

SEARS DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Project: Sears Distribution Center

Owner: ProLogis

Tenant: Sears Holdings Corp.

Location: Stockton, Calif.

Architect: Ware Malcomb

Lighting Design: Exposure Illumination Architects, Inc.

Electrical Engineer: ACIES

General Contractor: Big-D Pacific

Photography: Exposure Illumination Architects, Inc., Paul Dyer Photography

Challenge:

► Sears wanted to build a new state-of-the-art distribution facility that would be highly efficient, simple to maintain and provide sufficient light levels.

Solution:

► Exposure Illumination Architects provided an innovative design that integrated daylighting, compact and efficient luminaires, and a layered lighting control system to produce one of the most energy-efficient warehouses in the country.

► Sears Holdings Corp., the nation's fifth largest broad-line retailer, with approximately 3,900 full-line and specialty retail stores in the United States and Canada, has been a household name for generations. In 2006, the company concluded a year-long study that produced an outline of the ideal built-to-suit facility that would support its distribution network. As a result, Sears decided to replace five of its older facilities with new state-of-the-art centers.

"The main goal of these five new distribution centers," says Brian K. Willemot, project manager, logistics engineering for Sears, "was to provide the Sears direct delivery distribution network with major operating cost savings, substantially increase productivity levels, and move our market-leading merchandise closer to its customers."

In 2007, the company engaged ProLogis, a leading global provider of distribution facilities, to build a LEED-certified, 780,400-sq.-ft. distribution center in Stockton, Calif., the last of the five facilities. This particular center would be used to store and distribute big items such as washers, dryers and refrigerators. ProLogis, in turn, engaged Ware Malcomb, an architecture and design firm. "Sears wanted a reliable, low-maintenance facility that met its standards," says Jim Terry, director, commercial for Ware Malcomb. "ProLogis wanted to provide an energy-efficient, comfortable, functional environment that was of higher quality than typical distribution buildings."

As a result, Ware Malcomb utilized unique architectural elements, including a suspended trellis canopy, bold entry articulation and consistent architectural treatment—paint, panel massing, clerestory windows—across the entire facade to bring a level of quality not typically seen in a large distribution facility.

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SEARS DISTRIBUTION CENTER STOCKTON, CALIF.

