



PRESS RELEASE
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Shen Milsom & Wilke Joins Project Team for Nanoscale Research Institute: Innovative, Low-Vibration Design to Protect Delicate Equipment

San Francisco, CA – Shen Milsom & Wilke is joining the project team for the California NanoSystems Institute (CNSI), being designed by Rafael Viñoly Architects. The CNSI is the first of four major science initiatives being funded by the State of California. Located on the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) campus, the CNSI is a partnership between UCLA, the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB), and private industry.

As the name implies, CNSI will focus on scientific research at the nanoscale – one nanometer equals one billionth of a meter. This atom-by-atom manipulation of structures is used in a wide range of applications ranging from health care to computing to lighting.

SM&W's goal is a stable, low vibration, and low noise environment in areas housing ultra-sensitive equipment, such as electron microscopes, electron beam and optical lithography tools. Critical areas include electron microscopy suites; low-noise physics laboratories; a state-of-the-art clean room; numerous engineering, chemistry and biology laboratories; an optical scanning suite; an MRI suite; a cyclotron, and a CT and PET scan suite. The company will also provide acoustic consulting on the building auditorium.

Working with Viñoly, SM&W is creating specially designed floors to support vibration-sensitive processes and equipment. The special floors are necessary because these sensitive areas are in close proximity to sources of substantial vibration — from occupants and mechanical systems. For example, some sensitive areas will be located below grade near traffic, loading dock activities, and mechanical systems. These areas will be built atop floor slabs that isolate external vibration sources. The clean room will rest on a stiff, vibration-damping concrete waffle slab sitting on a grid of closely spaced columns.

The building must also meet vibration performance criteria for laboratory spaces situated over a parking structure and with a clear span of almost 200 feet.

In addition to acoustical consulting services, SM&W will be providing telecommunications infrastructure, cable, and multimedia systems design and specifications to support experimental, teaching, analytical, manufacturing and computational functions.

About Shen Milsom & Wilke, Inc.

Shen Milsom & Wilke is an international technology consulting practice founded in 1986, with offices in New York, Princeton, Washington DC, Chicago, Houston, Denver, San Francisco, Las Vegas, London and Hong Kong, and a staff of more than 140 professionals. SM&W offers comprehensive services in the areas of telecommunications, audiovisual/multimedia, trading floor technologies, and acoustics. The firm provides design, engineering and project management for projects anywhere in the world. SM&W has been in business since 1986 and was named one of the 100 fastest growing A/E/P and environmental consulting firms in the nation by Zweig White & Associates for the years 2001 and 2002.

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