



**Titus, Richardson, Texas**  
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**For Immediate Release**

**Customer Site Honored With 2007 ASHRAE Energy Award**

Visteon's U.S. corporate headquarters, in Van Buren Township, Michigan, was recently given honorable mention in the ASHRAE Energy Awards for 2007. Visteon, a global manufacturer of automotive supplies, believes strongly in corporate responsibility and environmental management is among their highest priorities. This value of protecting the environment is reflected in the design and construction of their US Corporate headquarters. Visteon Village has 800,000 square feet of office and lab space and cost \$250,000,000 to build.

SmithGroup, full-service architecture and engineering firm with offices in throughout the U.S., had an ingenious idea for the access floor application they had chosen. Founded in 1853, SmithGroup is no stranger to innovation and has earned numerous awards for their design concepts. Their portfolio includes many prestigious projects, including the National Postal Museum in the Smithsonian.

For the Visteon project, George Karidis, PE, Vice President and Director of Mechanical Engineering for SmithGroup, envisioned an integrated system for the building perimeter that did not utilize fan coil filter units, underfloor partitions or a myriad of control devices. This design also offers a great deal of architectural compatibility and pleasing aesthetics. The solution satisfies all perimeter heating, ventilating and air distribution requirements through one linear floor grille assembly.

Incorporated into the continuous CT linear bar grille frame are varying sets of segmental nuanced aperture plates, blank-offs and deflector wings, mounted into heating, cooling or return plenums. The next stage of development involves actuation of a sliding aperture plate beneath a fixed one, which will serve to modulate the open area through which the air jets pass. This will allow for variable cooling requirements while maintaining a nearly constant velocity of air and plume heights.

SmithGroup approached Titus with this design concept because of their close relationship with Fontanesi & Kahn and their confidence in the proven technical leadership and innovation shown by Titus over the years. Titus engineers went about the process of turning the concept into a viable product, 15,000 feet of which was installed in this project. A patent is pending for this unique design approach.

Arranging the floor grille over the aperture plates creates room air induction, which raises the temperature of the air jets and reduces the height of the vertical plume. The Visteon design utilizes a floor pressure of .07" w.g. which discharges 225cfm of conditioned air in a 6 – 7' vertical plume, at an angle of about 5°. This mixes the air in the occupied zone without disturbing the stratified layer overhead.

The ASHRAE Energy Award recognizes outstanding achievements by members who have successfully applied innovative building design in the areas of occupant comfort, indoor air quality (IAQ) and energy conservation. Their designs incorporate ASHRAE standards for effective energy management and IAQ.

SmithGroup ([www.smithgroup.com](http://www.smithgroup.com)) is composed of client industry-focused practices serving the healthcare, learning, workplace and science and technology markets. SmithGroup has offices Ann Arbor, MI; Chicago, IL; Detroit, MI; Los Angeles, CA; Madison, WI; Minneapolis, MN; Phoenix, AZ; Raleigh-Durham, NC; San Francisco, CA; and Washington, D.C. Established in

1853, SmithGroup is the longest continually operating architecture and engineering firm in the U.S.

Titus, founded in 1946, is the leading manufacturer of grilles, registers, diffusers, and variable volume terminals for the commercial HVAC industry. Titus products are distributed world-wide; as a major participant in the International market, you'll find Titus products in important projects like the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, the Bank of China in Beijing, and the International Space Station. Visit [www.titus-hvac.com](http://www.titus-hvac.com) to learn more.

Air System Components LP is a market-leading supplier of heating, air conditioning and ventilation system components for commercial and high-end residential applications. Air Systems Components is a division of Tomkins Industries, Inc. based in Denver, Colorado, with total employment of over 7,000. ASC is owned by [Tomkins Industries, PLC](http://www.tomkins.co.uk/) (<http://www.tomkins.co.uk/>), with home offices in London, England. Tomkins PLC employs over 40,000 worldwide, and enjoys annual sales in US dollars of nearly \$5 billion.

For more information about Visteon go to their website at: <http://www.visteon.com/>.

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is an international organization of 55,000 persons. It is the world's foremost technical society in the fields of heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration. Through its meetings, research, standards writing, publishing and continuing education, the Society helps keep indoor environments comfortable and productive, deliver healthy food to consumers and preserve the outdoor environment.

Visit SmithGroup's web site at <http://www.smithgroup.com/> for more information.

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