First Academic Building in NYC to achieve LEED Platinum

The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art has been a leader in art, architecture and engineering studies since the college was founded in 1859.

The college’s stature as a cradle of innovation is evident in the newly constructed 41 Cooper Square, a technologically advanced academic facility that attained LEED Platinum certification. In keeping with the school’s goal to create a high performance building, openings throughout 41 Cooper Square are constructed with door and hardware products from ASSA ABLOY Group brands.

A blend of doorway security, life-safety, aesthetics and sustainability is achieved with CURRIES hollow metal 707 doors and McKINNEY three-knuckle hinges along with 8200 Series mortise locks, 80 Series exit devices and 351 Series door closers from SARGENT. PERSONA technology was used to integrate the card locking system.

The doorways feature a mix of mechanical and electromechanical locks that provide balanced security throughout the building, enabling facility personnel to set access privileges according to their needs. Each opening is also carefully tailored to fit the design motif set forth by project architect Thom Mayne of Morphosis.

From a sustainability perspective, all of the doorway products are constructed with percentages of recycled material that contribute to LEED Materials and Resources credits, and when used together as a complete assembly, the openings can help improve building envelope-thermal and air leakage performance.

The 175,000 square-foot building, located on the east side of Third Avenue between 6th and 7th Streets, features laboratories, studios, classrooms, lounges, offices and several public spaces. The facility is 40% more energy efficient than a standard building of its type and is built with renewable, recycled and low emission materials.