

Vancouver Community Main Library

VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

Services

MEP Engineering
Sustainable Design
Building Technologies
Energy Services
Fire/Life Safety

FAST FACTS

Architect

Miller/Hull Partnership

Completion

July 2011

Building Size

90,000 sf

Project Cost

\$37 million

LEED®

This project is registered with the certification goal of LEED Silver.

Contact

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Awards

Honor Award for Washington Architecture: AIA Seattle Chapter, 2011

Award of Merit: Engineering News Record California, 2011

About 383,000 residents use the Fort Vancouver Regional Library. Until recently, this meant trekking to a site cut off from the city's center by the freeway. Now patrons can head to the newly built, tripled-in-size, light-filled space in the urban center of Vancouver.

The building is designed to mix the natural with the academic. Extensive daylighting is allowed through the building's envelope, and patrons are encouraged to linger near the building's central atrium and on the rooftop garden. To augment this design, Interface:

- » Designed a hybrid underfloor air distribution and displacement ventilation system, providing effective ventilation while allowing users to control the environment.
- » Designed a radiant slab heating/cooling system, reducing drafts and providing comfortable air temperatures without loud fans.

- » Utilized computational fluid dynamics modeling for the HVAC system. This type of modeling allows engineers to accurately size radiant displacement ventilation systems and predict performance.

Interface's technology team also designed a sophisticated A/V and communications system, including building-wide wireless and wired internet, digital catalog access in multiple locations on every floor, and a room designed specifically for teens that includes multiple interactive monitors, gaming systems and a full surround sound projection system.



(Above) The radiant slab system reduces drafts, provides comfortable temperatures, and contributes to significant energy savings. (Left) The combined underfloor air distribution and displacement ventilation system also reduce energy use, improve air temperatures, and bring fresh, clean air to library users.