



DESIGN IDEAS October, 2018

Designing Inside-Out:

Sometimes the Best Designs Start From Within...

When the architects at RNL Design won the assignment to design the Glendale Community College expansion project in the Arizona desert, they were confronted by a unique opportunity and challenge. The opportunity was to design a visual connection to the desert outdoors. The challenge was to address factors related to the sun and climate, integrating ample daylight and surrounding views, while shading windows in a cost-efficient way.



New Millennium's Deep-Dek® roof deck flows from the interior to the exterior of this college campus expansion located in the Arizona desert. The project was presented with the Best of the Best Award for Higher Education by McGraw-Hill Construction's Publications.

Hiding connections is key

The steel decking specified for the school's canopy and roof answers all of these concerns. The decking provides an elegant indoor-to-outdoor transition. The effect appears seamless with the integration of a window wall

system that rises to the underside of the roof deck.
The deep ribbed, long-span decking minimizes
connections to structural members, which are carefully
considered to not compromise views.

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DESIGN IDEAS (continued)



While transitioning areas of study to inspiring desert views, the steel roof decking addresses the unique acoustical and environmental challenges posed by the desert environment. The decking was engineered and manufactured by New Millennium. The general contractor on the project was CORE Construction. The architect was RNL Design.

STRUCTURAL AND AESTHETIC

New Millennium's architectural steel decking is engineered and manufactured in a variety Versa-Dek® dovetail profiles and Deep-Dek® deep ribbed profiles. Many coating color options are available.

The pre-finished, exterior, non-acoustical canopy matches with interior acoustical mitigation to accommodate the computing commons. There, students can quietly collaborate and study, comfortably immersed in the surrounding natural landscape.

A palette of steel deck options

Architectural steel deck profiles offer a range of structural and aesthetic options. To mitigate sound, deck can be provided with acoustical options for Noise Reduction Coefficients (NRC) up to 1.05. In addition, the deepest architectural steel decking can span up to 35 feet, using fewer intermediate support columns than standard steel decking. For simplified construction, the integration of lighting, electrical, plumbing and fire suppression can all be designed into the decking.

Another advantage of New Millennium's architectural decking is the ability to conceal the deck fasteners. The surface appearance is clean and weathertight. Steel deck is typically galvanized but there are options such as stainless steel. After installation, the deck can be finished with a variety of coatings to suit design aesthetics. Coatings can add to longevity while offering a building its visual personality.



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