

## case study

Project ..... **Integral Group**  
Location..... **Oakland, CA**  
Product..... **DC FlexZone™ grid**

### the challenge:

Integral Group is a deep green engineering firm known for its design of net zero energy buildings. Widely regarded as an industry leader, its corporate mission is to "accelerate the adoption of sustainable building design practices." To help attain that goal, the firm is committed to using innovative systems that lead to high performance building environments.

### the solution:

As evidence of that commitment, the firm recently installed a direct current (DC) power distribution system in its new LEED® Platinum certified office in Oakland, CA. Installed for demonstration purposes, the system currently powers a number of LED and fluorescent lighting fixtures, and is included in the firm's tours of its LEED Platinum interior.

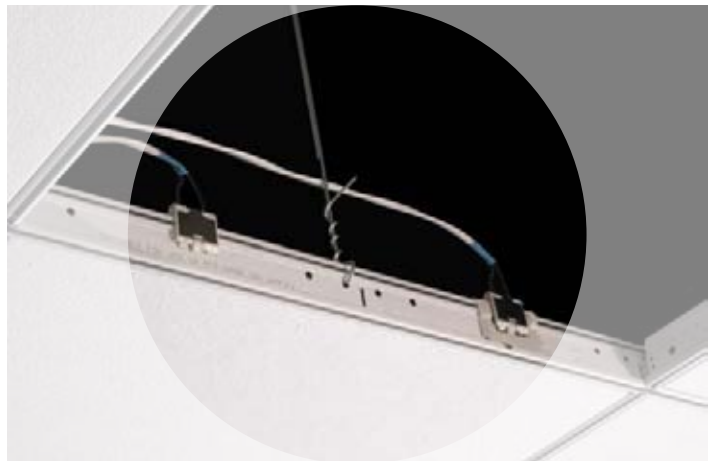
Based on the EMerge Alliance® technology standard for DC power distribution in building interiors, the system features the use of DC FlexZone™ grid, a new ceiling suspension system from Armstrong that has the ability to distribute safe, low voltage DC power to electrical devices in a space.

Other DC grid-compatible components from EMerge Alliance members include power supply modules by Nextek Power Systems, cabling by TE Connectivity, LED and fluorescent fixtures from Lunera Lighting and Focal Point, and lighting controls from Creston.

In addition to its energy-saving potential, the grid system also improves the flexibility and reuse of interior spaces by providing "plug-and-play" capabilities for light fixtures and other low voltage devices. This enables easier reconfigurations without the need to re-wire.

Integral Group Director, Peter Rumsey, states, "We're a forward-thinking company, and believe the DC grid concept is going to take hold, especially in more energy efficient and innovative buildings as owners and architects come to understand it, how it works, and what can be done with it."

"DC grid will be the power distribution system of the future," he continues. "We see it as a potential game-changer for energy efficiency, flexible lighting, and renewable energy, and, as a result, are actively discussing the concept with the highest and most aggressive building developers in the country."



*“DC grid will be the power distribution system of the future.”*



Peter Rumsey, Integral Group Director, West Coast

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