Hartranft

Recent Projects

Charlotte Douglas International Airport Rental Car Facility Deck Charlotte, NC

Architects: The Wilson Group and LS3P

Lighting Designer: Hartranft Lighting Design

Charlotte Douglas International Airport is the eighth largest airport in the US for passengers, and seventh busiest airport in the world for overall operations.

In 2003, the airport made a pivotal decision, the millions of square feet of garage space planned to be designed over the next 12 years would be architecturally innovative, providing an iconic design statement at the entry points to the airport.

In 2006, the first "blue" garages with blue LEDs chasing around helixes, made their debut, providing Charlotte Airport with what became an easily recognizable feature.

Fast forward to 2011 and three new garages later. Same architectural approach, but

Washington, DC Charlotte, NC Boston, MA

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with new technologies available, a location directly across from the airport, and a rental car facility included in the scope.

Custom blue LED surface mounted spots backlight the curved, perforated metal skin. Blue LED dots of light are mounted in the castellations of the helix, and are programmed to continually chase.

The challenge: differentiation with continuity. Hartranft Lighting Design was hired to take its initial design concepts a step farther, using the most up-to-date technologies, and adding architectural features, including stairs with glowing acrylic panels underneath, large custom ribbons of color at stair and elevators for wayfinding, and large support columns with crisp, continuous inset lines of light. The rental car facility softly illuminated with blue LED lighting on surfaces and white light at circulation and counters becomes a relaxing oasis for weary, stressed travelers.

