



## CYRK BUILDING

- > 14,500 square feet
- > Ground floor office and retail spaces, upper floor residential
- > LEED Platinum
- > Krownlab's Baldur sliding door hardware

# CYRK: Building a Sustainable, Adaptive Space Mixing Work and Life

By Tim Lane

Photos courtesy of Krownlab



The CYRK Building is a 14,500 square foot commercial and residential building located in southeast Portland. DECA, an independent architecture and interior design studio in Portland, designed it as a live-work environment. The owner maintains a primary residence on the second floor and a business office on the ground floor. An additional 1,200 square feet is set aside on the ground floor for commercial and retail use.

The LEED Platinum-certified building is a pillar of innovative and environmentally focused architecture. The design features a green roof,

solar panels (both PV and hydrogen), a ground-source heat pump, FSC certified lumber, and passive and active solar shading. Krownlab's Baldur sliding door hardware is featured throughout the interior.

"The idea of creating a sustainable live-work building in a close-in, walkable neighborhood seemed like a smart way to use time, space, and resources," said homeowner Bonnie Serkin. "It turns out we were right to consolidate our lives in one beautiful structure just down the street from the rest of our family and only a couple of blocks from restaurants and shops."

For their second-story residence, Serkin wanted a guest wing that offered privacy to their visitors but was an accessible part of their home when vacant.

The DECA team designed a central gallery that connects the main stairwell entry to the dining room and living room. Translucent rolling panels with sliding door hardware allow the adjacent kitchen and guest quarters to be opened or closed to the central gallery. To extend the useful lifespan of the building, the residential level is designed to be easily converted to four smaller living units should the owners decide to move or downsize in the future.

"We designed two sliding resin-panel walls," said DECA principal David Hyman. "One was nine feet long and the other 14 feet long. The large one weighed several hundred pounds and needed to be effortless for any of the homeowners to use. Krownlab's rolling door hardware fit the ticket. It is both beautiful and extremely well-built. With the superb craftsmanship of the hardware, the overall effect was stunning."

The Baldur sliding door hardware system features a custom, industry-unique four-inch hubless bearing. The inspiration for the design came when Krownlab founder, Stefan Andrén, visited the workshop of a friend, and early Krownlab collaborator, Rob Roy. There on a

table in Rob's workshop was an enormous eight-inch bearing. Andrén put his hand through the inner race and rolled it back and forth over the table.

"You could still put your whole hand through the bearing and I was like, hang on a second, there's something here," Andrén said. "I realized you didn't necessarily have to bolt through the center of the bearing like it's originally intended to be used, but you could just clamp a portion of the inner race and get this awesome hubless look."

And, especially important for the CYRK building's massive door panels, the Baldur sliding door hardware system has a hefty 400-pound weight limit.

Hyman and Serkin chose the Baldur sliding door hardware system in brushed stainless. This classic No. 4 directional finish features a hairline, linear graining that is smooth to the touch but adds a sophisticated texture to the hardware.

The massive sliding door panel creates a fluid relationship between spaces and echoes DECA's exterior decks and gardens on the north and south sides to provide a fluid relationship between inside and out. These spaces accommodate a range of activities from small intimate gatherings to larger social events.

Since its completion, the CRYK Building has been recognized for its functionality, sustainable qualities and chic, sophisticated design.

"The CYRK Building has won awards for design excellence," said Hyman. "The Krownlab hardware undoubtedly played a role in helping to obtain that recognition."



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