PRESS RELEASE

Woolwich Central School wins EDC Excellence in Design Award for use of daylight to create more learning-friendly environment

Architects Lewis & Malm and louvers-between-glass manufacturer, Unicel Architectural, honored for green design that employs shading devices to optimize sunlight

MONTREAL, CANADA and BUCKSPORT, MAINE – May 22, 2013 – Unicel Architectural and Lewis & Malm Architects announced today that they have won an Environmental Design + Construction (EDC) Magazine Excellence in Design Award 2013 for daylighting-centered design that includes the use of louvers-within-glass, solar sun tubes and exterior sunshading products at the Woolwich Central School in Woolwich, Maine. EDC Magazine’s Excellence in Design Awards recognize commercial and government buildings, institutional and educational facilities, and single-family residences that demonstrate a clear commitment to green building and sustainable design.

“We are thrilled to be recognized among the industry’s very best for revamping Woolwich School into a noteworthy example of sustainable design,” said project architect, Richard Malm of Lewis & Malm Architecture in Bucksport, Maine. “Together with school officials, we shared a common vision to leverage sunlight for a more student-friendly learning environment that supports green initiatives. The resulting facility puts students first, ramps up energy efficiencies and creates an esthetically-pleasing architectural environment.”

EDC Magazine annually selects the top green construction projects for their commitment to green building and sustainable design. Each project must exhibit a variety of environmental building criteria as determined by a panel of judges comprised of EDC staff members and industry professionals. Lewis & Malm and Unicel were recognized in the “Educational – Renovation” category.

To help manage the impacts of sunlight, Lewis & Malm selected Unicel’s Vision Control® insulating glass units with integrated cord-free louvers and outrigger sunshading devices designed to filter sunlight into the building while minimizing the impacts of solar heat gain and glare. In addition, daylight monitors automatically shut off electrical lighting when adequate light levels are reached to reduce energy consumption.
“Exposure to daylight is proven to help students improve on test scores and boost attendance,” said Jean-François Couturier, CEO of Unicel Architectural. “Together with Lewis & Malm, we needed to come up with innovative ways to make better use of regional sun paths and light. Daylight is now harnessed throughout the facility with louvers and sunshades to help reflect light into classrooms and create optimal day lit conditions for students and teachers.”

The school recently completed its 66,000 square foot, $16.2 million addition and renovation project for 375 students spanning Pre-K through Grade 8. The new Woolwich Central School opened in September 2012 on the site of the former school on Nequasset Road.

For more information on the EDC Excellence in Design Awards, view YouTube video: http://youtu.be/5KC0nPVFmFE

To read the Woolwich Central School project case study, visit: http://unicelarchitectural.com/en/specialty-glazing-case-studies-Woolwich.php

About Unicel Architectural
For 50 years, Unicel Architectural has built a reputation for the most advanced aluminum and glass solutions. These solutions encompass louvered glazing, skylights and more, to enhance major global construction initiatives with utmost quality and reliability. With its proprietary technology, Unicel’s award-winning Vision Control® delivers unprecedented comfort and control of vision, light, temperature and sound with a patented combination of louvers between glass that are hermetically sealed and cordless. Unicel’s solutions are guaranteed for longevity, optimized for energy efficiency, and customizable to any design, environmental or cultural requirements. Unicel combines its market leading know-how with great design to ensure optimal aesthetics and sustainable performance. For more information visit: www.unicelarchitectural.com

About Lewis & Malm Architecture
Lewis & Malm Architecture is a full service architectural firm located in the coastal Maine town of Bucksport. For over 30 years, Lewis & Malm has been designing schools and health care facilities focusing on high performance building systems and maximizing day lighting. Their recent partnering with Unicel furthers their commitment of using regional manufacturers to solve the challenging needs of high performance buildings in Maine. For more information visit: www.lewisandmalm.com.

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