

KAWNEER

PROJECTPROFILE



Georgia Gwinnett College Library and Learning Center

Lawrenceville, Georgia, USA

ARCHITECT

LEO A DALY
Atlanta, Georgia, USA

GLAZING CONTRACTOR

Glass Systems, Inc.
Lithonia, Georgia, USA

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

The Potts Company
Conyers, Georgia, USA

PANEL INSTALLER

Kistler-McDougall Corp.
Woodstock, Georgia, USA

FEATURED PRODUCTS

1600 Wall System™1 Curtain Wall
1600 Wall System™2 Curtain Wall
Trifab™ VG (VersaGlaze™) 451T Framing
Trifab™ VG (VersaGlaze™) 450 Framing
350 Medium Stile Entrances
Custom 1600 SunShades™

ARCONIC PRODUCTS

Reynobond® ACM (Aluminum
Composite Material) panels



CREATING A STATE-OF-THE-ART LEARNING CENTER THROUGH SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND HIGH-PERFORMING PRODUCTS

Nestled in the lush green campus of Georgia Gwinnett College (GGC) in Lawrenceville, Georgia, is the state-of-the-art library and learning center designed to serve as the intellectual center of the 8,000-student campus. To meet the social and academic needs of the large community as well as allow for campus-wide growth and success, the building was constructed using several Kawneer products to integrate the daylight needed for a studious environment within a physical structure that effectively shields the library's delicate contents from environmental factors.

The Atlanta office of architecture, planning, engineering, interior design and program management firm LEO A DALY was selected to design a space that brought the feeling of being outside directly into the building. The college envisioned a library that would fit a "campus of tomorrow." It was important for both the college and the project team to build a library that had world-class facilities while meeting the standards of sustainable design. Lithonia, Georgia-based Glass Systems, Inc. was selected as the project's glazing contractor, and The Potts Company, headquartered in Conyers, Georgia, served as the project's general contractor.

The result was a 95,000-square-foot, technologically advanced knowledge center that incorporates individual and group study spaces, reading rooms and classrooms as well as a café and general multipurpose room, which can be used by campus organizations for meetings or events. The GGC Library and Learning Center has achieved LEED®* Gold certification, making it one of only seven academic libraries in the nation to do so. The GGC Library used more than 20 percent recycled products and just as many regional products, thereby reducing waste and transportation emissions.

Design Highlights

The main focal point is a 42' tall curtain wall on the north side of the library and learning center. The large wall covers the main atrium, providing views to and from the campus green, outdoor amphitheater and campus pathways, and holds the Research Commons as well as many of the main book stacks. Creating a sense of transparency was a key design element that was achieved with extensive use of glazing throughout the building. Mark Buser, project manager with The Potts Company, said, "You can stand 800 yards away and see people inside the library pulling books."

Challenges

- Bringing daylight and views of the surrounding campus into the facility was critical to meeting the architect's and owner's design requirements.
- In addition to the curtain wall, the library has an exterior skin of cold-formed metal framing, sheathing, waterproofing membrane, brick, storefront framing and metal panels, as well as Reynobond® ACM (Aluminum Composite Material) panels from Kawneer's sister company, Arconic. Challenges included effectively integrating the curtain walls

with the other structural metal panels and bricks, while also creating a watertight and enduring structure that could handle heavy traffic.

- The project ran on an aggressive schedule, so it was important to use products that would keep installation time down and adhere to the overall design of the project.
- Keeping this state-of-the-art facility and its construction as environmentally responsible as possible was a key project objective.

Solutions

- Ideal for low- to mid-rise applications, Kawneer's 1600 Wall System™1 Curtain Wall and 1600 Wall System™2 Curtain Wall with proven reliability and versatile features were used to increase daylight and enhance the building envelope's transparency. Additionally, Kawneer's Trifab™ VG (VersaGlaze™) 450 framing system was used in the interior of the building to increase visibility and allow natural light to extend throughout the library and learning center.
- Williamson & Associates was brought in as a third-party water intrusion consultant to work alongside Potts' experts. Kawneer lent its engineering expertise not only to Williamson & Associates, but also to help with the construction of the curved wall, ensuring it worked in relation to the rest of the building. A waterproofing membrane was used to ensure a watertight building that would function aesthetically and practically, keeping students dry and insulated as the climate changes. Kawneer's Trifab™ VG (VersaGlaze™) 451T thermal framing system provided enhanced thermal performance while 350 Medium Stile Entrances were used throughout the building to help withstand heavy traffic flow.
- The versatility and reliability of Kawneer products made them an ideal solution for the GGC Library and Learning Center. The coordination of the project team and engineering experts also helped the project to meet its completion deadline. The addition of 23,000 square feet of Reynobond® ACM panels provided a contemporary aesthetic with a flexible and formable construction, and were easily installed to meet the project's aggressive building schedule.
- In addition to incorporating curtain wall for daylight, custom 36" deep 1600 SunShades™ from Kawneer were utilized to shade the building's interior and conserve energy. The sunshades easily integrated into the 1600 Wall System™1 curtain wall and created savings in fabrication and attachment time.

Featured Products

- 1600 Wall System™1 Curtain Wall, 1600 Wall System™2 Curtain Wall, Trifab™ VG (VersaGlaze™) 451T Framing, Trifab™ VG (VersaGlaze™) 450 Framing, 350 Medium Stile Entrances, custom 1600 SunShade™ and Reynobond® ACM panels from Arconic.

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