

33 Congress Street Preserves History with Custom Revolving Door and Turnstiles



The City of Boston is known for many things – from Fenway Park to the Boston Marathon to the bar from Cheers, the city is full of iconic landmarks, events, cultural assets, education centers, and more. The City is also recognized for its vast history, especially downtown, where hundred-year-old buildings have been preserved or restored. There is also a mixture of new property development, including 33 Congress Street, in the heart of the financial district, which combines the best of historical design with new construction.

33 Congress incorporates more than 400,000 square feet of office and retail space, transforming the historic neighborhood and positioning the area as a dynamic downtown destination.

“We started the process looking at Boon Edam from a security and an aesthetic standpoint. We have been happy with Boon Edam entrance solutions and we are planning to use them again for future projects.”

-Jason King, Arrowstreet

BOON EDAM

your entry experts

Challenge

Architects sought to upgrade entrance solutions for a modern design that allowed public access, increased security for building employees, and respected several historical aspects.

Solution

An all-glass revolving door and four lanes of slim optical turnstiles were installed to channel the flow of people entering and moving around the building.

Benefits

- Accommodates the high traffic requirements of the 400,000 square foot office and retail space
- Seals the exterior climate from the lobby, creating a calm, quiet, comfortable interior space
- Integrates seamlessly with building design, creating an open and airy lobby space

Blending Historical Features with a Modern Design

According to Jason King, AIA, LEED, AP, BD+C, Senior Associate with Arrowstreet, the 33 Congress Street building consisted of three different structures that were built at separate times: in 1904, 1906, and in 1922 and then all combined into one space. While the space functioned as one building, there were three separate elevator cores, sets of restrooms, sets of stairs, and more. Those entities needed to be reconfigured into one.

Another important project goal was to upgrade the main lobby to a modern design that allowed public access, increased security for building employees, and respected several historical aspects.

“We needed a way to get people into the new, main elevator lobby quickly due to the high volume of traffic that we were anticipating would take place after the redesign,” King said. “We also wanted to create an entrance that would create a better flow of entry from the sidewalk into the building.”

“We were creating an open and airy Class A lobby space and wanted visitors to clearly see the ornate, coffered ceiling and experience the grand and historic nature of the lobby as they entered,” King said.

Revolving Door and Optical Turnstiles Provide Aesthetics and Function

King implemented a Boon Edam Crystal TQ manual revolving door to lead visitors in the double height lobby

space. The Crystal TQ is constructed virtually completely from glass with only a few stainless steel accents to ensure the solidity of the revolving door. It fits seamlessly with modern glass facades but can also be a beautiful eye catcher in more traditional or classic designs.

King installed four lanes of Boon Edam Lifeline Speedlane Swing optical turnstiles and two Winglock Swing model access gates to provide secure employee access to the building’s upper floors. The Lifeline Speedlane Swing turnstile manages and channels the flow of people entering and moving around buildings. It employs sensors that detect visitors approaching, with pulsing light strips to guide the user. A sleep function saves on energy use. It can be customized with dimensional and glass choices, including corporate identity colors or other options, so that it either blends-in or stands-out from its surroundings.

Employees gain access to the building through either the Lifeline turnstiles, or a Winglock Swing access gate, while building visitors can receive credentials at the security desk.

King said, “We started the process looking at Boon Edam from a security and an aesthetic standpoint. We went through multiple product options but always had a Boon Edam product as the basis of the design. We have been happy with Boon Edam entrance solutions and we are planning to use them again for future projects.”

