

## *Effect of Office Design on Organisational Productivity*

### *Objectives*

To determine how the design and operation of the indoor environment (acoustics, lighting, indoor air quality, and office design) affect organizational productivity, through their effects on building occupants (e.g., satisfaction, health and well-being, task performance, job retention, organizational commitment).

### *Background*

Office buildings are the most common type of workplace, with the majority of people working in open-plan offices. Because an increasing share of Canada's GDP is generated by businesses operating within an office setting, knowing how office design and operation affect occupants and organizational productivity is of great importance.

### *Statement of Work*

- Compiled information from scientific research on how acoustics, lighting, indoor air quality, and office design affect outcomes that are linked to organizational productivity (e.g., occupant satisfaction, task performance, job retention, health).
- Included results from IRC's Cost-effective Open-Plan Environments (COPE) research project and other IRC research.
- Analyzed and distilled this information into practical form for office managers and owners in the form of advice on how to design open-plan offices that are conducive to occupant satisfaction and organizational productivity.

### *Outcomes*

Design recommendations for improving office environments, summarized in a booklet *Workstation Design for Organizational Productivity*.

### *Partner*

Public Works and Government Services Canada

### *Start/Expected Completion Dates*

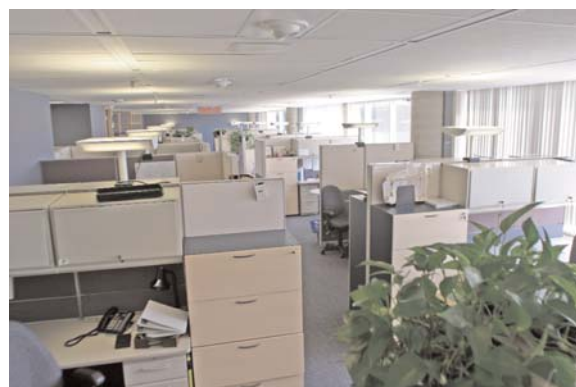
The project began in 2002 and was completed in 2005.

### *Project Manager*

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For more information see [http://irc.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/ie/iaq/factsheet7\\_e.html](http://irc.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/ie/iaq/factsheet7_e.html)

*Factsheet 7, May 2006*



*A Typical Open-Plan Office*