



## THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION HEADQUARTERS

**Project:** National Wildlife Federation Headquarters  
**Location:** Reston, VA  
**Architects:** HOK Sustainable Design Washington, DC  
**Construction:** Virginia American Construction, Gaithersburg, MD

Natural sunlight bathes the interior of the National Wildlife Federation headquarters in Reston, VA, and reflects the federation's mission to inform the public about wildlife and to promote conservation. Numerous day-lighting strategies, developed during the project's design phase, are enhanced by the use of environmentally friendly acoustical ceiling systems from BPB, a leading supplier of wall and ceiling products.

"The goal of the facility was to follow a 'common sense and common ground' approach to conservation -- to create an inspiring, healthy workplace with modern communication tools, daily contact with wildlife and their habitats, and to foster ongoing learning and advance educational outreach," said Lead Designer Bill Hellmuth, with HOK Sustainable Design.

HOK provided programming, site planning, architecture, interior design and landscape design services. The high-performance building was honored with the 2002 AIA "Top 10 Green Buildings" Award.

A narrow rectangle shape for the 95,000 sq. ft. office building was selected to ensure that interior workspaces, classrooms and the dining area are less than 25 feet from a window. Energy efficient lighting and high ceilings with highly reflective ceiling panels were also integral components to the overall day-lighting strategy.

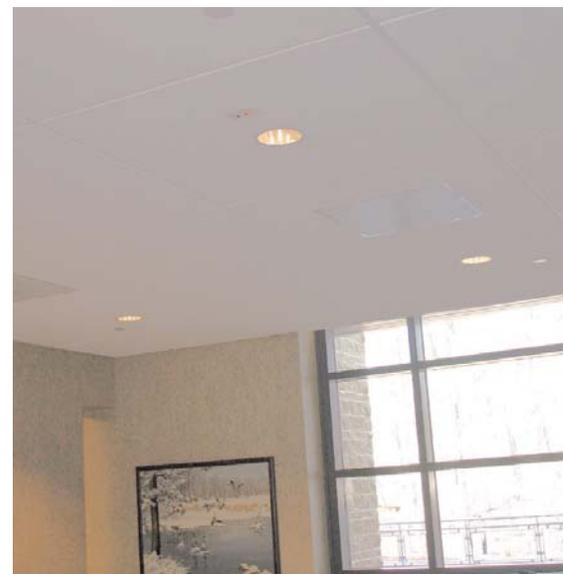
HOK architects specified ceiling panels from BPB's Celotex<sup>®</sup> Brand and Capaul<sup>®</sup> Brand product lines, which have a 20-year track record of producing high quality acoustical ceiling panels.

"They have a nice reflectivity, but at the same time they don't have that glare to them," said Steve Johnsen, who works at the headquarters as director of office services for the Wildlife Federation.

The Celotex Brand Cashmere<sup>®</sup> ceiling panels have a high Light Reflectancy (LR) of .80 and high Noise Reduction Coefficient (NRC) of .60. To capitalize on the panel's sustainability



Internationally renowned architects HOK specified ceiling components from BPB's Celotex<sup>®</sup> and Capaul<sup>®</sup> Brands because of their high light reflectivity and noise reduction benefits.



BPB ceiling systems were a perfect match for this "green" complex because of their high percentage of recycled content, high reflectivity and innovative used-tile recycling program.

Although it was built prior to the development of LEED guidelines, the headquarters of the National Wildlife Federation employs a number of unique environmentally friendly features including natural vegetation, extensive daylighting and the use of solar cells.



## THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION HEADQUARTERS *continued*



Celotex<sup>®</sup> Brand Cashmere<sup>®</sup> ceiling tiles were selected in the building's large Café to complement energy saving daylighting designs, which also includes the use of high ceilings and tall windows.

features, the Cashmere<sup>®</sup> panels were placed in the office space to maximize their reflectancy benefits and in the large café in the lower level to minimize background noise.

The Capaul Brand Symphony<sup>®</sup> f panels were installed by Virginia America Construction of Gaithersburg, MD. Above the front lobby area where their luxurious smooth-textured surface adds to the aesthetics of the entrance while conversations remain private in an open plan environment. Symphony<sup>®</sup> f panels have an Light Reflectancy of .89 and Noise Reduction Coefficient of .85 to 1.00.

The design work was completed before the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Rating System™ was available, but the building designers took advantage of existing construction technologies and materials to create as much energy efficiency as possible.

The designers at HOK also specified a "green" trellis spanning the exterior's sunniest south side. The trellis encourages

climbing vines and vegetation to grow, providing shade and saving air conditioning costs during spring, summer and fall months, the hottest months of the year.

In winter, the vines are bare and sunlight passes through the trellis to help heat the interior air and lower heating costs, while also supplementing overhead lighting during the shortest and least sunny days of the year. According to HOK, the HVAC system size was reduced by 80 tons because of the high performance design.

The building in a conventional suburban office park was built adjacent to a 130-acre conservation area within a 475-acre woodland county park, providing views of the habitat from the tall windows surrounding the building. These views could also improve the health of the people inside, as studies show views and daylight



Capaul<sup>®</sup> Brand Symphony<sup>®</sup> f panels were installed above in the colorful front lobby area to complement the design aesthetics while also providing a high degree of noise reduction.

can improve human health. Meanwhile, the surroundings serve as an outdoor classroom for observation of habitat and wildlife, and walking trails provide opportunities for passive recreation. The BPB America acoustical ceiling panels also improve the indoor environment by lowering sound reverberation and creating instructional areas where visitors of all ages can hear and learn more easily.

Today, buildings such as the Wildlife Federation headquarters with BPB America ceiling systems could help the building team on new construction and major renovations projects qualify their project for LEED-certification.

"The recycled content in each ceiling panel and day-lighting potentials with Celotex<sup>®</sup> and Capaul<sup>®</sup> Brands are just two ways that these innovative and environmentally friendly products can help accumulate points toward a project's LEED-certification," BPB ceiling systems sales representative David Todd explained.

Other categories include: optimization of energy performance, and construction waste management because BPB offers an acoustical ceiling panel recycling program for qualified renovations. In addition, BPB America has regionally located plants that can qualify a project for LEED points in the regional materials category. The ceilings are manufactured using cornstarch as a raw material for potential points in the rapidly renewable materials category.

### Features:

#### Celotex<sup>®</sup> Series - Cashmere Safetone Class A

- Lightly textured
- Highly decorative edge detail choices
- Full selection of sizes and edge details

#### Capaul Series Symphony<sup>®</sup> f

- Luxurious, smooth-textured surface plus superior noise reduction to maximize interzone attenuation

- Perfect for exceptional speech privacy and enhanced productivity in modern open environments
- Dense fiberglass substrate with scrubbable, durable Overtone<sup>®</sup> finish provides appealing monolithic appearance
- Outstanding acoustical and thermal value, high light reflectance and humidity resistance

For more information and samples, contact:

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### Product Specifications

	Item Number	Nominal Size (Inches)	Edge Detail	UL Classified	R-Value	NRC	AC	CAC	Light Reflectancy
Celotex <sup>®</sup> Safetone Class A Cashmere <sup>®</sup>	CM-494 NRCP	24 x 48 x 3/4	Reveal	-	-	.06	-	33	.80
Capaul <sup>®</sup> Symphony <sup>®</sup> f	1370-OVT-1	1 1/2 x 60 x 60	Trim, Reveal, Narrow Reveal	-	6.5	1.00	210	25	.89