

# PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



## Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University: MicaPlex

Heavy-Duty Solutions Help Innovators Aim High

### CHALLENGE

When Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University decided to construct a new research laboratory building on its Daytona Beach, FL campus, it was thinking big. The MicaPlex (named for former Florida senator John Mica) would serve as an innovation space not only for students, but for community entrepreneurs as well. Given that the types of research and experimentation that would occur in the space would be as varied as it would be high-tech, it would require high-end, heavy-duty products that could stand up to the substantial weights of things like lathes, motors and other engineered products. What's more, storage of components would need to be strong, secure and sustainable over the long term.

### SOLUTION

To deliver a STEM lab experience that was both well-designed and strong enough to stand up to the heavy weights of motors and similar machinery, Rousseau work tables and benches were added throughout the building – in 20 rooms in all, to be specific. Designed to make the lab workspaces functional and organized, they were ordered in several modular configurations to meet the diverse needs of both the individual spaces in which they were installed and the singular needs of those using them.

In addition to the heavy-duty work tables and benches, the MicaPlex was also outfitted with Rousseau work benches and R & L cabinets, along with Global lab chairs and chemical cabinets.

### ACHIEVEMENT

*Today, the MicaPlex serves as the nexus between Embry-Riddle's intellectual and technological resources. Serving as a research and experimental laboratory for both students and start-up entrepreneurs, it is facilitating studies and hands-on learning opportunities that are helping shape the aeronautical world of tomorrow.*

*"We are really happy with the Rousseau product. It's super strong and probably better than anyone expected," said Marie Jones, the university's manager of interior design and planning. "It's probably the nicest product on the market; therefore, it's a great product for us because this really is a showplace facility for us. We host a lot of tours, whether they're for students, faculty, or even our sponsors, donors and trustees. It's nice to have a beautiful product. We are very happy."*



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