

WAC Lighting Illuminates Architectural Accents of Medical Center

Case Study - Swedish / Issaquah Medical Center in Issaquah, Washington



he Seattle-based architectural, design and planning firm of Collins Woerman created a new campus for the Swedish/Issaquah Medical Center, raising the bar for efficiency and comfort in healthcare design. For this accent lighting application, the design firm specified WAC Lighting's InvisiLED® Tape Light System.

The medical center's central atrium wall is decorated with massive strips of bronze that represent large-scale flowing blades of grass stalks. The illuminated iconic design stands out as a focal point creating a soothing atmosphere which mimics the natural landscape. The arched grass stalks are backlit by more than 1,100 feet of InvisiLED[®] tape which was designed and engineered using state of the art LED technology.

InvisiLED[®] is a sophisticated custom lighting system made simple for a broad range of residential and commercial applications. Easy to install and conceal, the flexible energy efficient LED tape was specified in a warm white color that was perfect for this unique accent lighting application.

According to Interiors & Sources magazine, Sarah Reisenauer, a senior associate with Collins Woerman stated, "Swedish has a strong emphasis on technology and professionalism, and wanted to be familiar and friendly at the same time. Besides technology, integration and building a sense of community, a large emphasis was put on the building's energy consumption, as the new Swedish/Issaquah Medical Center uses 43 percent less energy than a typical hospital."

Each one-foot section of InvisiLED[®] Tape uses just two watts of power. The luminaires have a long life of 50,000 hours, thus minimizing maintenance costs and offering a much longer lifespan over standard light bulbs.



"Nature, nurture and community" was the overall design concept for the project and WAC Lighting played a key role in supplying unique accent lighting. WAC Lighting, which maintains a Responsible Lighting brand standard, creates sustainable lighting in a wholly owned zero landfill manufacturing campus and is very involved in social progress and giving back to the community on both local and global levels.

Interiors & Sources cited that all of these combined elements have resulted in a healthcare project that borrows heavily from the world of hospitality. The result is a space that has been absolutely embraced by local residents as a positive resource.

As Ms. Reisenauer put it, "We just tried to make it feel like it belonged in the community, as opposed to just one more institution."

About Swedish/Issaquah Medical Center

Based in Seattle, Swedish is the largest nonprofit health-care provider in the Greater Seattle area. In independent research by National Research Corporation, Swedish is consistently named the area's best hospital, with the best doctors, nurses and care in a variety of specialty areas. Swedish has three hospital locations in Seattle, including the Issaquah Medical Center.

In 1910, Dr. Nils Johanson founded a 24-bed hospital in a renovated apartment building. It was the beginning of a legacy of humanitarianism and stewardship that would transform the small hospital into the region's largest, most comprehensive, not-for-profit health-care provider.

Project

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Photography Ben Benschneider



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