

Interior Design Elements: Connecticut Convention Center

Reflective of the building's architecture, a graceful symmetry is articulated into the Connecticut Convention Center's interior design, which can be described as classic, yet modern. The overall wall palette is warm and neutral, colored in butter, biscuit and shades of taupe. Vibrant details and colorful design elements, at once geometric with subtle curvilinear undertones, are thoughtfully applied throughout the facility.

As you enter the ground floor lobby, the soaring 125-foot atrium expands above you. Underfoot, Ashlar patterned German limestone, in shades of cream and accented with sixfoot bands of golden-yellow limestone, is bordered in black granite. Banking to the left, a sweeping grand staircase leads to the Exhibit Hall (Pre-Function) Level above.

The open expanse of floor at the Exhibit Hall Level, is a lively canvas of custom designed Axminster carpet in burgundy, brick & fuchsia reds combined with accents of burnt orange, rich teal-blues, golden yellow and deep citrus green.

Four massive, tapered red piers rise to support the ballroom balcony above, which overlooks the entire concourse. The 140,000 sq. ft. Exhibit Hall is finished with beige and charcoal walls (concrete masonry blocks). Two large Concession areas are visually identified with brilliant yellow, curving ceilings. Two executive boardrooms, along with General Manager & Assistant General Manager offices, have windowed views out over the Hall.

Beautiful and graceful, the curved, full-height, walnut-paneled walls, spanning nearly 100' in length, provide a grand entrance into the 40,000 sq. ft. ballroom. Floating 30 feet overhead, its ceiling is comprised of curved, lace-like cast-panels (GRG - glass, reinforced gypsum), echoing design elements from the floor pattern below.

Literally historic in its pattern proportion, the striking red carpet evokes the reflective qualities of the river and Hartford's merchant-marine history. The ballroom's 60' x 130' pattern repeat-size will be the largest in the history of its maker, Brintons Fine Carpets of London, the world's largest woven carpet manufacturer. The full expanse of the massive carpet will contain three full repeats, side by side, according to Interior designer Michele Lyden, Sr. Associate, TVS Interiors, of the Atlanta based firm of TVS.