Arcturis
St. Louis, Missouri

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Based in St. Louis, Arcturis is a full-service architectural and interior design firm specializing in planning, creating, and managing work environments. When it was time to consider meeting room design in its new 30,000 square foot headquarters, Arcturis turned to Conference Technologies, Inc.® (CTI), a leading Midwestern integration company.

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The new Arcturis headquarters is located downtown in a large high rise building, and includes Crestron control in six meeting spaces, including a boardroom / client presentation room, a larger multi-purpose room and an employee gathering area. With more than 20 LEED® accredited professionals on staff, sustainable practices are a priority for the firm, and, according to Senior Marketing Associate Buffy Flemming, "we try to incorporate them in every project we work on."

To support the needs of Arturis employees – active users of meeting rooms and meeting room AV – CTI specified a Crestron TPMC-8X wireless touchpanel, QuickMedia® (QM) AV transport technology and iLux® integrated lighting systems. Each iLux supports daylight harvesting, with six channels of dimming or switching and six groups of shade and drape control. The TPMC-8X is the user interface for the AV and lighting systems, and docking stations are located near each entrance door, where the panel can be docked for charging and in-wall use, or popped out and used as a mobile control device.

Julie Finocchio, in charge of meeting room implementation for Arcturis, says the new space not only to houses their growing staff, but serves as a standard for meeting room technologies. "We believe in these technologies and want to show our clients how we can incorporate them into their designs."

CTI AV contractor Steve Reust says his firm used Crestron QM to distribute the video and audio signals throughout the facility because it is so easy to install and use. "All of the rooms at Arcturis are setup so they are very easy to reconfigure for different purposes," Reust says. "The boardroom tends to stay

in a conferencing style, but even this room can be arranged in various seating arrangements, which can affect how the AV is used. QM – being a single cable solution – simplifies those changes." CTI engineer Eric Snider explains that "Crestron QuickMedia allows us to run the QM cable and a telephone line from the connectors in the tables to those in the floor, which can be unplugged quickly when they want to move the tables around." The boardroom system includes a dedicated PC, two laptop inputs, a Blu-ray player, and an audioconferencing system using a Crestron amplifier, eight wireless table microphones and four additional microphones in the ceiling.

With seating for 18 people, the boardroom uses two 65" flat panel displays, one at each end of the conference table, to show computer and video images. "No matter where you're sitting, you can see the presentation clearly," says Flemming, "even when someone puts up a screen with small text." Via the touchpanel, a presenter can even route separate computer or video sources to each display. The large multipurpose room, with seating for 45, is regularly set up in different configurations and even emptied of furniture for weekly employee yoga classes. CTI installed a 4000-lumen SXGA projection system, dedicated PC, laptop connections, sound system and Blu-ray player here.

The employee meeting area, which includes a kitchen and break room, multimedia room and Wii game room, can serve as a single, open space or be partitioned. Its multiple displays and sound system can be combined or separated with the press of a button on the TPMC-8X.

"Nobody can integrate like Crestron," states Bruce McCoy of St. Louis-based lighting contractor Lighting Associates, Inc. "We can integrate the Crestron processors seamlessly, without any of the communication or compatibility issues we'd run into using something else. No other lighting or control company has the capabilities they have." Arcturis' Flemming agrees. "We've received significant kudos from clients, new and old, being able to see not only what we're presenting, but the way we work with technology. I've heard a client say, on more than one occasion, 'Oh, this is great. We need something like this in our new building.'"