



# Modern Design Pioneer is DIRTT Fan

An acclaimed design engineer had high praise for DIRTT after recently touring a client's workspace in San Diego, CA.

Architecture firm HKS wanted to learn more about DIRTT, so Rep Paula Christiansen arranged a visit to Ligand Pharmaceuticals. "Ligand is a great showpiece," Paula says. "The Ligand team loves their space so it was a great opportunity to show our quality and the design freedom we can provide to architects and designers."

What Paula didn't tell the Ligand group was that one of the HKS consultants is a legend in the business: Michael Somin was part of the team that built the iconic Salk Institute in the 1960s.



Somin pioneered many of the now-standard concepts of modern laboratory design in his 45-year career and worked with Jonas Salk (who developed the polio vaccine) and architect Louis Kahn to build the Institute, a visually stunning space for collaborative, groundbreaking medical research. The Institute is still considered an architectural landmark.

Somin was very impressed with DIRTT. "He said he'd never have known that it wasn't conventionally built, and that DIRTT's solution blended in beautifully." In a follow-up email to Paula he wrote that DIRTT was his kind of company. "Find solutions to problems and make it beautiful. ... Sounds like a firm I would have liked to have formed if I didn't have so much fun helping clients get better labs over the last 45 years." Looks like there's a new DIRTT fan!

*Photos: Ligand Pharmaceuticals courtesy of Parron Hall Office Interiors*

