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Diverse Metal Profiles Add Luster To Seattle-Area Convention Center

City leaders in Lynnwood, Wash., had long sought a cornerstone for the revival of their well-manicured bedroom community of 28,000 some 15 miles north of Seattle.

Their patience was finally rewarded last year with the opening of the 55,000-square-foot, \$31 million Lynnwood Convention Center on the north end of downtown.

In the wake of voter rejection of several bond issues that would have provided a funding source for the project, the city formed a public facilities district in 2001



that used funds from local sales taxes to underwrite construction costs.

Grant Dull, executive director of the public facilities district, sees the gleaming new center as a catalyst for generating

an additional \$13 million in revenue and attracting some 40,000 people to the city each year. “Snohomish County is ideally suited for more conventions and tourism that ever before,” he said. “Puget Sound growth is headed north, rather than east.”

The convention center sits on 13 acres that include retail stores and hundreds of free parking spaces. The opening coincides with City Council’s passage of a city center plan, which, in part, allows higher density on property just south of the convention center. New zoning has tripled the amount of space that can be developed there to 9 million square feet of commercial and residential structures. The plan envisions construction of the city’s first mid- to high-rise buildings.

Convention Center seats 1,200

Designed by Zervas Group Architects of Bellingham, WA, the conference and convention center can host conventions of up to 500 people and events requiring

CASE HISTORY



BUILDING: LYNNWOOD CONVENTION CENTER

LOCATION: LYNNWOOD, WASH.

OWNER: LYNNWOOD PUBLIC FACILITIES DISTRICT

ARCHITECT: ZERVAS GROUP ARCHITECTS

FABRICATOR: A.E.P. SPAN/OMEGA LITE

CONTRACTOR: HOWARD S. WRIGHT CONSTRUCTION Co.

seating for up to 1,200 guests.

The two-story facility is small as convention centers go, but large by Lynnwood standards. It has L-shaped lobbies on both floors, and a balcony with views east as well as to the first floor. A tree-column provides structural support for the ceiling at the northeast corner, and is an iconic feature behind a two-story glass curtainwall. The facility

also has 11 meeting rooms with 34,000 square feet of floor space.

In efforts to give the building a warm, inviting look while staying within budgetary and scheduling guidelines, the architect called for the structural steel skeleton with various styles and profiles of metal wall panels.



City saved \$225,000 by using metal

It was a question of not overpowering visitors, suggests project architect Terry Brown. “The use of different types of metal siding, each with its own distinct color and texture, breaks down the mass of the building into more pleasing proportions,” he said. Brown estimates the city saved over \$225,000 by dropping plans for a masonry exterior and opting for a combination of five metal panel

profiles, each with a projected service life of more than 50 years.

The three dominant systems include metal composite, corrugated and deep ribbed industrial panels. The building’s large-scale exhibit hall space is clad with 12,800 square feet of 24-gauge, deep ribbed panels with a factory-applied “cool” dark bronze paint finish. The paint is formulated with reflective pigments that make it much more energy efficient than traditional metal panel paints.

For sections of the building that extend from the main exhibit hall, the architect specified 24-gauge corrugated



SPECIFICATIONS

PANEL TYPE: COATED METAL WALL, METAL COMPOSITE WALL

SIZE: 24-GAUGE

PROFILE: DEEP-RIBBED, CORRUGATED

COLOR: COOL DARK BRONZE, COOL METALLIC CHAMPAGNE, COPPERTONE

metal panels in a “cool” metallic champagne, as well as corrugated, polyallomer-cored panels in coppertone. ■



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