

SBID International Design Awards 2017: Potamus Trading



Category: Office Design Finalist

Design Practice: Elkus Manfredi Architects

Project Title: Potamus Trading

Project Location: Boston, United States

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The design of the new, 15,000-square-foot Potamus headquarters supports the firm's intensive, collaborative culture and serves as a recruitment tool, all while embodying the mix of sophistication, energy, and spirit unique to Potamus. At reception, a life-sized fiberglass hippo – the Potamus symbol representing strategic edge – greets visitors. The hippo's sub-Saharan habitat inspired the materials, textures, and colours, which converge with safari-style furnishings to make a relaxed but professional environment. At the heart of the office, the trading floor – lined with oversized windows offering views to Boston Harbor – provides varied seating options near trading stations, from private conference rooms and offices to comfortable living-room-like seating areas, to support different individual work styles. The sunlit residential-style kitchen is in constant use for meals, impromptu parties, and client entertaining. A wall-size video screen, reception desk that doubles as a DJ booth, and acoustically separate gaming room help employees unwind.

Vanderweil worked as the MEP engineers and technology designers for Potamus Trading.

