



Engineered for Its Place in the World

The Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University overlooks Lake Michigan in Evanston, Illinois. Situated just north of the Windy City of Chicago, the campus is tranquil in the summer when cool breezes waft in from the lake. At times, however, the weather can be ferocious -- icy, blustery, wet and turbulent.

That's why, when designing the school's new state-of-the-art education facility, the building designers specified that the structure be engineered for its place in the world and built to withstand the area's extreme climatic conditions.



The five-story, 415,000-square-foot Kellogg Global Hub, which opened in 2017, is a spatially complex building consisting of four wings that pinwheel around stacked atriums. Curving walls and canopies, inspired by the lake's waves, reflect the shoreline contours and the nearby rippling lagoon.

Translucent vertical fins add to the building's sense of place and its fluidity, while reddish-brown Ipé soffits lend warmth to its cool blue-green façade. The wood's warm natural tones complement the glass and metal building envelope, combined with Timber Holdings Green By Nature™ 'Due Care' certified Ipé met all of the structures specified environmental compliance requirements.

Ipé's technical properties are legendary; it is strong, hard, dense, durable, fire, rot and insect resistant.



The Kellogg Global Hub design team's solution was to use an innovative system to attach the wood soffit: the Iron Woods® Vanish™ Rain Screen and Soffit System.

Engineered to meet national wind loading standards, the Vanish Rain Screen System employs a drained and back-ventilated approach that allows for the free movement of air and moisture through the cladding and does not attempt to minimize the effects of wind by means of pressure equalization. Instead, the cavity behind the cladding is drained, and positive back-ventilation promotes rapid evaporation of any rainwater deposited on the inner leaf or vapor barrier.

Back-Ventilated cladding and soffit systems improve the service life of building envelopes in environments that experience extreme wind, rain and UV conditions and woods low thermal conductivity helps improve the building envelopes overall energy performance.

What's more, the proprietary Vanish Clip System eliminates the need to predrill cladding, reducing installation costs, eliminates potential points of water penetration and eliminates the stress that penetrating fasteners can cause on wood fibers during climatic fluctuations, while also protecting the integrity and clean aesthetic of the wood soffit.

KELLOGG SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT – IL

PROJECT PROFILE



The Iron Woods Rain Screen and Soffit System is an engineered system in which all of the design components play an interdependent role in the system's performance. Each installed system is stamped and certified by a licensed state engineer to comply with state building code wind load compliance requirements.

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specification: Iron Woods® Vanish Soffit System - Ipe

application: Soffit

architect: Kuwabara, Payne, McKenna, Blumberg

Installing Contractor: Levy and Company

date: 2017