Winspear Opera House
Dallas, Texas

Project Highlights:
» Capacity of 2,200
» 60 foot high lobby
» Completed in 2009

Client - AT&T Performing Arts Center
Rep Office - ADW Corporation
Architect - Foster + Partners
Structural Engineers - Buro Happold, Thornton-Tomasetti Engineers
Environmental Engineer - Battle McCarthy, CHP & Associates
Lighting Engineer - Claude Engle
LEED Certification - None
ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House is one of five buildings that make up the new Dallas Center for the Performing Arts. It is the new home for the Dallas Opera, Texas Ballet Theater, touring shows and numerous other productions. Designed to take opera houses into the twenty first century, the Winspear Opera House is positioned to provide audiences a deeper theatrical experience.

Designed by the renowned architectural firm of Foster + Partners, this new opera house was created to be environmentally aware while incorporating state-of-the-art technology. The ever-changing climate in Dallas presented a unique challenge that caused the architects to explore a variety of solutions. For the sometimes overwhelming heat in associated with Texas, a solar canopy was built on the exterior of the building. It extends from the building and creates an appealing and unique outdoor space for the facility and its patrons to relax. There is also an abundance of natural light that penetrates deep into the sixty-foot high lobby area.

THE TITUS SOLUTION

When the designers of the Winspear wanted an underfloor solution for the air distribution, they turned to Titus. The TAF-R diffuser was selected to be the primary source of airflow inside the performance hall. This air device is a
round underfloor product that is architecturally pleasing and designed for use in high induction raised floor applications. It is constructed of a high impact, polymeric material that is durable enough to resist foot traffic. This diffuser has the fastest installation in the industry with the new spring clip design and can relocated easily to another location. It is also a GreenSpec Listed™ product.

The Titus OMNI-AA diffuser satisfies architectural as well as engineering criteria. Its strong, clean, unobtrusive lines harmonize with the ceiling system, without sacrificing performance. The curvature of the OMNI-AA backpan works with the formed edges of the face panel to deliver a uniform 360° horizontal air pattern, without excessive noise or pressure drop. The OMNI-AA is constructed of aluminum and works well in this application. Additionally, the TAF-R and the OMNI-AA devices are available in wood grain finish options which offers the interior designer a multitude of final outputs to choose from.

THE END RESULT
The Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House creates an intimate theatrical experience by bringing the audience as close as possible to the performance. The air outlets from Titus further reinforce this by providing superior performance while being installed in areas that do not distract the patrons from the performance.