



Case Study

Eagle County Airport – Colorado

Restroom Renovation Makes Passengers Feel They Are Already On Vacation

Challenge

Nestled in the magnificent Rocky Mountain region, Colorado's Eagle County Airport is home to four major airlines and welcomes 120,000 passengers each year – many of whom are anxiously awaiting some R & R in the mountains. The facility was built in 1996 and subsequently expanded in 2001. Airport officials have since looked to renovate areas such as the restrooms in order to support the operation's steady growth. One women's restroom in particular needed remodeling, according to Chris Anderson, Terminal Manager, Eagle County Airport.

"Not only did we need to enlarge the restroom to increase capacity, we wanted to update the interior features of the room to get away from the typical 'institutional' look found in many airports," says Anderson. "A large part of our design focus was on the restroom partitions to enhance the space because they are such a central focus in restrooms. We also wanted our design to resonate with the airport's magnificent backdrop of the Rocky Mountains, since many of our passengers are visiting area ski resorts such as Vail and Beaver Creek."



Solution

Anderson worked on the restroom's design with Luis Menendez, president, Menendez Architects P.C., who recommended Fusion™ Partitions by Bradley Corp. "The stainless steel and granite Fusion Partitions fit well with our vision of designing a restroom that shared a similar material and color palette with the area's mountain resorts," Menendez says. "The partitions' warm earth tones and natural materials are a perfect extension of the resort experience," Menendez says.

The doors and walls of the partitions are made of resilient stainless steel with a slightly textured pattern that creates a distinguished aged-leather look.

The pilasters, constructed of rock-solid granite, were selected in the color Tropical Brown, which features hints of tan, brown, and white. In addition to the surrounding Rocky Mountain landscape, the granite pilasters coordinate with the restroom's granite countertops, earth-tone tile floors and walls, as well as the decorative wooden features that accent the ceiling.

Anderson agrees the Fusion Partitions complement the restroom's design: "The Fusion Partitions give the room a grand appearance and nicely echo the natural elements of the Rocky Mountains."

Fusion Partitions Give Restroom an 'Upscale Mountain Feel' That is Durable, Easy to Maintain

Maintenance and cost were two major considerations during Anderson's partition selection process. "Since graffiti and damage are issues that airports must contend with, material selection was of utmost importance. We chose the Fusion Partitions because we knew that both granite and stainless steel would be durable and easy to clean."

Granite is extremely resistant to graffiti, stains and scratches – most surface scratches can be buffed with dry steel wool. The textured stainless steel easily withstands traffic and every day wear and tear. Both granite and stainless steel can be easily wiped down with a mild soap and a damp cloth.

Anderson also found the cost of Fusion Partitions affordable: "One might expect a big disparity between partitions constructed with materials like stainless steel and granite, compared with your average partitions made of plastic," he says. "It turned out that the Fusion Partitions fit well within our cost-conscious budget."

In addition to being low maintenance and cost effective, Anderson notes the installation of nine partitions, which nearly double the restroom's capacity, was trouble-free. "When our contractor installed the partitions in August 2009, he made a point to say that the whole process was straightforward and easy."

Since installation, reaction to the restroom and partitions has been very positive. "I think the finished restroom design gives the airport a great sense of place that beautifully complements our area's terrain," he says. "We're very pleased."



Constructed of rich-looking granite and polished stainless steel, the airport's Fusion Partitions are as durable and easy to clean as they are stylish and contemporary looking.

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– Chris Anderson
Terminal Manager, Eagle County Airport



Architect Luis Menendez (l) recommended Fusion Partitions to Chris Anderson (r) since the partitions' material and color palette complemented the area's mountainous terrain.