

INTERFACE ENGINEERING

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NEWS RELEASE

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Growth Despite Economic Uncertainty: Interface Engineering San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA Since it's opening in 2006, Interface Engineering has been quietly growing, double, then triple the size of its original staff. The San Francisco branch of this Portland based firm moved to a larger space last fall. The firm's new office is on track to be LEED Gold CI Certified. "Expanding into larger space was in our five-year plan," comments Interface Principal, Hormoz Janssens, PE, LEED AP. "We just never dreamed we'd outgrow our original office two years before our forecast, despite what's happening in the economy. We have been very fortunate. The firm and this office are well positioned to handle future projects as we head into an economic recovery." With new office plans, came the desire for the space to reflect the passion of the firm – sustainable design. The space features occupancy sensors and open office designs with low partitions to make use of natural lighting and energy performance. Ninety percent of the staff workspaces have a direct line of sight to windows. Air quality is monitored with CO2 sensors and low-emitting materials were used throughout. The Market Street office is located close to BART and Muni, for which employee fare is subsidized by the firm. The branch, currently twenty-eight employees strong, has quite a bit more room to grow – the new office can accommodate fifty.

Interface Engineering has also been fortunate in recruiting and retaining talented staff. "Interface Engineering is a place where young engineers can settle in for a long-term career," says Mr. Janssens. One such person is Janice Ko, who joined Interface in 2008. Interface supported her endeavor to earn her Mechanical PE and her LEED AP. A valuable member of the staff, Janice has contributed her talents to LEED mixed use projects as well as several educational projects. Recent senior level staff hires include Bien Blando, who brings 32 years of electrical design experience to Interface's team. "Nurturing younger staff members and recruiting senior level staff have been the key to our success in San Francisco," adds Mr. Janssens. "The addition of Rick Russell, PE, LEED AP and Ron George, CPD bridged the gap between design and construction." Mr. Russell joined Interface as an Associate Principal bringing his HVAC Design Build experience. Mr. George, Associate, adds his 30 years of mechanical design and construction experience to the office. "Rounding out the services we provide, Ron Smits was brought in

to provide architectural lighting design. His 29 years of experience and impressive portfolio of award winning designs is an exciting addition to our office.” adds Mr. Janssens.

Interface Engineering is a full-service firm distinguished by its breadth of specialty expertise and deep commitment to sustainable practices. With over 190 employees in five offices, Interface offers full-service mechanical, electrical and plumbing design services, along with specialty services in such areas as technologies design, lighting design, fire/life safety consulting, energy modeling, building commissioning and sustainable design. Interface has offices in Portland, Seattle, San Francisco, Sacramento and the United Arab Emirates.

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Note: Headshots of staff are attached. Photographers are welcomed and encouraged to visit Interface Engineering for office photos.