Central Utility Plant Centers for Disease Control

LOCATION: Atlanta, Georgia

CLIENT:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) CUH2A (prime)

PROJECT DATA:

cooling towers chillers electrical room break room kitchenette

54,000 sf total

SERVICES:

Programming Architectural Design Construction Administration

> COST: \$26,000,000

DATE OF COMPLETION: 2004

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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AWARDS:

2005 First Place Award for Industrial Buildings American Concrete Institute



The Centers for Disease Control Roybal Campus was expanding with multiple new buildings coming on line in a very short period of time. A new central utility plant was required to meet the needs of the growth. The plant was to be located across a small pond from the new visitor center and as a result, one of the owner's primary goals was to make certain that the building was attractive in addition to being functional.

The east elevation consists of massive concrete walls giving the building a significant presence. A diaphanous skin of aluminum grating further screens the building and blurs the separation of the roof-mounted cooling towers from the main body below. This screening acts as an instrument to direct the viewer's eye as the grating wraps the corner to the north end. At the northwest corner, the screen dissolves to reveal a gap between the cooling towers and the main building volume housing the chillers. This gap becomes dynamic as water from the cooling towers rain down to the sump level above the chillers. Further south along the west elevation is the control room; its form is differentiated from the other building components through a change of scale, material, and color. The control room's location is at the intersection of the major building elements, not only facilitating the optimal viewing advantage, but also giving its form a hierarchical importance in the composition of the façade. The main glazed stair is located next the control room, expressing human scale, and introducing human interaction through its visible circulation.





