



1/19/2008

Margulies & Associates Completes Interior Renovations for Metabolix

BOSTON - Margulies & Associates has completed design of 14,000 square feet of office space for bioscience company Metabolix, Inc.

The new office will house the sales and marketing headquarters of Mirel, a new brand of high-performance biobased plastics that are eco-friendly and based on sustainable, renewable resources and harmlessly biodegrade in nature at the end of their useful life, unlike persistent petroleum based plastics. Metabolix's has formed a joint venture with Archer Daniels Midland Co. to manufacture, market and sell Mirel.

"We were looking for an architect who had skills in developing green, environmentally friendly spaces and selected Margulies & Associates based on their extensive experience and excellent reputation in the field," said Brian Igoe, vice president and chief brand officer at Metabolix. "As a company focused on biobased, sustainable, biodegradable plastics, it was only natural that we would 'walk the walk' by implementing sustainable design features into our own offices."

Margulies & Associates converted office space into a laboratory for the testing of the company's products. To reflect the company's eco-friendly philosophy, the color scheme is earthy, natural colors and the systems furniture, seating, and conference table are all GreenGuard Certified, the most recognized program for specifying low-emitting furniture for sustainable building programs. The reception area boasts banners outlining the qualities of biobased plastics and a graphic with the life cycle of the plastic.

"Working with a newly public company that is poised for enormous growth posed unique design challenges," said Marc Margulies, AIA, principal of Margulies & Associates. "Metabolix is carefully focusing its expenditures on research and development so we were sensitive to cost issues and designed a space with maximum flexibility to support future expansion."