

Flexibility

Things are changing. A lot. We are moving into an era where clients have needs for extreme flexibility to have a shot at surviving, let alone profitability and prosperity.

Needs change.
Functions change.
Resources change.
Media changes.
Curriculum changes.
The organization/ institution morphs into something else.
Culture migrates.
Programs are added while others are dropped.
People come and go.
Divisions and product lines are bought and sold.

Movable elements support flexibility but generally entail higher costs. So we are careful to review the options with our clients and help factor churn and evaluate life cycle costs.

Because "flexibility" no longer means just being able to do it. It means being able to make the change invisibly overnight at virtually no cost.

This can also mean participating as the team identifies expansion and exit strategies so that "occupancy" is planned to meet business objectives, not just department functionality.

So we are looking at client needs and helping them assess "systems" or kits of parts instead of conventional assets. Our recent projects have involved comprehensive assessments of raised floors for optimum HVAC and power/ data/ phone flexibility, demountable walls and modular lighting, power and data systems.

And for our projects for Vocational Guidance Services, Dollar Bank, Positively Cleveland, Greater Cleveland Partnership and S. Rose Company, these non-traditional systems have made their way into the solutions.

"Bill Eberhard did an amazing job on the VGS Training Center while I was Board Chair. Like probably all non-profits, we had plenty of ideas, but we really needed guidance to make it all work. Working with Boards must be one of the most challenging aspects of a professional's job."

"Bill Eberhard was wonderful. He was responsive to our ideas, and used his considerable experience to help guide us in the process; both with the Board and the staff. And he delivered building that has adapted beautifully and inexpensively to some radical changes in our programs in a very short time."

Mark Hauserman, Chairman, Board of Trustees
Vocational Guidance Services

Vocational Guidance Services Training Center
Cleveland, OH

*AIA Cleveland Design Award
IESNA Regional Design Award
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