

Project Focus

Virtua Health Systems, Bedtower - Voorhees, NJ

Hammel, Green, Abrahamson Architects & Engineers (HGA) wanted to take this healthcare facility to a whole new level and looked for modern façade systems to help complete that vision.

When initially discussing this project with HGA they decided to look at a variety of curtain wall façades as they already had a design vision for the project. With the long ribbon windows, multi-storey construction, large overhangs and colonnades, a flying beam across the top of the building and various soffit conditions, HGA was convinced that supporting the façade systems from the substrate like curtain wall made more sense than other construction methods for this project. ARRIS-clip had been introduced shortly before our meetings began with HGA and this turned out to be a perfect fit and exactly what HGA was looking for.

The Details:

- Noteworthy in the design is the exterior façade, which includes a massive aluminum and glass curtain wall, a beautiful back ventilated and drained stone rain screen system, metal panels, and all of this accented by phenolic resin panels of real wood veneer. These materials “create a real harmony, and something that’s indicative of what was basically unearthed from the site,” says Mark Debrauske, AIA, project lead designer, HGA.
- Also noteworthy is the performance of the system. The building has been exposed to severe weather since the buildings completion in 2011. The owner’s representative Hammes Company, expressed their support for the ARRIS-clip system and how pleased they are with the system “Especially (after we received) the favorable report after the heavy rains and wind of Hurricane Sandy!”



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- John Giungo, Project Executive with Molly Construction (the façade installer) noted that “The ARRIS-clip System is a smart and attractive façade system that is user friendly. ARRIS-clip permits the use of stone in large wall areas historically difficult to provide at a reasonable cost.”
- Working on this project with HGA, Turner Construction and Molly Construction was a real collaboration and shows what modern façade design entails and what can be accomplished when sound building science principles are used and a true team approach are employed.

The Arriscraft Project Highlights:

- 65,000 sq. ft. of Smooth ARRIS-clip Renaissance® Units in the Sunset color used in a Back Drained and Ventilated Open Rainscreen. Adair limestone was used as a pedestal at the base of the wall and Adair limestone sills were also employed at punch window openings. ARRIS-tile direct adhered wall features were used inside at the fireplaces and pilasters.
- The façade design included straight walls, curved radius walls, jambs, sills and soffits, column wraps, wall coping, control joints, deflection joints, water blockers and continuous clips and compartmentalized drainage plains. Stone details included stretchers, L corners, quirk mitered corners, butt joint corners, back checked pieces at deflection joints and header stones at soffits.



The Installation Highlights:

- By using HEK brand mast climbing electric scaffolding, Molly Construction was able to save money by renting the scaffold system back to the framers, glazers and roofing contractors so all trades could work in sequence from a single platform. Sufficient materials and labor could be loaded on the scaffold allowing for continuous install during the day.
- Gridworx Channels: Every 15 minutes a 2 person mason crew installed a 12'-0" long Gridworx™ Channel (384 lineal feet of track per day).
- Stone: Each day 4 masons and 1 tender installed 480 to 600 units (1'-0" x 2'-0" units)
- The installed cost of ARRIS-clip (union labor, materials, scaffolding, etc.) was about \$48.00/sq. ft. Average ARRIS-clip install numbers typically fall between \$35.00 to \$49.00 per square foot depending on the complexity of the project, installation height and project location.



Project: Virtua Health Systems, Bedtower
Location: Voorhees, New Jersey
Architect: Hammel, Green, Abrahamson Architects & Engineers
Contractor: Turner Construction and Molly Construction
Product: ARRIS-clip Renaissance® Units in the Sunset color