

UNDERFLOOR SERVICE DISTRIBUTION

by Tate Access Floors

Salt Lake City Public Library
Salt Lake City, UT

HIGHER EDUCATION PROJECT

200,000 gross sq. ft.
150,000 sq. ft. access floor

PRODUCTS USED:

CCN1250
Underfloor Air System
HPL & Modular Carpet



Subject

SALT LAKE CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

This is not a typical library. The wedge-shaped, six-level facility is architecturally astounding with its southern glass façade exposing light-filled reading areas to views of the Wasatch Mountains. The new Main Library in Salt Lake City embodies the idea that a library is more than books and computers - it serves as a community meeting place. In the planning stages, architects contemplated using a large amount of glass for the library to create a feeling of continuity. But widespread glass is not especially energy efficient. In addition, the architects' use of skylights, exposed concrete, and steel frames posed a challenge for placement of the heating and cooling distribution system, and for data and power cabling. Not wanting to abandon their dream, the search was on for a system that would accommodate their design.

Architect Moshe Safdie suggested an underfloor air distribution system, not only to retain a clean visual appeal but also to solve the energy cost issues. The building team selected products manufactured by Tate Access Floors. Access floor panels, mounted on pedestals that connect to the structural floor, leave space for air handlers and other equipment, delivering air through in-floor diffusers. These systems use air that is closer, in temperature, to air that is conditioned for circulating thus reducing the amount of power used to bring the air to a comfortable indoor temperature. In addition, the design is more efficient since it lets air filter up naturally instead of needing air pressure to push it down from the ceiling as in conventional HVAC systems. Tate's underfloor service distribution not only allowed the design to continue aesthetically but also provided an energy efficient solution. Ultimately, a synthesis between beautiful design and smart mechanics has given Salt Lake City a distinguished library that is celebrated by the public.

The awards jury for AIA said: 'The library makes a significant symbolic statement for Salt Lake City - proving that it is possible to design contemporary civic landmarks. This library will help redefine the downtown library for future generations, here and elsewhere.'

TATE AUTHORIZED DEALER
Technical Building Systems
Salt Lake City, UT

ARCHITECTURAL FIRM
Moshe Safdie & Associates
Somerville, MA

GENERAL CONTRACTOR
Big-D Construction
Salt Lake City, UT

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**Winner of the 2004 Honor Award by the
American Institute of Architects**

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