

Timeless Exterior Covers Healthcare Facility

Dryvit gives UNM Children's Hospital & Critical Care Pavilion an exterior that spans time and saves \$6 million.

The new Univ. of New Mexico (UNM) Children's Hospital & Critical Care Pavilion, Albuquerque, used the Outsulation Plus system from Dryvit Systems Inc., West Warwick, RI. They achieved a unique exterior design and trimmed 5% off of the project's \$120-million construction budget. They also alleviated the pressure of being forced to compromise on interior fittings and fixtures, especially when trying to accommodate the unique needs of a children's hospital.

The company's EIFS Metallic Demandit and TerraNeo enabled the architect's metal and stone panel design to flourish, but at an acceptable cost. The final exterior design of the addition includes three materials to symbolize the passage of time. The sandstone (TerraNeo) on the bottom of the building represents the past and the timeless high desert, the modern textured finish (Mojave DPR) in the middle represents the present, and the metal finish (Metallic Demandit) at the children's level alludes to technology and the future. "Dryvit is the gold standard when you're talking about EIFS, and we have used it on a number of projects with great success in the past. So, I was extremely comfortable with what Dryvit was able to bring to the table," said Marc Schiff, the project's architect, Studio Southwest, Albuquerque.

"The original design was for internally insulated precast, but that wound up being way out of the ballpark on price and would require an additional twelve months to construct. Then the design went to steel framed with natural veneer stone tiles and metal panels. Although the goals for scheduling and cost improved with this option, the owner still asked for other options," Schiff said.

"It has certainly had its twists and turns, but we were able to provide a solution that met the design needs of the project perfectly and saved them a ton of money too," said Roger Barton, architectural product manager, Calply, Dryvit distributor, Albuquerque. "I was incredibly impressed with both the Metallic Demandit and the TerraNeo finishes; they provided exactly what we were looking for on the exterior at a price point that was achievable for the owner," Schiff said.

The expansion project includes two floors for the UNM Children's Hospital; a newborn, intensive-care unit; adult, critical-care units; a maternity center; emergency and trauma services; and private patient rooms.



With Dryvit's Outsulation Plus system, UNM Children's Hospital & Critical Care Pavilion can use its exterior to connect the past, present, and future. The TerraNeo on the bottom of the building represents the past and the timeless high desert, the Mojave DPR in the middle represents the present, and the Metallic Demandit at the children's level alludes to technology and the future.