



Success Story:

Thule Group»

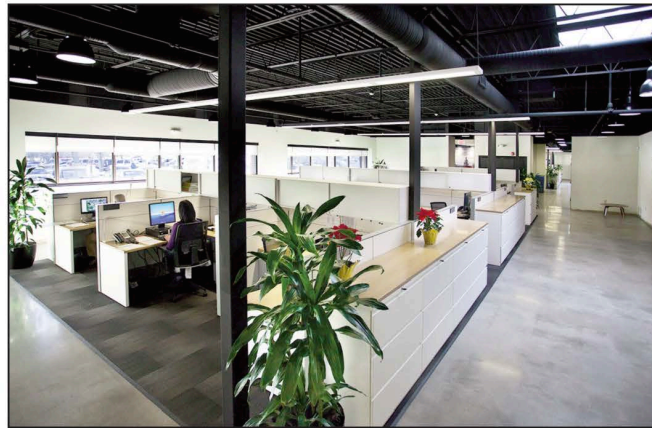
The Client:

Thule Group
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www.thulegroup.com

Thule Group, a global company known for roof racks and bike carriers, is the world leader in safe, stylish products that make it easy for active families, outdoor enthusiasts and professionals to transport anything that contributes to a great trip.

The Business Situation

Thule was running out of office space at its North American headquarters where it has been located since 1992. Thule management selected Pat Munger Construction Company, Inc. to renovate 20,000 sq. ft. of space to make room for 40 additional employees. The goal was to modernize Thule's office interior and incorporate more efficient use of existing space.



The Challenge



The Solution

Enhance Thule's corporate image by creating a modern open office environment.

Provide staff with comfortable, ergonomically pleasing and collaborative space.

Incorporate energy efficient systems and cost savings throughout the renovated space.

Complete the renovation on time while not disrupting employee work flow.

- Exposed painted ceilings, visually pleasing spiral pipe ductwork and a contemporary black and white color theme highlight two office wings, wood wall foyer, cafeteria and test engineering lab.
- Large Low-E windows make the space bright and open.
- Carpet tiles in offices, ceramic tile in five new bathrooms and laminate counters create a consistency throughout the space.
- Polished concrete floors beautify 10,000 sq. ft of high traffic space.
- Low profile cubicles with acoustical wall panels absorb sound.
- Four huddle rooms for private meetings complement the open office environment.
- Open collaboration area with large counter tops and "walltalkers" enhances new product design effectiveness.
- EMS controls HVAC set points and balances natural daylighting with LED lighting.
- Waterless urinals and self-flushing toilets facilitate water management in five bathrooms.
- Four "green" kitchenettes reduce paper waste.
- Three stage project minimized time required for people to double up in cubes.
- Temporary entrance and bathroom trailer eliminated disruption during construction.

Results

What looks like a new facility, with consistency throughout, is home to happy employees and an impressive venue for customer visits and dealer training.

- Space efficiencies enabled a significant cost savings compared to new construction or moving to a new site. The modern cubicle design reduces clutter and trims unused space.
- Strategically locating employees enhances interdepartmental communications.
- Employees are pleased with the space enhancements and two renovated locker rooms.



Munger Continually Earns Its Position With Thule

During the past ten years Munger has been accountable for over 80,000 sq. ft. of additions and renovations to various parts of Thule's facility. "Relationship plus proposal won this deal for Munger," said Stewart Semararo, Thule Facilities Manager. "We have good rapport with Munger people. They are enjoyable and easy to work with. They are proficient problem solvers with a talent for creating *in field fixes* when reality doesn't match design as a project evolves. The *no plan project* for renovating the downstairs engineering test lab that evolved during the main floor renovation is a great example. Once the idea was approved, a change order was issued to create the same look as the main floor. They also met the unexpected requirement to satisfy fire code regulations by separating manufacturing from the renovated space through a floor-to-ceiling firewall. After-care warranty services are great!"

Teamwork Essential For Success

For this large office renovation, Thule and Munger partnered with DesignTwo Architects and interior designers from the Dollries Group. Munger's on-site foreman, John DeSarbo, did a great job leading the subcontractors.

- All-Brite Electric
- DeCola's Plumbing & Heating
- Gargiulo Construction - polished concrete floors
- North Haven Ceramic Tile & Floor Covering
- WJ Dornfeld - HVAC and duct work
- LaPier Painting - dry erase wall coverings
- Fairfield County Millwork - counters

"Although they have been here for ten years working on a variety of successful projects, Munger continually strives to earn the right to continue the relationship, unlike other contractors who work hard to win and implement their first project, but then things wane over time."

Stewart Semararo
Thule Facilities Manager

Our Core Competency:

Building Long Lasting Relationships With Customers and Partners.

We Add Value From Start to Finish:

Convenience, Advice, Integration of High-quality Products, Design/Build Services, Support.

No Shortcuts:

Built to the Highest Structural Standards Without Compromising Integrity, Quality or Professionalism.

On Time • On Budget • Every Time



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