

Case Study:

William McDonough + Partners – Charlottesville, Virginia

Williams DDI Direct/Indirect Lighting Provides Contemporary Flair with Energy Efficiency



Job Specific Information:

- 93 Williams 4' DDI fixtures with two 32-watt T8 lamps, suspended with 24" aircraft cable
- Ceiling Height: 12'
- Mounting Height: 10'
- Spacing: 9' on center
- Footcandle Level: 18 - 20 average maintained
- For complete DDI specifications, see hewilliams.com.

The move to new company offices for William McDonough + Partners, renowned architectural and community design firm, gave partner Allison Ewing, AIA, another opportunity to apply the firm's concepts of creativity, natural light and diversity, plus fresh air.

The building's windows had been previously bricked over, providing no daylight – a key design concept. The building also had a dropped ceiling with standard parabolic fixtures, another contrast to the firm's best practices.

The design team worked with the building owner to remove the dropped ceiling, changing the space into open office, loft-like space. Windows were also cut into the brick walls, resulting in an ecological and socially effective work environment.

The architect then developed an energy efficient lighting system for the space. Working with Charles Bolta, American Environmental Products, Ft. Collins, CO, Ewing evaluated the latest lighting technology and selected a Williams DDI Direct/Indirect lighting system with daylight corrected 32-watt T8 fluorescent lamps. Suspended 10 feet above the floor on approximately 9-foot centers, the system provides 18 - 20 footcandles (average maintained).

"We wanted a glare-free, energy efficient lighting system for our new headquarters," Ewing said. "The Williams system met all our criteria and can be integrated with photo-voltaic panels when we install them on the building in the future."