

CPI DAYLIGHTING SOLUTIONS

UniQuad -Bi-Color Designs

Owner:

Eagle Academy PCS,
Washington, D.C.

Architect:

Shinberg.Levinas Architectural
Design, MD

General Contractor:

The Whiting Turner Contracting
Company

Installation:

Daylighting Contracts Inc.



CPI Daylighting's Bi-Color UniQuad® creates a glare-free, seamless and secure building envelope for The Eagle Center

When designing The Eagle Center, the first early childhood public charter school in Washington D.C., The Eagle Academy was seeking an intellectually stimulating, sustainable environment for more than 900 students that resembled their previous castle-like building. But, for the new 27,000-sq.-ft. facility, located in the South East side of Washington D.C., security was also a big concern.

Specifying 13,000-sq.-ft. of UniQuad® panels by CPI Daylighting was the solution. Providing indefinite building envelope protection with its advanced Removable Skin Technology (RST) that allows the exterior panel to be replaced as needed, UniQuad panels gave The Eagle Center a U-value of .22, per NFRC, and 100% haze, per IBC code.

“We picked a system that would give them the daylight they wanted without having to use windows. The UniQuad provides an interesting effect inside, durable material and a great aesthetic,” said architect Carlos Talero, Shinberg Levinas Architectural Design (www.shinberglevinas.com). “The school is in a zone that would be prone to some kind of vandalism. If they have a problem with it, panels can removed one at a time.”

CPI worked to create the totally custom seamless glazed look desired without any exposed aluminum connectors. This included a bi-colored design, alternating 27-ft.-tall blue (Eagle Academy's color) and white panels on the inside, while the outside panels are matte finished for enhanced security and daytime privacy.

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The Eagle Center

With the goal of achieving LEED Silver, the UniQuad panels are just one of the many energy saving measures taken at The Eagle Center.

“You get a lot of your daylighting points fulfilled without the negative glare views with UniQuad,” said Talero. “In the gym, they almost never use the metal halides. When it’s bright and sunny out, you don’t notice the lights are off.”

Constructed of two independent translucent insulated panels, joined by a mechanically interlocking structure that eliminates the need for vulnerable wet seal and adhesives, the UniQuad is the only daylight system that can span as long as 12 ft. between structural supports. Scalable, the UniQuad can be configured with additional insulation, Class A fire-rated assembly, sound reduction, dynamic shading, additional structural performance and military forced entry resistance, always maintaining its integrity.

“We’ve had some days with heavy winds and I’ve walked into the gym to see if I can feel anything, but the panels are air tight,” said John Johnson, Director of Security/Facilities, Eagle Academy. “We haven’t had any water issues at all - no leaks, nothing.”

CPI Daylighting pioneered the use of polycarbonate translucent panel systems for architectural use in 1980. Today, CPI continues to offer new and innovative daylighting products, including skylights, wall lights and canopies for any commercial, industrial and institutional application, with complete services from manufacturing to design and installation. CPI products enhance the sustainability of any high-performance building project through daylight transmission levels, optimized insulation values, thermal performance and recycled content.

