CBRE's New Office: Then vs. Now

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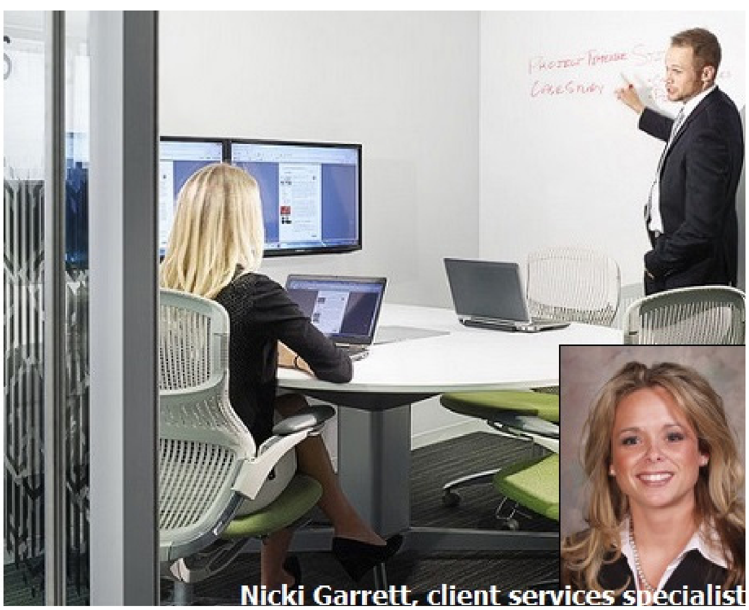
AUTUMN MORNINGSKY

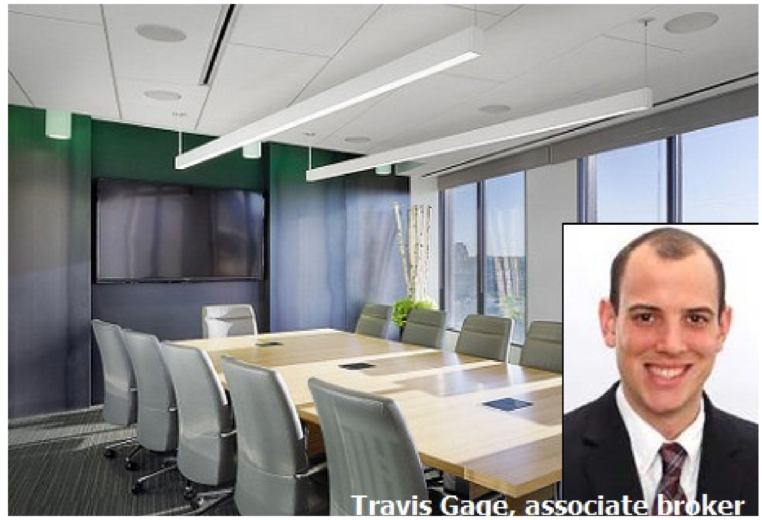
A year ago, the relocation of CBRE's Kansas City office to the American Century II tower came with a reconfiguration of the office into an open layout with shared workspaces – something that seemed like an impossible shift. But fast forward to one year later, and CBRE associates are ushering clients into their office to show off the new, sleek, efficient space, and recommending they take on the same format.



Nicki Garrett, client services specialist

How Has The Shift Of Your Office Contributed To Your Productivity?

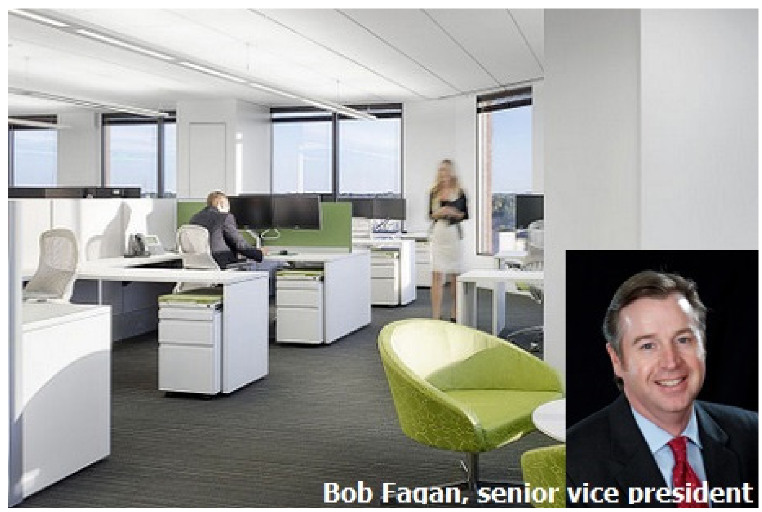
"It's been great, (especially) the ability to pick up my computer and head into a collaboration space with someone else. We can each fire up our computers, work together and accomplish our goals. At the old space, we would have had to meet, take notes, go back and update/work on the project then meet again at a later time. With this set up, we just schedule one meeting and it gets done." –**Nicki Garrett**, client services specialist



Travis Gage, associate broker

What's Your Favorite Element Of The New Office Layout?

"The emphasis that the layout places on cooperation. In our industry interaction and teamwork are fundamental for success. As a newer broker the constant interaction with the senior professionals has been invaluable for my development, whereas in more traditional office environments you see those individuals locking themselves in their offices all day and all of the sudden 6 months into your tenure they still don't even know your name." –**Travis Gage**, associate broker



Bob Fagan, senior vice president

What Was The Toughest Part Of The New Office Configuration To Get Used To?

"The most difficult part was the concept of 'free-addressing' but with the implementation of 'neighborhoods' where business units are assigned an area, the issue has become relative as people matriculate to the same area every day and therefore the same place most of the time.

"The easiest thing to do was to implement the 'paperless' office. Please note that that there is no such thing as 'paperless' but there is such a thing as significantly less paper. I have been in this position for 20 years and opened hard files for each transaction that entire time. In the 12 months we have been in this office we have truly embraced the tools and the training to reduce our paper use. To emphasize this, I have yet to open a hard deal file or add anything to our minimal number of filing cabinets." –**Bob Fagan**, senior vice president