

COMMERCIAL

The Birmingham News

Birmingham, Alabama

C·R·S
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Engineering & Design Consultants
Birmingham · Huntsville



The Birmingham News at night from 22nd street.

The new headquarters building for the Birmingham News opened across 4th Avenue from their original 1917 plant. The 4-story, \$25 million, provided more than 110,000 square feet of high tech office space featuring a brick and limestone exterior.

"This project represents our philosophy of responsible, sustainable and functional design. Our entire team was dedicated to delivering solutions that exceeded the initial program for the project. We are very proud of the results and look forward to more opportunities to demonstrate these ideals in the future." Ken Cater, President CRS.

The four story structure has a central circulation atrium that feeds natural light to the lowest floor creating a pleasing open plan work environment. The mechanical systems include two roof mounted chillers that can provide more than 300 tons of cooling. A hydronic boiler heats the building in the cooler months and the entire building is controlled with a Building Automation System (BAS).

CRS designed the computer network infrastructure that utilizes a raised flooring system to provide electrical service, network cabling and air distribution to the editorial, office, administration and reporting spaces. A smoke evacuation system also protects the building capable of exhausting over 100,000 cubic feet of air per minute in the case of a fire. A CCTV surveillance system is coupled with a card access system and other active features for increased security. Lighting controls are also tied in the BAS that allows the Birmingham News to monitor, control and reduce their energy consumption by 25% over comparable baseline models.

OWNER

The Birmingham News

ARCHITECT

Williams Blackstock Architects
Birmingham AL

PROJECT SIZE

110,000 SF 4 story high-tech office building with a central atrium, integrated building controls, and complete raised floor air distribution system

CERTIFICATION

USGBC LEED 2.2
Silver design standards
(not registered)

EPACT Award

SERVICES

M/E/P/FP/LD

KEY PERSONNEL

Ken Cater, PE LEED AP
Richard Stehr
Sam Dunn, LEED AP
David Huddleston



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