

One Bala Plaza

Bala Cynwyd, PA

Facades 

Project Details

Owner

Tishman Speyer

General Contractor

DJ Keating

Architect

McGillin Architecture Inc.

Building Type

Office Building

Onsite Assembly Date

October 2019

Panel Type

StoPanel® Classic NEXt ci

Project Overview

Built in 1965, One Bala Plaza was an aging, poorly insulated office building. Its restoration included 40,000 sq.ft. of custom-engineered StoPanel® Classic NEXt ci panels installed over the existing façade, delivering a fresh look and vastly improved thermal performance.

Job Requirements

A poorly insulated building is not going to cut it in Pennsylvania. The tenants at One Bala Plaza were suffering through summer heat and winter cold. An update was needed to address occupant comfort and energy efficiency. While the lower floors could get by with new thermal windows and some patching, stories three through six were in such a state of disrepair that they needed a drastic overhaul and a creative solution. To further complicate matters, there were irregularities in the existing precast concrete structure, and the building's curved contours meant that standard panel sizes and shapes could not be employed. In addition, the building was fully occupied by those uncomfortable tenants during renovation.

Smart Solution

The crumbling upper floors needed a major facelift, and Jersey Panel gave them an entirely new face. The team decided to build a completely new exterior facade right over the existing structure. Steel angles were bolted along the entire perimeter of the building, then the StoPanel® system and the new double-glazed ribbon windows were mounted in-between. To avoid disturbing tenants, Jersey Panel limited installation to third shift and Saturdays. And by fabricating at Jersey Panel's off-site facility, installation was complete in only 3 months, further minimizing disruptions. Each StoPanel Classic NEXt ci panel was constructed from metal studs, continuous insulation and StoGuard® waterproof air barrier resulting in year-round comfort for the One Bala tenants. To address the building's peculiarities and irregularities, Jersey Panel referred to the original building's drawings, using them to create fully custom panels, most of which were curved to account for the building's contours.

