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The Stubbins Associates Receives BusinessWeek/Architectural Record 2007 Award for Design Excellence for Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research
Design firm converts candy factory into cutting-edge research center

CAMBRIDGE, MA – October 1, 2006 - The Stubbins Associates has received the Business Week/Architectural Record award for design excellence for the conversion of the former Necco candy factory in Cambridge into state-of-the-art research laboratories for the Novartis Institute for Biomedical Research (NIBRI). This award is unique in that it specifically recognizes high quality design projects that also contribute to the business mission of the client in a unique or innovative way. The award will be presented at a special ceremony in New York on October 11.

The “Novartis/Necco” project comprises 500,000 SF of high-tech research laboratories, support space, offices, and amenities including an auditorium and café. It was also honored as the “Lab of the Year” in 2005. Delivered on an extremely fast-track schedule, the project was designed, documented, constructed and commissioned in only 18 months, and now serves as the global headquarters for NIBRI. The design is based on a new strategy of “openness, collaboration, and transparency” in research labs, incorporating several innovations in how the laboratories are designed. Prior to the conversion, the building was the corporate headquarters and primary manufacturing plant for the New England Confectionary Company (Necco), maker of Clark bars, Necco wafers, and Mary Jane taffy.

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