



Zellweger Uster Renovation and Additions Knoxville, Tennessee

Total Area	50,546 s.f.
Existing Building	2,662 s.f.
Additions	17,884 s.f.
Construction Cost	\$ 1,351,625
Cost/s.f.	\$ 27
Completion	1998



Architects Weeks Ambrose McDonald, Inc., in association with Sidney L. Hankins, Architect, were the designers in a design/build team that included Joseph Construction Company. The project scope included partial renovation and an addition onto each end of an existing two story high tech engineering and textile equipment manufacturing facility constructed in 1980 utilizing a passive solar design that was purchased later by the Uster Corporation of Switzerland. The complex program necessitated a design to improve the flow between the administrative, engineering, manufacturing, testing, assembly and distribution departments. The east addition houses the engineering department adjacent to other administrative offices on the upper level, and the assembly area directly off the manufacturing department on the lower level. The west addition contains executive offices on the upper level, and the distribution department and loading docks off the manufacturing area on the lower level.

The additions were designed to blend with the existing building using cast-in-place concrete, brick, ribbon windows and a prefabricated sun screen. The facility is built into a hillside overlooking a watershed with the north elevation exposed on the upper level only, giving the appearance of a one story building. The south and west elevations are a full two stories with sun screens the length of the building shading the continuous ribbon windows on each level. An analysis and structural repair of part of the existing foundation built on unsuitable soil was done.

