

success



University of Connecticut School of Business

- Located in downtown Hartford
- Ranked the number one public business school in the state
- Consistently ranked as one of the best business schools in the nation



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Challenge

The University of Connecticut envisioned a high-tech, experiential learning environment for graduate business studies. Its Graduate Learning Center would be part college, part research lab and part working business. The first floor would house a live trading floor with real-time stock trades where students, faculty and traders would interact, explore and learn together. Upper floors would include classrooms and meeting spaces infused with technology and mobile furniture.

To accomplish this, the University planned an ambitious renovation of four floors, totaling 40,000 square feet, on a fast-track schedule of four months—anchored to an unmovable deadline: the start of fall semester.

Initial work on the 40-year-old building uncovered asbestos, which virtually shut the job down while a crew could come in to remove it. Construction and planning had been delayed even prior to this discovery by the slow exit of the building's former occupant.

Floors, walls and modular wiring had to be ordered without ever setting foot on the first floor.

Solution

To support the dynamic needs of business and education taking place in the space, technology had to be easy to install, manage and change. Custom Cable applied a zone cabling solution concealed below a low-profile, three-inch access floor for optimum use of the space and unlimited flexibility. Since our planners could not enter the building, we designed the system based on architectural drawings.

Results

Custom Cable was able to alleviate the project's crunched timeline by streamlining installation. We delivered miles of cabling—pre-cut, pre-tested and ready for plug-and-play—and helped tighten the timeline by 50%. Because we handled pre-work, the system was turnkey enough for the furniture dealer to install.

Today, the incredibly adaptable space is tested daily, and the University boasts that its high-tech facility is second to none in the country. Visiting business leaders have put it this way: "When we hire your students, who's going to tell them we don't have anything like this?"