

Lincoln Technical Institute, Mount Laurel, NJ



Situation: Campus relocation; furnishings left behind after move

Material Composition: Office and classroom (tables, chairs, desks, etc.)

Quantity: Approximately. 650 pieces; Two shipping containers

Setting: Suburban multi-tenant building in Mt. Laurel, NJ; Second floor with elevator access; Single loading dock shared by all tenants

Moving Contractor: Corporate Interiors, Wilmington, DE. Project Manager: Kevin Ennis

Overview

Lincoln Technical Institute (LTI) provides training in healthcare and allied fields from a network of urban and suburban campuses. LTI requested Corporate Interiors (CI) to help relocate from an existing suburban building to a new campus location. The project had three components: (1) Installation of new furnishings; (2) Transport and installation of furnishings from the existing facility to the new campus, and (3) disposition of approximately 675 pieces from the Mt. Laurel site that LTI tagged for disposal. Lincoln Tech provided no specific guidance regarding how items were to be disposed of. CI requested IRN to manage disposition of the surplus furniture for reuse.

Setting

LTI leased space in a suburban office park, occupying most of the top floor of a 75,000 square-foot three-story building. LTI shared the floor with one other tenant; multiple tenants occupied the other floors. All tenants shared a single loading dock accessed through an 8'x8' overhead door. Of two truck slots on the dock, one was permanently occupied by a trash container. Two elevators plus one stairwell, all shared and used by other tenants, provided access between LTI's premises and the loading dock.



Surplus Composition

Classroom tables (150), Student desks (50), Teacher desks (30), Task chairs (150), Stacking chairs (200), Tablet arm chairs (25), Other seating (50), Misc. white boards, blackboards, display cabinets, conference tables, etc. (25)

Case Study in Reuse: Lincoln Technical Institute, Mount Laurel, NJ

Key Concerns

Duration: CI committed to one-day for the project, with a significant financial penalty for nonperformance. **Schedule:** The project was carried out during business hours, so common areas could not be used for staging or carries; mess and disruption had to be minimized. **Onsite Issues:** CI was able to secure one elevator for the day, but it was small, slow and a potential chokepoint. There was much other activity on and near the loading dock, including tenant arrivals and departures and vendor deliveries.

Implementation

IRN and CI scheduled a 10-man crew with approximately sixty four-wheel dollies and two panel carts. The crew was divided into a team removing items from rooms, an elevator crew, a team feeding the shipping containers, and a two-man packing team. Items were put on dollies and staged in rooms and hallways before being moved to and down the elevator. Stairs were not used.

Two shipping containers were scheduled for 8:30 and 11:00 AM. One container arrived and was loaded early. The second was detained by traffic and arrived about an hour behind schedule. IRN directed the crew to use the time to move and stage as much furniture as possible downstream of the elevator. This efficiency allowed nearly all of the delay to be recovered.

Tables and chairs made up much of both loads. Tables were packed as tight as possible and voids were packed with chairs. Ultimately the containers were packed with 269 and 358 items, greater than a more typical average of 175-200.

CI brought two straight trucks to the jobsite to absorb excess items. Ultimately only about 50 pieces could not be packed. These were returned to CI's warehouse for consolidation with other loads that IRN ships for reuse on CI's behalf.

Destination

Ultimately most of the Lincoln Tech surplus is destined for Haiti earthquake reconstruction. Because of backups at Haiti's ports, the containers were shipped to Jamaica for short-term warehousing. They will be metered into Haiti, and possibly to other Caribbean destinations, as they are needed and shipping conditions allow.

Logistics & Costs

Labor: CI estimates that no additional labor or time was required for the removal to shipping containers compared to dumpsters or rolloff containers for disposal.

Disposition Cost: CI calculates the cost of reuse to be significantly less than the cost of disposal. Based on surplus composition, the project would have required 6-8 rolloff containers at a cost (including transportation) of about \$400 per container, nearly double the cost of containers.