

EASTER SEALS CHILDREN'S THERAPY CENTER ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY

INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Low Emitting Materials:

All adhesives used in the project do not exceed the current VOC limits of the South Coast Air Quality District (SCAQMD) Rule #1168.

All sealants meet or exceed the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Regulation 8, Rule 51.

The VOC levels of all paints and coatings do not exceed the Green Seal -Standards GS-11 VOC and chemical component limits of the standard. The interior paint is by Sherwin Williams, Harmony line.

All carpet meets the Carpet and Rug Institute's Green label Indoor Air Quality Test Program requirements. The carpet tile is by Interface.

Daylighting:

The project harvests natural daylight to provide for improved indoor environmental quality. This provides a connection between the indoor spaces and the outdoor environment. Studies credit daylighting with a reduction in absenteeism. Even a small decrease in absenteeism provides a noticeable increase in productivity. Although difficult to quantify, daylighting generally increases occupant satisfaction by providing a healthier, more pleasant environment. The human eye adapts easily to daylight. Various studies suggest that daylighting increases worker productivity, enhances student learning and health and reduces absenteeism in schools.

Construction IAQ Management Plan:

During construction the contractor developed and implemented an Indoor Air Quality Management Plan for the construction and pre-occupancy phases of the building. This prevents indoor air quality problems and is intended to sustain long-term installer and occupant health and comfort.

MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

Recycle Content:

The project uses building materials that incorporate recycled content material, which reduces impacts from extracting new material and creates market demand for products that contain recycled content. Examples of materials include:

1. Carpet tile- Interface
2. Ceramic tile-Terra Green Ceramics, minimum 58% recycled content
3. Steel wall stud framing- minimum 66% recycled content
4. Acoustic Ceiling tile- 40% recycled content
5. Rubber wall base - Johnsonite

Cabinet Construction:

The cabinetry is made from wheat straw fiber (93%), an annually renewable fiber, rather than from wood. This is considered a rapidly renewable material. It uses a high performance, formaldehyde free resin to hold the fiber together. It is important in indoor environments to reduce or eliminate formaldehyde or Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's). VOC's are chemical compounds that contribute to air pollution inside and outside of buildings. Standard particleboard with urea formaldehyde resins will off gas toxins into the interior environment for over a year after installation.

Linoleum Flooring:

Linoleum flooring is Forbo Marmoleum, Dual line. Linoleum is produced from renewable materials: linseed oil, rosins, wood flour, jute and ecologically responsible pigments. The harvesting or extraction of these raw materials consumes relatively little energy. With naturally inherent anti-bactericidal and anti-static properties, Marmoleum is natural choices where health concerns are present. The bactericidal properties of linoleum prevent microorganisms including Salmonella Typhimurium and Staphylococcus Aureus from multiplying themselves. Marmoleum possess naturally occurring anti-static properties. Not only does this reduce the potential for electric shock, but it also makes the floor easier to clean in that dust and dirt will not easily adhere to the floor.

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