



A chapter of the American Institute of Architects

## 2008 Business Awards Winners

Jurors: Eric Oliner, AIA; Bob Hornung; and Bob Montanaro

### UNDER 50 EMPLOYEES

#### **Schoenhardt Architecture + Interior Design Office, Tariffville, Connecticut**

The Mill at Tariffville, Tariffville, Connecticut



Photographer: Michael Dersin

Schoenhardt Architecture + Interior Design's office occupies 7,100 SF in a nineteenth century brick mill building on the banks of the Farmington River. American Screw Company built The Mill at Tariffville in 1867 on the site of what had been the Hartford Carpet Company. The mill was originally powered by water from the river. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The firm's commitment to green design was demonstrated by its move into an existing historic building rather than building a new one. Interior finish materials are largely natural, consisting of unpainted masonry walls, wood ceiling, metals and glass. Most of the casework is constructed of a material derived from wheat straw.

The firm has seen its productivity and efficiency increase in its new space and employees, clients and visitors find the new environment inspiring and uplifting. The firm is the largest tenant in the Mill, thereby helping to ensure the preservation of the historic building.

*Jury Comments: This is an interesting and environmentally sensitive design for an existing building. Environmentally sensitive, it left the shell, exposed beams and brick walls and added environmentally friendly casework, highlighting the firm's commitment to green design. There were few fixed walls in this project of a limited budget. The jury liked the color palette, and the open spaces in the old original building.*



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### OVER 50 EMPLOYEES

**Jefferson B. Riley, FAIA, Centerbrook Architects and Planners,  
Centerbrook, Connecticut**

TD Banknorth Sports Center, York Hill Campus, Quinnipiac University, Hamden, Connecticut



Photographer: David Sundberg/Esto

The TD Banknorth Sport Center houses a 3,570-seat basketball arena and a 3,286-seat ice hockey arena. The Center fulfilled a number of business goals for the university. First, it leveraged the university's admission into the Division One, ECAC hockey league. Second, by providing state-of-the-art facilities for practice, training and games, it now attracts the best athlete and coaches from throughout North America. Third, it enriches the quality of student life by bringing the university ice hockey program home to the campus from a remote location. Finally, it has raised the university's national profile and enhanced student applications, faculty recruitment and fundraising.

*Jury comments: The building design is unique, with two wings that capture dramatic views. Curving roofs help to minimize the massiveness of the building. The flanking walls of glass allow one to see into two arenas. The building has enabled the university to elevate its sports team to another league and has brought prestige to its sports program. This impressive facility met a number of challenges and has helped the entire university.*