

LORD · AECK · SARGENT

ARCHITECTURE

September 9, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Lord, Aeck & Sargent was selected in 2008 to lead the design for the world class \$85 million Sorenson Molecular Biotechnology Building for the University of Utah. This building is an integral part of Innovation Utah, an initiative to further the economic development in the state. The Utah Science Technology and Research initiative (USTAR) is a long-term, state-funded investment to strengthen Utah's "knowledge economy." This revolutionary initiative invests in world-class innovation teams and research facilities to create novel technologies that are subsequently commercialized through new business ventures. The building was to respond to that initiative and be a showcase for USTAR and the University focusing on the best functionality at the best value.

The project serves both life science and engineering research thus requiring a laboratory equipment package of laboratory furniture, fume hoods, and other lab equipment of over \$3 million which is critical to research success. Our goal was to design a high performance space for current researchers but be flexible to adapt to the inevitable changes required over time. Our team chose Thermo Scientific laboratory furniture and fume hoods as the basis of design in order to achieve our goals of quality, value, and future adaptability. Other optional vendors and manufacturers were considered but fortunately the State of Utah had already negotiated a State Cooperative Contract, a buying agreement with vendors of which Thermo Fisher Scientific was one. That gave us the opportunity to be able to select their products for our project off that State Contract.

Haldeman-Homme, Inc. is the local dealer/subcontractor for Thermo Scientific Hamilton laboratory furniture and fume hoods. From the very beginning, we were able to confirm budget information and get advice on the selection of certain pieces. We were fortunate to have Rusty Flocken as the primary contact. Rusty was very helpful in answering our many questions through all of the design phases that led to the final pricing which, I would add, included an additional discount due to the volume of the project scope. It was great to see how Thermo Fisher was so well integrated with Rusty and Haldeman-Homme.

The complexities of laboratory furniture and equipment systems and how they integrate with many of the other building trades are part of the critical design considerations for a successful project. I can say that our team was most fortunate to have the team of experts from Haldeman-Homme. Their assistance on this project certainly helped us and has provided USTAR and the University of Utah with a great outcome.

We look forward to working with Haldeman-Homme and Thermo Fisher on future projects. Please feel free to call me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Larry Lord, FAIA
Principal