

UNDERFLOOR SERVICE DISTRIBUTION

by Tate Access Floors

BP WOW Project
Houston, TX

RENOVATION PROJECT

10,000 sq ft access floor

Products Used:

ConCore 1000

Underfloor Air System

Positile Carpet

8" Finished Floor Height



"Being able to deliver individually controlled A/C via a minimal (eight inch) underfloor plenum means we can better address human comfort issues in retrofit applications. We are grateful to BP for encouraging our design team to take risks like this in order to advance new work environment concepts." Dean Strombom, Gensler

TATE AUTHORIZED DEALER

McCoy Workplace Solutions
Houston, TX

ARCHITECTURAL FIRM

Gensler
Houston, TX

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Arbuckle Builders
Houston, TX

ENGINEERING FIRM

IA Naman
Houston, TX

Subject

BP WOW PROJECT

Energy industry leader BP is understandably proud of its 10,000-square-foot space located in its Westlake office building in Houston. Dubbed BP WOW (Working Our Way), it was created as a living laboratory of workspace design, a glimpse into BP's next generation of office space. The American Institute of Architects also was suitably impressed, selecting the WOW project for its Annual Interiors Award for 2004. BP WOW is part of a corporate-wide move to improve efficiency and foster collaboration, to pull its employees out of enclosed offices and place them in a more fluid, workstation-based setting. WOW's open format represents a significant change for BP and a bold step within its industry. Energy companies traditionally are extremely hierarchical in nature so BP's decision to open things up probably raised some eyebrows among its peers. With goals of energy efficiency and comfort, BP decided that an underfloor air distribution system would contribute to the environment they were shooting for.

With underfloor air, the lab allows employees to control the air flow to their own personal work space providing its workers with an individual comfort never before experienced; however, managing their environment is not the only benefit. Underfloor air also improves indoor air quality and has proven to be an energy efficient system. Therefore, the combination of Tate Access Floors' underfloor service distribution and BP's vision of utilizing the latest in space design and technology created a project that not only satisfied BP but also gave its employees an environment in which they could be productive and comfortable.

"BP Amoco charged me to come up with an innovative design of their showcase "WOW" office space to represent the latest in cutting edge technologies in an office environment. We investigated several options and decided to design an underfloor air distribution system. The main benefits of this design for BP were to reduce energy costs, lower the cost of the clients churn rate and provide better air quality to the space. The client was also interested in the LEED's aspect of the underfloor air distribution system even though the tenant remodel space would not qualify for any LEED certifications." Marvin Leach, E.I.T., LEED AP, I. A. Naman + Associates, Inc

Tate[®]