

In Brief:

- Space planning and furnishing a 40,000 square-foot building.
- Diverse end-users meant spaces had to be highly configurable.
- Premium look, feel and build quality essential.

Outcomes:

- World-class workspaces ideal for knowledge-based businesses.
- Flexible workspaces allow rooms to be customized for various uses.
- Project delivered on-time and on-budget thanks to logistical expertise and careful planning.

About the Client:

Unique to the Caribbean, Cayman





Enterprise City (CEC) offers a welcoming and nurturing environment and access to a vibrant business community. Designed for businesses of all sizes and stages, companies from around the globe are able to establish a physical presence within CEC's award winning special economic zones (SEZs) including Cayman Tech City, Cayman Commodities & Derivatives Centre and Cayman Maritime & Aviation City.

The Challenge:

Signal House is the first of several buildings planned as part of the 53-acre mixed-use campus development that will be home to the more than 300 clients CEC serves. With a diverse client base, CEC needed workspaces that would accommodate different work styles and office settings. As CEO Charlie Kirkconnell explains: "We needed a flexible solution. If we furnished the space with furniture that was not functional in the way our clients require, that impacts the quality of the overall experience. We explained to Kirk Office what we wanted, and they worked with us through many iterations to arrive at a result that I think our clients will be very impressed with and creates the type of working environment that a knowledge and technology focused business expects."



Launch Labs Co-Working Space at CEC's Signal House.

Spaces that foster collaboration among member companies were vital to fulfilling CEC's vision of being an offshore hub for knowledge-based industries. Mr. Kirkconnell goes on to explain the importance of aligning the workspaces with the ways that modern businesses work: "That's the whole concept behind the special economic zone... we're building an ecosystem; we're building a community and Signal House is our first permanent step in the evolution of our project. Opening Signal House is very important so that our clients can network and engage with each other in a meaningful way."

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Charlie Kirkconnell Chief Executive Officer, Cayman Enterprise City







Kirk Office Approach:

Recognizing the need for a flexible space that was geared toward knowledge-based businesses, the experts at Kirk Office worked very closely with local designer Design Cayman to tailor each of the spaces at Signal House to be highly customizable. CEC Chief Development Officer Cindy Ohara stressed the importance of aligning a building's furnishings with the various use cases for a space: "Having rooms designed for more than one purpose was very important to us... our clients can come into any of these shared spaces, have a full coffee setup, or have lunch organized and have the room configured according to those needs. This lets us personalize each space for each client, even though they are shared spaces."

With this priority in mind, Kirk Office curated a selection of furnishings that could be easily moved and reconfigured. Then working alongside Design Cayman, created a layout for various spaces including a boardroom, auditorium, café, open office, touchdown spaces for impromptu meetings and even sound-proof "Hush booths" strategically placed throughout the building to offer a place to work or have a meeting without disturbing or being disturbed by those working in the open spaces. What's more, Kirk Office provided end-to-end services to compliment the furniture selections which, as Ms. Ohara explains, is vital to transforming a space plan into reality: "Installation, care of detail and having someone who is going to stand behind the product... all of these things matter to us".

Results:

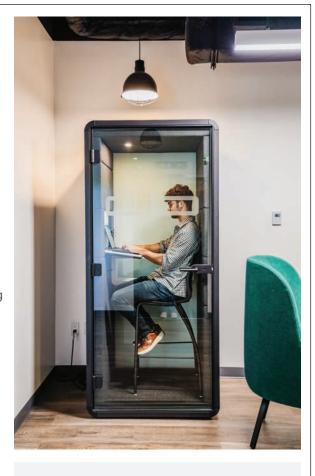
Signal House opened to CEC clients in the summer of 2024 and the businesses that call it home are thrilled with the look, feel and functionality of the building. With a multitude of workspaces ranging from informal touchdown areas to private offices, Signal House offers technology and knowledge-based businesses an environment that facilitates collaboration and productivity.

CEC is also delighted with the outcome and for the support they received every step of the way from Kirk Office. "With this furniture, we got exactly what we wanted within the budget that we set, which is pretty unheard of" said Cindy Ohara.

Scan the QR code to view the full gallery for this project:

https://kirkoffice.ky/project-gallery-cayman-enterprise-city/





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