

COOL TABLE

# Under the Table

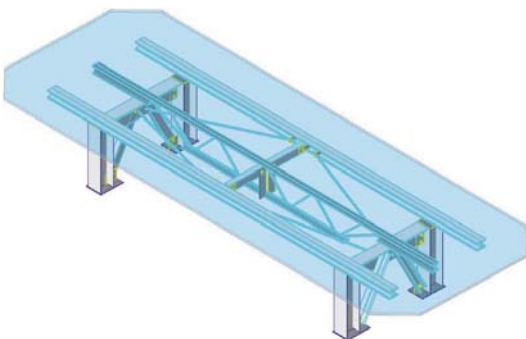
BY WILLIAM P. JACOBS, V, P.E., SDL STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

**DURING OUR RECENT OFFICE RENOVATION** in Atlanta, SDL Structural Engineers decided that a standard conference table was not adequate to truly complement our chosen profession; we needed structural steel! Inspired by a smaller table in the Structures Laboratory at Virginia Tech, the resulting design easily accommodates 16 people and provides a focal point that is both functional and a conversation piece.

The table is supported on each end by a concentric braced frame (R=3, of course) made up of MC3x7.1 bracing members and W6x15 verticals. Spanning between these frames on each side are two sets of MC3x7.1 channels connected together to form wide-flange shapes. The center load-carrying mem-

ber is a 12K1SP joist that was generously donated by Nucor-Vulcraft. (The "SP" designator indicates that the joist was designed for both uniform loading and for two traveling 250-lb point loads—in case a meeting gets out of control). Connections were field bolted with ½-in.-diameter A307 bolts.

The structural glass top surface is composed of two pieces, each ¾ in. thick, with an overall dead load of 1,000 lb. An etched band was added around the perimeter to complete the design. In order to visualize and detail the table for construction, a complete structural model was created in Revit Structure. MSC



Images : Courtesy SDL Structural Engineers

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