

**Category 5:** Best Building Project – Specialty Contractor (\$2 - \$6 Million)  
**Specialty Contractor:** Hunt Electric, Inc.  
**Project Name:** 50Fifty Syracuse, Denver, CO

As the City of Denver and Metro Area continues to grow, in the heart of the Denver Tech Center a building of a different caliber was designed and constructed. Based on a unique vision and inspiration of “sailing” the dream of 50Fifty Syracuse became a reality. When the vision started, the team was challenged with a complex and unique goal when the owner stated, “I’m not interested in creating just another building”. This challenge dictated an immediate out-of-the-box thought process that only a “team” working together with detailed collaboration and foresight could accomplish. With this goal, along with a defined budget, the team decided early on that the delivery method must be Design-Build and selecting the right partners for the team would be critical for this building to be special.

After originally being selected as the Design-Build partner for the electrical scope of work, Hunt Electric’s performance on the Electric Design expanded into Design-Build roles which also encompassed Low Voltage, Security, Access Control and Audio Visual. Hunt Electric’s job on this team was to make near impossible visions a reality and execute the project in a cost-effective manner. In the end, Hunt Electric was associated with every facet of the building. The result was achieving the goal the team set out for, 50Fifty Syracuse isn’t “just another building”, it is a Class A 12-story (with 2 levels of below grade parking), 187,000 square foot milestone in the heart of the Denver Tech Center.

### **Solutions of Special Projects**

Early on, Hunt Electric recognized several key challenges which would need to be overcome to successfully deliver the project to the owner and meet all expectations. A primary challenge was utilizing exterior lighting to make the unique vision of “sailing” stand out. With an extremely complex façade, Hunt Electric was to design a lighting system for the exterior of the building to mimic the uniqueness of the façade while keeping the lighting concealed. With the curtain wall panels being manufactured in Ohio and shipped to site for immediate installation, this coordination was required to be perfect. Lighting was selected and designed to fit within 1/16 of an inch of the curtain wall channel. Meticulous coordination had to be done to ensure as the panels arrived onsite, the lights could be installed within the channel, the cabling from the lights

could be fed through the wall and then connected later. Because this process was so critical to the project, a life-size mockup was built offsite to not only mimic the installation which would be performed onsite, but to verify the installation met the intense building standards and appearance. In many buildings, this type of product is installed linearly or horizontally in a straight line. What makes this installation incredibly unique was that these lights are scattered in 13' increments in 64 coordinated locations. These locations were designed on the exterior, but also carry through into two light wells in the interior of the building from Level 7 to the roof and provide the tenants with a unique aspect from any location of the building. With the panels arriving daily and immediately being flown into place, Hunt Electric's crew had to be well coordinated with the other trades involved to ensure every panel was executed immediately with lighting trim, but also confirming no panels were missed. With detailed design, coordination and execution, the exterior façade lighting is one of the major contributions to the 50Fifty exterior that makes this building unique to Denver.

The Design team then took this unique approach of the exterior to the Porte Cochere, Lobby and Public spaces. Curved, linear LED lighting was implemented in all areas across ceilings, down walls and unique lighting features were implemented in-grade throughout. This process required more meticulous planning and details with all finishes during the design and installation phases. With details throughout these areas drawn to the exact measurements, additional mock-ups were built to review not only how the lighting coordinated with the finishes, but color temperatures of the lights were tested to ensure everything was perfect. Can Lights and Troffers would be "just another building". The lighting designed and implemented in this project was, and is, unparalleled for this type of building in this region.

### **Excellence in Project Executions and Management/Team Approach**

Hunt's Electrical Design started with the end goal in mind. During the Design phase, the Electrical Design was drawn in Revit® and incorporated into a fully coordinated BIM model. With the unique locations and curvature of our installations, Hunt utilized the latest technologies from the start to accomplish a coordinated onsite installation throughout. For projects of this detail, extensive technology no longer stops at the Design Team's desk. The detailed model was brought to life during the installations while utilizing the latest software in the installers hands

utilizing job boxes with large monitors, tablets and other devices to ensure all information was available to the electricians onsite. Utilizing these tools, garage lights were laid out and installed with the latest Trimble® software and all other installations were meticulously detailed and installed. The Electrical Service was designed as a 4,000 Amp service that was efficiently distributed throughout the building utilizing a coordinated busduct system. Unique practices were made to transfer this service through the parking levels, maintaining fire ratings and access while not conflicting with structural elements or reducing parking spaces. Redundant tele/data feeds were designed into the building to the MDF to allow future tenants the comfort of knowing that if an incoming feed was damaged, business would continue as usual. Security systems were designed and installed to give tenants security throughout the facility preventing un-authorized access while still allowing tenants to operate efficiently during business hours.

As with any high rise, local codes present their own uniqueness to each facility. With a generator located inside the building, a coordinated design had to take place to ensure fuel storage and remote fueling with exhaust and risers all coordinated and implemented while not being obvious to the public. The concealment of this equipment was important to the owner. These requirements presented challenges this experienced team never faltered upon. Extensive Fire Alarm, rescue Assist and Radio Amplification systems provide this building with the life safety features to protect the tenants and the building.

### **Construction Innovation/State of the Art Advancement**

To meet the demands of the project, Hunt Electric formulated a plan to reduce the work onsite by prefabricating many of the electrical installations at our offsite facility in Littleton, Colorado. By implementing 'just in time' delivery of the assemblies, Hunt was able to maximize production onsite with minimal waste, all while incorporating the latest technologies into the prefabricated electrical assemblies. With the challenges associated with a zero-lot line development and high-rise construction, packaging that was easy to handle, could be transported to the proper area, and installed immediately, was used. Utilizing the Revit® design along with Trimble® machines onsite and electronic communication to the installers, the prefab installation on this project was seamless from the start of design to completion.

## **Environmental/Safety**

From the onset, LEED Gold was set as the goal for the project. Hunt utilized technology and the latest advancements in the industry to not only achieve the LEED Gold status but provide the building tenants a new-age experience while in the building. An intricate lighting control system was designed to incorporate daylight harvesting, motion sensors, and timing functions to allow for an efficient lighting system throughout the parking garage, public areas and building exterior. ALL light fixtures within the building are the latest in LED technology.

High rise construction in the elements of Colorado provides its own unique set of challenges throughout the year. Hunt Electric's attention to safety at 50Fifty contributed to the achievement of our corporate milestone of exceeding 5 million manhours without a lost time injury incident. Our onsite team met several times a day and planned their activities in detail taking into consideration all aspects of site conditions. With the hazards of today's construction environment, all personnel were trained prior to, during and after all tasks were performed.

## **Excellence in Client Service and/or Contribution to the Community**

Hunt Electric played an integral role in meeting the customer's requirements as attested by Kristen Tonsager, Clutch Design Studio's Head of Interior Design: "Hunt brought multiple Lighting packages and options as solutions to the table. Hunt stated, "*We know what you want, and this is how we're going to get there.*" We really relied on them to get through the submittal process to make sure the design and vision wasn't sacrificed. Utilizing lighting at the forefront of the design was used in this project to push the envelope in all surfaces and plains for it to be an all-encompassing experience as part of the design in lieu of just highlighting it in the project as an after-thought."









