

## Facts & Figures

**Owner:** The Morey Corporation

**Type of Project:** An addition to an existing headquarters facility

**Size:** 27,500 square feet

**Construction Time:** October 2006

- July 2007

**The Need:** A new advanced engineering development center for The Morey Corporation

**The Challenge:** Making sure the addition was the right size to meet current and future needs



**Schmidt Design**  
Architect

**Meridian Design Build LLC**  
General Contractor

**Manhard Consulting, Ltd.**  
Civil Engineers

**Scurto Cement Construction**  
Concrete Contractors



Photo courtesy of The Morey Corporation

Woodridge, Illinois

# The Richard & Gene Morey Innovation Center

The Morey Corporation — one of America's leading electronics manufacturers — recently expanded its corporate headquarters in Woodridge with the addition of The Richard & Gene Morey Innovation Center. According to Ross Clark, marketing coordinator for The Morey Corporation, the new advanced engineering development center is dedicated to new product and process development. It incorporates state-of-the-art laboratory and research facilities as well as production equipment for electronics assembly.

The new two-story addition is connected to the headquarters by a

pedestrian link on both floors, according to Pete Stadler, vice president of Meridian Design Build LLC, the project's general contractor. The addition, which increases the total square footage of the corporate headquarters to more than 121,000 square feet, maintains the basic appearance of the existing facility. However, the overall look of the building is enhanced by striking floor-to-ceiling windows on the front facade, according to Clark.

Large open spaces on both floors were designed "to enhance creativity, foster teamwork and offer flexibility in usage," said Clark. The second floor is dedicated to product development, accommodating office space for the engineering staff and an equal amount of space for support laboratories. Several pieces of heavy-duty qualification testing equipment are located in the partial basement, which leads to an underground parking facility.

According to Clark, the toughest challenge of the project was making sure that the size of the new center was suitable to meet The

Morey Corporation's immediate needs and long-term goals. This challenge was overcome with the creation of a flexible design that will allow The Morey Corporation to maximize the new space and meet changing demands in the future.

Other challenges included grading issues and basement construction. The project team also faced some very difficult weather conditions throughout the project, according to Clark. Despite these hurdles, the team was able to deliver the project under budget.

The new Richard & Gene Morey Innovation Center will significantly improve The Morey Corporation's engineering and development capabilities and increase its global competitiveness. "The Morey Corporation has been expanding [its] technical expertise for the last 10 years" said Clark. "With the addition of the center, [it] can now attract 'top-flight' talent to further enhance [its] technical expertise." ■

— Stacey Nathanson



Photo courtesy of Meridian Design Build LLC