

Toward More Durable, Beautiful Health Care Interiors

3-D laminates from SSI create high-performance designer walls and casework



DIRTT's exhibit at IDEX 2009 features matching SSI 3-D laminates on wall tiles and casework by Wahu.



Few environments are more demanding than health care interiors. They're in business 24/7, are under constant attack by moving equipment, carts and germs, and must endure extensive cleaning on a daily basis.

DIRTT Environmental Solutions and Wahu Caseworks have found that 3-D laminates are the perfect cure for damaged, dingy health care walls and casework. DIRTT, which stands for Doing It Right This Time, supplies wall tiles and systems. Wahu, which is short for "wall-hung," supplies modular casework and fixtures compatible with DIRTT systems as well as conventional construction.

Because 3-D laminates are thermoplastic materials they can be formed around edge and surface details machined into MDF panels to create spill-proof channels, cup holders, unusual shapes and soft curves and edge profiles.

"There are no visible seams, unlike with standard laminates," says Kristin Moore, who heads up DIRTT's health care business. "This is a big deal from an infection prevention standpoint. The potential for damage is also dramatically reduced because there aren't any square edges getting caught on equipment.

"We source our 3-D laminates from SSI because they have excellent designs that are tough enough for our clients."

DIRTT and Wahu use the same SSI 3-D laminates for perfect design matches.

"We love working with 3-D laminates because they take away the ugly black seams, making our modular millwork impossible to chip and impervious to moisture," says Chris Matus, president of Wahu. "And designers love the great colors and woodgrains we get from SSI."

SSI is the exclusive North American supplier of Klöckner Pentaplast 3DL. For more information, visit www.ssinorthamerica.com. See SSI's materials at the *Interiors & Sources*' Materials Pavilion at NeoCon.