



Case Study

Peaks & Plains

Ropewalks, Newton Street, Macclesfield SK11 6Q

Architect: **BAND Architects**

Main Contractor: **LaBrown and Bancroft**

When Macclesfield-based housing association Peaks and Plains Housing Trust decided to upgrade their 11,500 sq ft office space, the key to the design was creating a homely feel that would inspire and motivate as well as being reflective of the diverse communities in which the trust works.

By bringing together core operations into one single floor plate and incorporating a number of bespoke partitioning systems from Optima, this innovative workspace promotes collaboration, communication and wellbeing amongst staff through a variety of different settings.

Brought in by the client late in the design process, Optima worked to tight deadlines with Band Architects and the contractor Brown & Bancroft Interiors on the creation of a completely new work environment. Previously spread over three floors at the town's Ropewalks building, the vibrant new open plan layout for the trust's 130 employees includes offices, meeting rooms, work pods and two kitchens.

Products Installed:

Bespoke Shoreditch off-set single glazed screens

Single Glazed Shoreditch Edition Edge Symmetry

Framed Doors



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Having stripped the space back to its shell and incorporating a new lighting scheme, air conditioning, flooring and decoration throughout, the use of glass partitioning and glazing was paramount in striking the right balance between the open plan layout and enclosed spaces, as well as defining routes throughout the large floorplate.

Optima developed a number of bespoke solutions including single glazed Shoreditch Edition glass screens and doors with their distinctive lattice framework. The industrial warehouse look of the space is enhanced by the Shoreditch Edition glazing used to create the meeting pods which also works well with the Siberian larch cladding.

Once again, Optima were able to bring design expertise, precision on site and practical solutions in order to achieve the architect's inspired design. There were some challenges on the project including the main partition screen in the open office. As there was no fixing detail on the head, Optima developed a bespoke steel post detail to ensure structural stability and compliance with Building Regulations.

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Commenting on the project, David Wilcock at Band Architects said: "We introduced Optima to the scheme quite late on but they delivered an amazing project. Our concept taps into the growing trend of bringing domestic, urban design ideas into the workplace and creating open working environments."

Enclosed spaces have been used to define routes and form smaller, domestic scaled zones for staff to collaborate within the large linear floorplate. Subtle, natural and calming materials were utilised within the core working areas, and more vibrantly considered 'working pods' are cleverly distributed throughout the space to create a variety of destinations for private work and team meetings."

Winner of the 'Public Sector Interiors Project of the Year' award at the Mixology Awards 2017, this new stunning workspace for Peaks and Plains has given the organisation a new sense of identity, with Optima's glazed partitions integral in the creation of a unique and inspirational space.



If you would like to find out more about Optima or discuss your options, visit our website:
www.optimasystems.com

