

A Headquarters to Turn Heads

How Staples Business Advantage helped ecommerce company CommerceHub design its innovative worldwide headquarters.



CHALLENGE

CommerceHub needed a partner to collaborate with its space designers to choose innovative and affordable furniture to outfit its new headquarters in Albany, New York.

SOLUTION

The company worked with Staples Business Advantage, which, with its remanufacturing partner Davies Office, provided innovative products and designs that met CommerceHub's needs and goals for the space (not to mention project management and moving services).

RESULT

The new global headquarters of CommerceHub provides an inviting and open environment that speaks to the company's values, delights current employees, and attracts new ones.

Challenge

In 2014, CommerceHub was growing fast, and they needed more space for their expanding team. But they didn't just want another satellite office; they wanted to create a new world headquarters that would engage current employees, attract the best talent to join the company, and stay within their budget.

The company signed a lease for the top floor of the new ZEN Building on the State University of New York Polytechnic Institute campus and then hired a team of space designers to help map out the new location.

In order to achieve their goal of designing a brand new space that allowed their current employees to flourish and at the same time attract new and upcoming talent, CommerceHub didn't have to look any further than their local partner, Staples Business Advantage.

The team worked together to create and outfit an environment that motivated and excited the current and future CommerceHub workforce, to do it all on a budget, and to manage this massive undertaking with a clear plan and smooth execution.

Solution

Furniture designers from Staples Business Advantage worked with CommerceHub's space designers to fulfill the need for stylish, functional, and affordable furniture in the new space. Because of Staples Business Advantage's dynamic relationships with its vendors, designers, and partners, the team was able to consolidate vendors and choose a mix of custom, retail, and remanufactured designs for the new office — all from Staples Business Advantage.

"Our space designers could describe the goals and needs of each space, but the Staples designers brought the market and product knowledge to the table," says John Hinkle, the Chief Information Officer and Chief Information Security Officer of CommerceHub.

CommerceHub

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The choices they came up with suited the space functionally, provided the look the company wanted aesthetically, and hit the right price point.

“The result is something really innovative and slick,” he says.

“We have high-top tables, diner booths that tuck into the walls, a game room, a meditation room. There are some eclectic pairings around here. The idea is to service different employee needs with different types of offerings.”

Staples Business Advantage was also able to offer the overall project management services CommerceHub needed, a game-changer for a project of this size with several teams of designers. They also managed the installation of the furniture in the new office and broke down and cleared out the old office.

“Staples Business Advantage made this move go extremely smoothly,” says Hinkle. “We met our commitments and delivery timelines, and I didn’t even have to get involved.”

Result

The newly designed and outfitted office exemplified CommerceHub’s company goals and values by creating an innovative, comfortable, collaborative space for its employees to thrive in.

“People are proud to come to work here,” says Hinkle.

“It’s a fun and exciting place to come to every day. That first weekend we moved in, the number of employees who brought their families in was mind-blowing. They were that excited and proud about it to show their husbands, wives, kids.”

The office also serves as a recruitment tool, impressing and attracting new hires.

“We have a bunch of smart, technical people here, and being able to find, recruit, and retain top talent is the make-or-break for a company like us,” says Hinkle. “We need to try to be as exciting, innovative, and cool as Silicon Valley.”

The new space and its furnishings have allowed CommerceHub to do just that. Albany is nearly 3,000 miles from Silicon Valley, but the CommerceHub headquarters vibrates with the energy and verve of a company in the tech capital.

“If you talk about our company and our values, it’s based on collaboration, great communication, innovation, and leading-edge technology,” says Hinkle. “And this office speaks to that.”

To learn more, please visit StaplesAdvantage.com.



“We wanted to be cost effective, but in an open-space floor plan, you can’t hide anything, you need the whole thing to look good.”

John Hinkle, CIO/CISO, CommerceHub

Company at a Glance

CommerceHub

OVERVIEW:

CommerceHub is an ecommerce company that helps connect the disparate parts of the ecommerce supply chain. It works with some of the biggest names in retail, and last year drove \$11 billion in gross merchandise value.

KEY FACTS:

- Founded in 1997
- Supports ecommerce operations for the top 200 retailers and over 9,000 brands across North America
- 300+ employees, including 200+ in the Albany HQ

WEBSITE: www.commercehub.com