

COOLEST OFFICE SPACES

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Calculating 'cool'

Editor's note:

Our annual quest to identify Tampa Bay's "coolest" office spaces evolved out of our interest in sustainable design, a segment the American Society of Interior Designers calls its fastest growing. But that doesn't just mean 'green.' It is design that cares about how goals are achieved, about its effect on people and on the environment. As the ASID says on its Web site: "It is also a smart way of doing business."

This was not a scientific process. We posted alerts on our

Web site and staff writer Margaret Cashill queried the Tampa Bay architectural community for would-be participants. There were more respondents than we are able to feature this year, and we are grateful to those firms that alerted us to how cool their workspaces are.

But even just natural light alone can add to workplace productivity, and our hope is that the strategies and ideas exhibited by these firms may inspire other readers to consider similar workplace-enhancing investments.

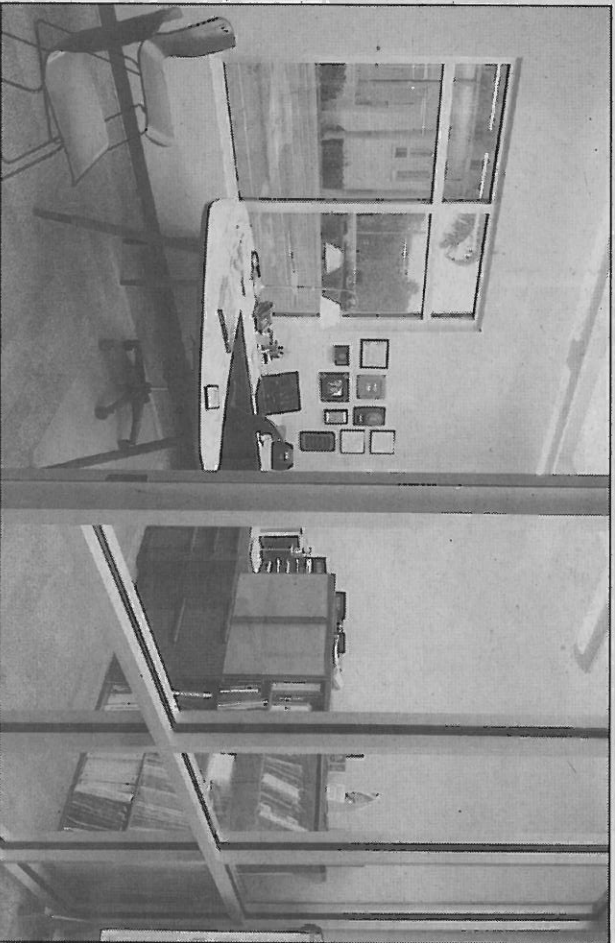
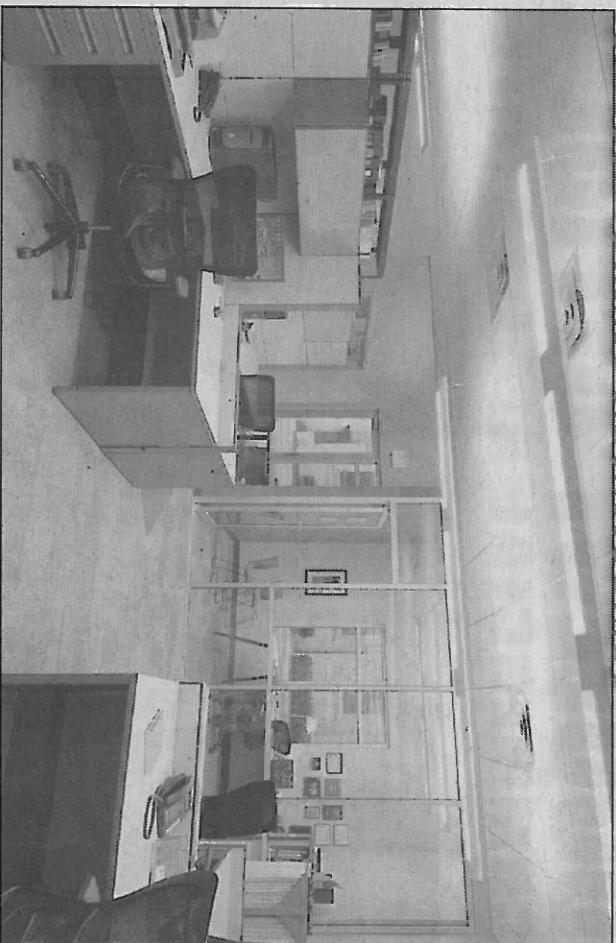
—Alexis Mueller

Feature by Margaret Cashill

Staff writer

HEIDI & ASSOCIATES' office in Tampa is featured on Page 12. Photo courtesy of Heidi & Associates Inc.

Carlson Studio Architecture



COURTESY OF CARLSON STUDIO ARCHITECTURE

A large window lets in natural light and provides a street-level view of downtown Sarasota.

LOCATION: 1613 Fruitville Road, Ste. 1,
Sarasota 34236

WEB: carlsonstudio.org

WHY IT'S COOL: Carlson Studio Architecture occupies one half of an adaptively redesigned 1930s-era grocery store that meets LEED-Commercial Interiors Silver certification. The 2,500-square-foot office is a working example of the company's commitment to green design and makes use of rapidly renewable materials like linoleum and bamboo.

The office is split into a public space with a conference room and reception area and a private space with offices and a studio.

The abundance of natural light increases productivity and lowers utility bills, said Jedd Heap, architect.

HOW IT HAPPENED: The firm's owner, Michael Carlson, designed the space. With a budget around \$210,000 for its half of the building, the office was the firm's first LEED-CI project in the area.