

UNDERFLOOR SERVICE DISTRIBUTION

by Tate Access Floors

Stata Center at MIT
Cambridge, MA

OWNER OCCUPIED LAB PROJECT
713,000 gross sq. ft.

PRODUCTS USED:
ConCore 1500
PVD Modular Wiring &
Underfloor Air System



"Using raised floor plenum for HVAC systems and for distribution of power and data resulted in lower life cycle costs and increased flexibility." Christopher Schaffner, Project HVAC Engineer

TATE AUTHORIZED DEALER
Longden & Company
Hudson, MA

ARCHITECTURAL FIRM
Gehry Partners LLP
Santa Monica, CA

GENERAL CONTRACTOR
Skanska USA Building
Cambridge, MA

ENGINEERING FIRM
R.G. Vanderweil Engineers
Boston, MA

LEED CERTIFIED



Subject

MIT RAY & MARIA STATA CENTER

Planning for the Stata Center began 15 years ago when MIT completed a framework for the development of the northeast sector of campus. The design was governed by MIT's major planning principles, which call for buildings that have the flexibility to meet the changing needs of an academic environment and are durable in materials and in assembly. The interior of the Stata Center emphasizes flexibility and collaborative workspaces, where students and faculty alike can benefit from a stimulating work environment. The Stata project team initiated an environmental design effort with goals of extensive daylighting, an underfloor air system for high indoor air quality and an environment with the ability to adapt to changing needs. RG Vanderweil Engineering gathered performance and cost analysis comparing underfloor and overhead HVAC systems. Their conclusion: a raised floor system with underfloor service distribution was the solution for this project.

Tate Access Floors was chosen to supply the raised flooring and underfloor air and wiring system for the MIT Stata Center. A38cm raised floor system, which allows easy access to the services such as electric, plumbing and communications infrastructure, also contains the ventilation system through which unchilled fresh air (18°C) is pumped into the rooms from underfoot creating a quieter and more efficient method than traditional ventilation systems. Providing conditioned air, this underfloor air system offers significant benefits to building owners: better indoor air quality, personal control of the temperature and air flow by the occupant, and substantial energy savings compared to conventional systems. Accessible and adaptable data distribution pathways and infrastructure will support current as well as emerging technologies. Tate is very pleased to have been a part of this unique and challenging project.

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