

**ACCENTS BY DESIGN IMPLEMENTS SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN
SERVRIGHT CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS BUILD OUT**
*Utilization of Accents by Design's Complete Services Portfolio Results in a Warm,
Inviting and "Green" Work Environment*

RESTON, Va., November 24 – Jacqui Higgins, president of commercial interior design firm Accents by Design, announced today that her company has completed the design of the new Alexandria, VA corporate headquarters of ServRight, a nationwide technical service and support solutions provider.

“We purchased our new headquarters space in a building that had windows on every side and other features that made it an attractive site for us,” explained Steve Ridenhour, ServRight CEO. “As members of the US Green Building Council, we were already committed to developing our space in an environmentally responsible manner. Our challenge was to find the right commercial design partner who had impeccable skills, LEED capabilities, and the ability to keep costs under control.

“We knew as soon as we met Jacqui Higgins that she had the skill set we were looking for. She was adept at learning about our business and translated that understanding into a commercial design that accommodated a state-of-the art conference room, our national call center staff, accounting, management and sales personnel, and our service depot. She worked harmoniously with our architect and general contracting firm, managing every phase of the process for us, from space planning and design concept to project management, furniture and finishes selection, and art consulting,” Ridenhour stated.

Jacqui first worked with the architect on the original design layout to better manage traffic flow within the 9,000 square foot facility. Once the layout was finalized, Jacqui, with input from ServRight management, created the overall design concept – including the color palette, selection of systems and casegoods furniture as well as the various finishes such as flooring, wallpaper, and Formica and laminate finishes. The furniture and finishes presented were as functional as they were aesthetically pleasing, while upholding the need to be environmentally responsible and affordable.

“Many people have the impression that sustainable design costs more, but the opposite is more often true. The growing popularity of green buildings and green building programs is expanding both the demand for and the availability of green products. These changes are providing greater opportunities to improve the environmental performance of many building products,” said Higgins. “ServRight was able to choose products that are environmentally responsible and, in most cases, cost about the same. In those few instances where the products cost more, the energy savings can more than make up for the difference over time. For example, electric lighting accounts for 35 to 50 percent of the total electrical consumption in commercial buildings. The energy savings from reduced electric lighting through the use of daylighting strategies can directly reduce building cooling energy and the associated cost by 10 to 20 percent. ServRight moved into a building where the surrounding window line made it possible to utilize daylight to reduce the impact on the electrical infrastructure. Another important design feature was

the use of lighting controls that reduces the amount of power using during peak demand periods by automatically dimming lights or turning them off when they were not needed. When electric lighting controls are used properly the gains can be dramatic: reducing the number of hours per year that lights are used; reducing internal heat gains by cutting down light usage thereby reducing HVAC requirements; and reducing energy by extending the life of lamps and ballasts,” Higgins continued.

Additional sustainable design elements employed or incorporated into the ServRight design include:

- Construction Waste Management
- Use of Regional Materials
- Shaw Designweave Carpet – Made with Eco Solution Q nylon, a Cradle to Cradle Certified product by MBDC.
- Cork Flooring – Quick grown and easily replaced, cork flooring requires less low VOC (volatile organic compounds) adhesives than other floor tiles
- Benjamin Moore Eco Spec® Paint
- Daylighting and Office Auto-Dimmers
- Equipment Efficiency and Zoning & Controls
- Recycled Ceiling Tiles (Existing ceiling tiles were reused in a part of the building that stores inventory; sustainable ceiling tiles were used through the office space.)
- Re-vamp of HVAC for increased ventilation and maximum efficiency (ServRight’s goal is to eventually make the entire building eligible for LEED Certification)
- Ceiling Fans – Energy efficient way to move air resulting in less AC and heat use and improved indoor air quality
- Evolve Systems Furniture - 100% recyclable at the end of their lifespan. An estimated 82% of an entire Evolve panel is made from recycled and environmentally friendly material.
- OFS Casegoods – Utilizes manufacturing methods which emphasize pollution prevention, activities that include waste minimization, recycling and the use of alternative, non-hazardous materials.
- ENERGY STAR - Eligible equipment is EPA ENERGY STAR rated
- Single Stream Full Recycling

“What pleased me most about working with Jacqui was that with her guidance we were able to follow USGBC guidelines and create an appealing and professional work environment at the same time,” said ServRight General Manager Marty Evans. “Just last week we hosted three client meetings in our conference room. – and our visitors couldn’t have been more impressed. The glass wall is stunning, the conference table is beautiful and functional, and the chairs are comfortable. The openness and color scheme throughout the space gives us the warm, organic look and feel that we all wanted.

“But the ‘high tech’ look and feel is there too. Everyone loves our ceiling fans – not only because they’re more efficient, but because they’re fun to look at. And even our customers noticed design touches that you wouldn’t expect technology executives to notice, like the black trim on our systems furniture that adds contrast and a professional elegance to the space while the fabric panels offer privacy and a sound buffer without blocking the daylight,” said Evans.

“Working with Steve and his employees at ServRight has been a real pleasure,” said Higgins. “It was a delight to guide every phase of the build out – from layout to design concept and selection and installation of furnishings and finishes. The fact that ServRight management was heavily focused on creating a healthy office experience for its employees while upholding a corporate stewardship for the environment made this project an even more gratifying professional experience,” she said.

About Accents by Design

Headquartered in Reston, Virginia, Accents by Design specializes in commercial interior design. A multidisciplinary design firm, Accents by Design manages the diverse aspects of interior design — from space planning, design concept, project management, furniture and finishes selection and procurement, to art consulting and LEED accreditation – combining validated expertise with an intimate knowledge of the corporate world. We design flexible solutions that can mature over time as the needs of our clients evolve. Contact us to see how you can realize business-oriented results through our effective interior design solutions at 703-438-8915, or view samples of our work at www.accents-by-design.com.

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Note to editors: Photos of ServRight’s headquarters are available. Email your request to jan.goebel@verizon.net.