CONCRETE BASE REDUCES CO2 FOOTPRINT IN REVAMP

Okland Construction is a century-old family-owned business in Salt Lake City with roots in shipbuilding. The owners set out to expand the office as a commitment to the well-being of its employees and the environment, and also to its artistry.

Workplace renovations can provide unique opportunities for a company to reaffirm its core values by including them directly in the re-design. Which is why company president Brett Okland tapped WRNS Studio for the project and incorporated guidelines by LEED, Living Building Challenge, and WELL. Having worked together previously on Adobe’s corporate campus in Lehi, Utah, Okland trusted the firm’s design instinct and collaborative attention to detail.

1. Melding Materials. The re-fresh pairs generous glazing with a full-bodied expression of wood and concrete, creating a robust sense of place that had previously been lacking.

2. A Strong Showing. Apart from its functional use as an office building, the cast-in-place concrete extension serves as a “showroom” for Okland’s material expertise.

3. Innovation on Display. The board-formed concrete exterior wall is the result of nearly 15 prototypes testing different blends of natural lumber and ready mix.

4. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Much of the existing brickwork, as well as the steel structure, were kept intact to reduce the embodied carbon footprint.