen and cafeteria, reconstructing a 1,350-space parking garage and developing an on-site childcare center. Space for BCBSMA's extensive recycling program was also included in Margulies & Associates' final design, enabling their client to continue its ongoing dedication to environmentally-friendly policies and practice. The resulting project is one of the largest LEED-certified renovations in the area.