

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base

DAYTON, OH



GRINNELL SOLUTIONS:	HVAC & PLUMBING SYSTEMS, USING STEEL AND COPPER 2 TO 16 IN. GROOVED
CONTRACTOR:	KIRK WILLIAMS COMPANY
TYPE OF BUILDING:	AIR FORCE BASE/MEDICAL LAB
INDUSTRY VERTICAL:	GOVERNMENT MILITARY

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– Rich Null, Kirk Williams Company

GRINNELL Mechanical Products, a premium brand of Tyco International, worked with the Kirk Williams Company to aid with the construction of a 680,000-square-foot complex on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. According to Mark Yates, chief of the Louisville District’s contracting division, this was “the largest single military construction contract award in the Louisville District’s history.” By using GRINNELL Grooved Products on the HVAC and plumbing systems, this aggressive 24-month project was completed on time, with reduced labor costs.

Located in the northeastern corner of the base, this massive complex includes the newly established 711 Human Performance Wing, as well as the Navy’s Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory and the Air Force’s Physiological Training Unit. Upon completion in late 2010, it became the first human-centric warfare wing to consolidate research, education and consultation under a single organization.

The Kirk Williams Company, a Columbus-based mechanical contracting company, included GRINNELL Grooved Products and Services as part of their bid, and was chosen for the project. Because Kirk Williams had worked with GRINNELL products previously, company personnel knew that GRINNELL Products’ unique grooved couplings and fittings design and top-notch GRINNELL Mechanical Services (GMS) team would be assets on this demanding project. “We chose GRINNELL Products for the grooved piping systems in part because they were able to draft the Mechanical Equipment Rooms for us, enabling our drafting department to focus on the core areas of the building and keep up with the aggressive MEP coordination schedule,” said Rich Null of Kirk Williams Company.

The GRINNELL Mechanical Services (GMS) team was jointly responsible with

Kirk Williams for the design of the facility’s hydronic hot-water system, air conditioning system, and overall plumbing system. GMS created a 3-D map that outlined the needed materials and specified every detail that would enable the pipes to be fabricated in a controlled environment, labeled and tagged, and shipped directly to the site.

The enormous facility was designed to house numerous laboratories with highly technical and secure equipment, which drove the infrastructure’s design. Because the Department of Defense had placed a strict two-year timeframe on the construction with costly penalties for missing deadlines, construction had to move forward even before final designs were completed.

“This was a large-scale project that was completed in record time,” said the Senior Product Manager for GRINNELL Mechanical Products, Michael Bedzyk. “Because of the pace and strict guidelines, design changes were being made all along the way.”

By using grooved products instead of soldering or welding, labor costs were dramatically reduced. At the outset of this project, there were more than 40 plumbers and pipe fitters onsite at all times. In the last 12 months of construction, that number was cut in half.

“We are proud of how our team performed on this project,” said J.K. Williams, owner of Kirk Williams Company. “To successfully complete a job of this magnitude under design, build and fast-track conditions is a testament to our organization and to our partners on the project like GRINNELL Mechanical Products. We look forward to working with all of the parties involved again in the future.”

BUILDING MATERIALS:

STEEL & COPPER

SIZES:

2" - 16"
(50.8mm – 406.4mm)

CERTIFICATIONS & APPROVALS:

UL/FM & NSF-61



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