About the Project
An existing building on the campus of Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital (North Campus), formerly Palmyra Medical Center, in Albany, Georgia, was renovated to create a brand new, 5,000-square-foot, multi-million dollar pediatric unit, which serves the nearly 8,000 children who go through its doors every year. The design team from K2J, Inc. designed the interior of the new unit to provide a warm and caring environment for pediatric patients and their families. The Pediatric Unit features spacious, private patient rooms, a children's playroom and a multi-media room for adolescent patients. When planning the unit, the designers created a special family media center and adjacent lounge to allow parents to rest while still keeping their children in view.

Design Goals
Creating a safe and playful atmosphere for patients was a priority for K2J. Child-appropriate colors and themes were chosen for the facility, including a unique mural displayed along the public corridor made from Construction Specialties (C/S) rigid wall covering sheets. The Interior Wall Protection division at C/S worked directly with the designers and architects to create various custom-made shapes from the sheet material, including a schoolhouse and several nature scenes.

K2J's design goals for the project included renovations to the existing storage and vanity areas in patient rooms, along with installation of new headwalls and impact-resistant doors. The designers worked with C/S to extend the playful aesthetics into the patient rooms. “C/S worked with us every step of the way to help realize our design goals with their custom sheeting and headwall products,” said Kris Kirchner, interior designer at K2J Inc.

Results
The Pediatric Unit at the Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital (North Campus) officially opened in December 2010. The PVC-free Acrovyn® 4000 wall protection and Acrovyn® impact-resistant doors chosen provide the best in durability in a wide variety of colors and designs. The wall materials used on this project are Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Gold or Silver, assuring the architects, the designers and the hospital owners that they contain no chemicals that are harmful to the health of either the occupants or the building.

“I've worked with Acrovyn® on projects before, and because of the high quality of the products and custom care that I received working with C/S, I plan to use Acrovyn® 4000 products again,” Kirchner noted.