

Boston architecture firm Elkus Manfredi was tasked with creating a new office for global consulting firm Charles River Associates in Chicago. A major feature of the proposal called for an expansive café and collaboration space for employees. Because of the complexity of the two proposed spaces, the design team needed to find a ceiling solution that could deliver superior acoustical performance in this high-traffic area without compromising the contemporary aesthetic the client had requested.

The original specification called for an acoustical plaster ceiling, but this option was ultimately deemed to be too expensive. So, the building team began searching for a lower cost solution that could offer comparable performance. Pepper Construction, the contractor for this project, recommended USG Ensemble™ Acoustical Drywall Ceiling to the design team as a viable solution.

Upon installation, all parties were delighted with the result. In fact, Elkus Manfredi has already re-specified USG Ensemble Acoustical Drywall Ceiling for larger projects in the Boston area. This innovative system sets a new standard for high-performance acoustics with the smooth look and ease of installation of drywall.

The space looks amazing! We are really pleased! With our USG Ensemble™ Acoustical Ceiling, the acoustics are noticeably different from the echo in the drywall corridors. We have had gatherings in the space with up to 100 people, and the sound doesn't disrupt the adjacent workspaces.

Maggie McVay, Office Manager
Charles River Associates



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