

Space to grow

Security company infuses creativity in new workplace

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By Nick Fawell Special to The Sun

When Stanley Convergent Security Solutions moved its headquarters in February from Lisle to the famed Helmut Jahn "N building" off I-88 and Washington Street in Naperville, it used the opportunity to insert some creativity into its new workspace.

A '50s diner-themed break room now adorns the northeast corner of the building thanks to a little creativity and sustainability.

"We wanted to do something fun - give people a break from the day when they go into the lounge," said Tony Byerly, 41, recently appointed chief operating officer.

New COO of Stanley

Tony Byerly, 41, was appointed chief operating officer of Stanley CSS in January. A Naperville resident with a wife and three children, Byerly earned a bachelor of arts degree in social science and business from Eureka College as a Ronald W. Reagan Scholar. Starting as a security consultant for SecurityLink, Byerly rose through the ranks of various security companies. He has worked in both the public and private sectors for Fortune 500 companies such as Ameritech and SBC Global Communications.

The space, replete with checkered tile flooring, steel swivel stools and booths with red vinyl upholstery, and other '50s memorabilia from thrift shops, was pieced together using furniture from a '50s-themed booth that was assembled for a trade show.

The diner is part of a complete office upgrade for Stanley CSS, the electronic security division of Stanley Works, an S&P 500 company. Stanley CSS, which was formerly known as HSM Electronic Protection Services before it was bought by Stanley, is the second largest commercial security services company in the country with annual revenues of about \$200 million.

Defining space

Packed tight in their old headquarters in Lisle and anticipating continued growth, the company decided Naperville should be their new home.

"We were busting at the seams," said Beth Tarnoff, director of marketing for Stanley CSS, adding that people were forced to share phones and workspaces before the move.

The new space - about 17,000 square feet - is full of dark mahogany furniture, grayish tweed carpet, and an all-glass main conference room in keeping with architect Helmut Jahn's theme of the building's all-glass exterior. A giant flat-screen monitor displays Stanley products and services as people enter the office.

"About 50 percent of the furniture was relocated, which defined the space planning and color palette for the new location," said Bonnie Wagner, a sales representative from Henricksen, which provided the interior design expertise.

For Stanley CSS, a company that specializes in security and protection, it is important to convey a sense of clean organization and "an attractive place" for clients who enter the office, said Pete Straka, vice president of human resources.

"We're on the leading edge of technology with what we do," Straka said. "The visitors get a feel for that right when they walk in with the video screen showing all our products and services."