

Project: Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children
Location: Wilmington, DE
Architect: FKP Architects
Products: Acrovyn® Doors
Acrovyn by Design®
Acrovyn® Headwalls & Wall Guards



About the Project

To meet increasing healthcare demands and growing patient needs, Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children expanded its Delaware campus. Completed in late 2014, the expansion includes new family-centered patient rooms, enhanced family amenities, collaborative team spaces and a new emergency department with 44 exam rooms. Before embarking on the 557,000 square-foot expansion, FKP Architects did some fact finding with those most knowledgeable about kid-friendly environments – local children.

Design Goals

While innovative additions like a roller coaster and a zoo couldn't fit into the layout, Nemours' Family and Youth Advisory Councils recommended an interactive, playful environment that could make a hospital stay less scary. To keep functionality a top priority, the design team created spaces that comfort young patients and their families as well as deliver the durability demanded of a busy children's care center.

Results

Beyond the walls of local children's artwork showcased using Acrovyn by Design® Wall Protection, visitors and staff pass through many of the over 600 doors that connect the hospital's rooms and corridors. FKP Architects selected C/S Acrovyn® Doors in a clean Classic Maple simulated wood finish to maintain the friendly, inviting new look of the hospital. The team knew Acrovyn Doors' unique aesthetic features and wide array of finish options would complement the overall design while maintaining necessary resilience.

With the ability to endure an extreme level of use, Acrovyn Doors are ideal for bustling hospitals that experience constant movement of people and equipment. The door's surface, consisting of Acrovyn® sheet, provides a smooth, long-lasting layer of protection. This visual benefit transforms an institutional-looking space into one that mimics hospitality design. Now, young patients have a comfortable place in which they can obtain treatments without much of the fear a typical hospital environment can evoke.



At a Glance:

The hospital boasts over 600 doors connecting many highly traversed areas. As an important contribution to design, uniquely aesthetic doors with a durable yet inviting finish offset the fun, kid-friendly environment created to improve the experience of young patients and their families.

"All products were chosen to equally meet aesthetic, durability and functionality requirements. This is often the most challenging aspect of product selection," said Kristin Ledet, IIDA, Senior Vice President and Director of Interiors at FKP Architects, Inc. "We cannot sacrifice one design feature for another in order to meet all elements of patient care, staff satisfaction, and the patient and family experience. The Acrovyn Doors were selected for their durability, compatibility with integral blind solutions and overall palette coordination. Doors were strategically specified at all areas where impact resistance was the most critical element of the patient and staff journey."

 **Acrovyn® Doors**

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