

University of Washington + Standard Textile

A Productive Partnership



BACKGROUND:

The University of Washington (UW) owns a 22-story, 500,000 square foot commercial office space called the Tower Complex. Built in 1970, the building's original drapery was beginning to draw complaints due to being soiled, outdated, and in some cases, disintegrating. It was clear that a replacement solution was needed.

CHALLENGES:

With nearly 1,000 windows in total, UW determined it was not feasible to complete this project using internal resources. And because the tower complex is an occupied building with minimal storage space, careful coordination with building staff and a

"just-in-time" delivery system would be needed to minimize disruptions.

APPROACH:

As a first step, UW checked with their Procurement Department to see if there was an approved vendor for this category. Standard Textile had just been awarded the E&I Cooperative Contract E100151 for Window Treatments and Other Related Products and Services. This allowed UW to save time and money by using this existing competitively solicited contract.

Standard Textile project managed all phases, from measurement and product delivery to demolition and installation. Weekly meetings with

building management were held to update progress, determine which areas of the building could be tackled next, as well as discussing schedules and time periods when work could commence.



STANDARD
TEXTILE est. 1940



“Our building staff are already busy with routine operations and maintenance. We didn’t have the bandwidth to coordinate a project of this scale. Standard Textile took the time upfront to understand our needs and challenges. And they planned accordingly. The project management and coordination with various vendors and teams was seamless. Communication was frequent and proactive. Overall, this was a very pleasant experience.”



RESULTS:

Demolition and installation were largely completed after hours, and UW was impressed with the efficiency and cleanliness of the various teams involved. **“They were almost invisible. The tenants would leave one afternoon, come in the next morning, and the shades were up. There was no disruption, no dirt, no debris – it really was a seamless process.”**

Overall, the UW team have been thrilled with the end results of the Tower project. They have particularly appreciated how hands-off they’ve been able to be with the project.

In the months since, Standard Textile has completed a number of other window treatment projects around the UW campus, including various academic and athletic buildings.

