

Surfaces

EDITOR'S NOTE:

For brokers and owners of office buildings, constructing "spec suites" as ready-to-occupy office spaces can be a no-fail way to lease out commercial buildings—if they are designed well. In fact, spec suites or "marketing suites," as they are known—spaces built out by a building owner for the purpose of marketing a vacant suite or floor—"are growing in popularity and in size," says the *Colorado Real Estate Journal*, "with new projects devoting entire floors and buildings to spec space." Important rules to follow? Create a memorable image; be sure to achieve a balanced look; accentuate the positives. "It's critical to emphasize the positives for these spaces," says Dyer Brown's senior architect Karen Bala, AIA, LEED AP—who has designed dozens of spec suites—"and add better finishes and lighting to make less appealing spaces more marketable."



Móz Metal Wall Installations

1 LIGHT 'N' LIVELY

Large-scale Móz metal wall installations were part of a multi-million dollar renovation at the historic Hilton Boston/Dedham Hotel. The renovated lobby now features a backlit laser cut metal wall feature behind the front desk and a floor-to-ceiling panel wall feature above the central fireplace. The decorative nature of the feature walls, combined with metal's high reflectance values brings the lobby to life.

Móz

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As we enter deeper into the 21st century, the role of the architect is surely evolving, and practitioners must learn to adapt and become more flexible — possibly even embracing and not just traditionally defined roles.

The new facade with Studio Hill, Jason Beyer, who found himself in the developer's seat to fulfill his dream of "regional" housing — only to find himself in business with former competitors to continue the journey.



JASON BEYER'S INTERVIEW

THE MISSING MIDDLE

