

Lavallee Brensinger Awarded AIA NH Excellence in Architecture Award

Lavallee Brensinger Architects received an Honor Award for Excellence in Architecture at the New Hampshire Chapter of the American Institute of Architects' 27th Annual Awards Banquet on January 22 for its recent addition to IDEXX Laboratories in Westbrook, Maine. IDEXX Laboratories is a leader in pet healthcare innovation, serving practicing veterinarians around the world with a broad range of diagnostic and information technology-based products and services. The global company employs more than 4,800 people and offers products to customers in over 100 countries.

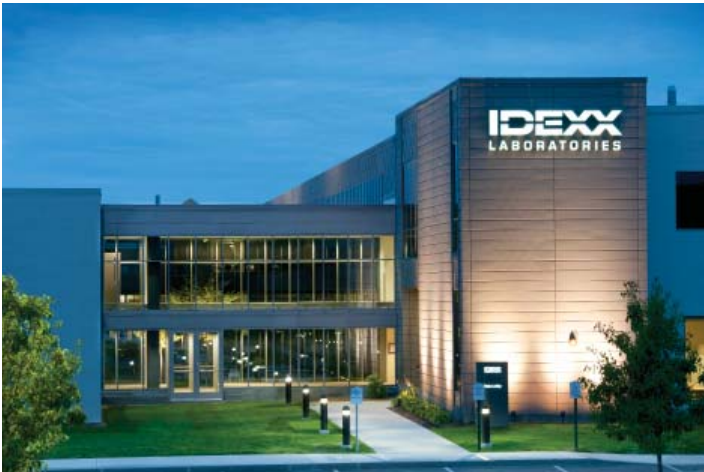
In addition to providing new, state-of-the-art laboratory, manufacturing and office space, the project achieved IDEXX's goals of advancing the company's image as an innovative, world-class leader in science and technology, while creating an inspiring work environment that includes a connection to nature.

The building's new exterior façade unifies new and existing construction with a clean, white masonry veneer, representing the elegant precision of "science." The expansive exterior is anchored by towers, noting points of entry and vertical interior circulation. Clad with zinc panels, the towers convey an "earthy" feeling and a link to nature.

A unique courtyard or "BioCourt" was created within the core of the massive building, offering employees an outdoor space for meetings, lunch breaks, or respite. Abundant daylight pours into offices in both the addition and existing building. The facility's primary circulation path travels by the BioCourt, allowing a strong visual connection to nature throughout the day.

Jurors praised the project as "a great plan integrating old and new; the 'biocourt' is very successful, providing a year round focal point and calming environment, as well as a welcome relief to what could be an overwhelming interior space."

In addition to IDEXX management and staff and Lavallee Brensinger Architects, other project team members included: Stibler Associates, interior design; DeLuca Hoffman, civil engineering; Souza True and Partners, structural engineers; AHA Engineers, mechanical/electrical engineers; and Pizzagalli Construction, construction manager.



New main entrance to expanded corporate office, laboratory, and manufacturing complex



BioCourt offers employees a connection to nature