

# Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP

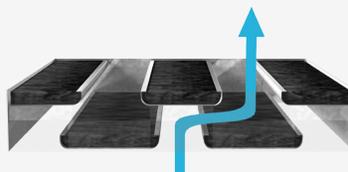
Price Increases Privacy Without Compromising Design

For 28 years, the Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP office has been located in the iconic Atlanta Financial Center building. Taking up seven floors in the east tower, the firm decided it was time to update their space. The new office design would not only reflect their firm's spirit of innovation, but also accommodate their growth and need for additional work space. While refreshing the look of the space, the firm also wanted to ensure a very high level of occupant comfort and not impact speech privacy in their workspace.

Installed TLRD:



TLRD above a return grille



Return airflow through a TLRD

## Project Summary

### PRICE PRODUCTS

Thin Line Return Dissipaters (TLRD)

### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Location: Atlanta, GA

Project Type: Office

Year Completed: 2013

Project Size: 132,000 ft<sup>2</sup> / 7 floors

### DESIGN TEAM

Architect: Gensler

MEP Engineer: Gray & Postell, Inc.

Mechanical Contractor: Maxair Mechanical Inc.

Price Representative: Tom Barrow Company

## The Challenge

### Private & Comfortable Working Space

Speech privacy is a major concern in Class A space and law offices demand additional attention due to the confidential nature of many discussions. Historically, engineers have tried to limit the amount of noise that is transferred between offices and meeting rooms (often referred to as “cross talk”), by using field fabricated lined elbows on top of non-ducted return grilles. These lined elbows are often called “sound boots” and present several challenges. The boots are large and cumbersome, require additional labor for attaching to the deck above, do not fit within tight or shallow ceiling plenums, and do not have performance data.

## The Solution

### Engineered Product

Price provided an engineered solution for low-profile return air requirements: the Thin Line Return Dissipater silencer (TLRD). This air transfer silencer addressed speech privacy concerns, labor and coordination challenges, and allowed for flexible design. The labor reduction was immediately realized when transporting the TLRDs within the building; the customer could only load 3-4 sound boots in an elevator at a time but with TLRDs they were able to load over 10 at a time. Price also worked with the design team and Maxair Mechanical Inc. to have the TLRDs mounted on the back of the return grilles in the factory, further reducing labor time.

Another key benefit of the TLRD is its reduced height, which allows architects the freedom to design higher ceilings. Sound boots are often 24-36" tall; the standard TLRD is only 4" thick. Reducing the overall height of the assembly in the plenum was a huge plus for both the mechanical contractor and other trades that work in the plenum space.

## The Result

### Beautiful, Quiet Offices

Price provided over 350 TLRDs to help the design team create a luxuriously quiet office for Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP. The air distribution system provided a high level of occupant comfort and speech privacy requirements were seamlessly integrated into the overall design.

“The low profile of the TLRDs reduced labor costs by preventing above ceiling space conflicts with ductwork, conduit, and sprinklers, while providing the sound attenuation the owner desired.”

- Mechanical Contractor

## Design Team Profile

### Architect: Gensler

Gensler is a global design firm that partners with clients to make cities more livable, work smarter and leisure more engaging. Gensler is organized to support clients at every stage of the design cycle, from initial strategy and design planning through implementation and management.

### MEP Engineer: Gray & Postell, Inc.

Gray & Postell, Inc. is an Atlanta based professional engineering firm that focuses on providing Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing, Fire Suppression, LEED/ Sustainable, Communications and Security Systems consulting and design services to the building construction industry.

