

# A Sound Carpet Investment

at Ariba Incorporated

hospitality

Ariba Inc. is a young Internet company in the business of helping clients save money. When it came to commissioning a new California headquarters facility, it's no surprise that designers sought high-tech solutions based on a strong financial foundation.



photo: Sharon Resorphan

The  
**Antron**<sup>®</sup>  
DIFFERENCE

only by INVISTA

photo: Sharon Resorphan

## CASE STUDY:

Ariba Inc., Sunnyvale, CA

hospitality

Ariba evolved on the forefront of the Internet evolution. Providing spend management solutions to high-profile corporate clients since 1996, the company required a headquarters campus to accommodate its rapidly increasing staff. And commensurate with its business services, the project would have to be completed within strict budget requirements.

Architects for Garcia + Francica Architecture/Design quickly began work on designs for the four-building, 715,000-square-foot facility. Growth demand required interior spaces to be largely multi-functional. Even more challenging, those spaces would have to be ready to be occupied within 12 months of the beginning of construction.

As planning evolved, the central campus Café became a critical design component. Hard-working Ariba employees needed a place to break away from the office environment, and the eatery provided an ideal location where they could escape, while continuing to think, meet and engage in productive dialogue.

In addition to serving 250 people during breakfast and lunch, the Café includes an after-hours espresso and juice bar. Further maximizing every square foot of the facility, the space alternatively serves as Ariba's town hall. Simply by rearranging the furniture, the Café was capable of accommodating campus-wide meetings, holding multimedia presentations and serving as an interactive workspace complete with data ports.

Of crucial consideration was the acoustical quality of the 10,000 square feet of open space in the Café. The constant conversation and movement of chairs and people in the dining area was expected to generate significant noise.

With 75% of the design funds needed for kitchen equipment, carpet was singled out as a central design element for its ability to provide multiple solutions. The large one-meter by one-meter carpet tiles provided the warmth and sound absorption the dining area required and quickly became an integral part of the overall scale of the room. Both simple and elegant, the carpet was a dynamic part of the Café design and an interesting foil to the space's articulated ceiling panels.

Since product durability was of key importance, the team selected 100% Antron Lumena® solution dyed nylon. The carpet proved ideal in terms of cleanability, stain resistance and color retention in the busy eating and meeting area and helps meet Ariba's goal of creating a sustainable environment.

The Ariba headquarters carpet solution was so successful that it earned Garcia + Francica Architecture/Design a 2003 Antron® Design Award merit for innovation and originality in commercial interior design. The colorful circular pattern provides the Café with a light and refreshing surface that complements the other Ariba interior finishes. The design sets new standards of creativity, reinforcing the elliptical elements in the company's logo – the boomerang.

The design by Garcia + Francica Architecture/Design ultimately helped establish the Ariba corporate identity, which is one of contemporary, International appeal.

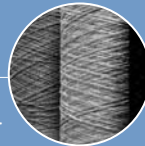
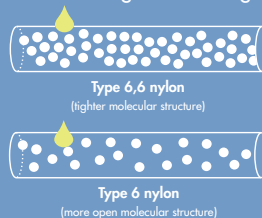
The multicultural look of the new Ariba headquarters has attracted the attention of visitors, and even helped the company sublet space in the facility... and anyone can agree that's a design that makes good business sense.

"Carpet was a key design tool for the cafeteria, integrating color and line, controlling acoustics with soft surfaces and providing easy cleanability."

– Michael Garcia, principal,  
Garcia + Francica Architecture/Design

### Performance

The alignment of the molecular chains in Antron® nylon creates a tighter molecular structure, making it tougher for stains to penetrate and increasing resistance to crushing and matting.



### Sustainability



A carpet that stays on the floor longer is a smart environmental choice. Fewer raw materials are consumed, less energy is used and less waste is generated. This is consistent with the 3 R's of waste reduction – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Antron® offers type 6,6 nylon for carpet because it simply performs better. Antron® is preferred by **2 out of 3** architects, designers, facility managers and owners.\*

\*2003 Antron® Brand Tacking Study

For more information about Antron® carpet fiber, please call 1-877-5-ANTRON or visit [antron.invista.com](http://antron.invista.com).

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