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## **HDS Architecture and Great Falls Construction complete 80,000 s/f MPX Online headquarters**

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The design of MPX Online's new 80,000 s/f facility has transformed an underutilized 25- year-old warehouse structure into a 24/7 hub of activity on Congress St., the city's premier office and industrial roadway. The renovated building serves as a headquarters, training center and production facilities for the growing company.

MPX Online is one of the northeast's most comprehensive and technologically advanced providers of critical documents and fulfillment services in the industry. Given its position in the marketplace and its rapid growth, MPX decided to expand and consolidate all its operations into one building.

HDS Architecture was selected to lead the design effort and create a future-looking brand vision for MPX. MPX CEO Robert Willis said, "We wanted an exciting new environment for our employees, clients and visitors, a space that would reflect our brand as a high technology document provider and business solutions company."

HDS transformed the tired 1970s era warehouse with no curb appeal into a vibrant and attractive building with a glowing presence on Congress St.

Hans Strauch, principal-in-charge for HDS said, "Our goal was to create a dynamic workplace that would support MPX's image and growth for years to come."

Design elements include an open and flowing plan, tall (12'-6") ceilings, glass partitions, display walls, new skylights and windows, new covered entrances and an exterior patio with landscaping.

Great Falls Construction served as the projects general contractor.

"One of the greatest challenges of the project was phasing-in the production and warehouse spaces prior to completion of the training center and offices," said Aaron Bourassa, project manager.

Given MPX's requirement for no down time for its 24/7 service, the move-in had to be seamless. Other challenges during the five month construction period included significant demolition of solid concrete partitions to open up and redefine the building spaces, updating antiquated electrical and mechanical systems, and renovating the exterior of the building for new entrances and window openings.

Today operational efficiency has improved, employees love coming to work, visitors and clients are impressed, and sales continue to grow.

Willis said, "I couldn't be happier. The design of the new facility has exceeded our expectations."

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