



Sun Communities

MAILROOM MOVES TO FRONT-OF-HOUSE

Sun Communities is a premier provider of manufactured home communities and RV resorts with a portfolio of over 90,000 sites across 30 states. Carla Szpunar of Interior Components re-imagined a mailroom from the ground up for Sun's corporate office. The mailroom receives a high volume of packages every day. Each community is responsible for gathering incoming deliveries for their department and preparing a large quantity of outgoing packages and letters.

"One of my guiding principles," says Carla, "is that I am not just out to sell the most furniture. My goal is to reduce the number of steps required by my client's employees to complete their tasks."

Through careful observation and planning, Carla greatly increased work flow efficiencies. In the past, UPS and FedEx boxes were received and stored at the reception desk. Carla specified a thruwall from reception to the mailroom lined with vertical storage to house incoming and outgoing packages. She divided the mailroom proper into two rooms based upon operations. The front delivery room features a work island, a multitude of mail slots, and both covered and open storage. Functions and machinery associated with preparing packages for shipping are housed in the back room.

This new mailroom was relocated adjacent to the reception area.

Positioned in prime real estate, the mailroom now needed to reflect

the aesthetic and materials standards set by the building's existing interiors. "Sun Communities follows the latest interior trends with quality products for a top-notch environment," says Carla. "This mailroom was not going to be anything less despite the high traffic."

To achieve that objective, Carla made inventive use of materials. Mismatching the upper and base cabinet laminates added a contemporary drama to the rooms. Carla spec'd Nevamar Laminate Silver Alu Metalx for the upper cabinets coordinated with Lamin-Art's sophisticated Canyon Live Oak for the base. She also chose to run the grain of the laminates horizontally. The star of the rooms, however, is the solid surfacing. After extensive research, Carla finally decided upon Formica's Luna Storm. "Because it was so important, my biggest challenge was finding a solid surface that would perform well under heavy use and provide a focal point for this dynamic space."

Working together with the architect and her client, Carla delivered a HAMILTON mailroom system that is innovative, highly functional and grand.

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