The 4-story, 162,000SF Miller Building at the University of Vermont Medical Center seamlessly integrates with the existing hospital buildings, as well as the adjacent University campus. In addition to the 128 private rooms, team rooms feature space for collaboration between patients, family members, and the care team.
To increase thermal comfort and incorporate natural light into the space, the building uses dynamic electrochromic glass, which automatically adjusts the tint to control glare and reduce heat from the sun throughout the day. The exterior is constructed from limestone, corresponding with the existing hospital buildings.
Entrance to the Emergency Department has been reconfigured so that it is situated in a covered area, providing both emergency vehicles and patients protection from the elements.
The skybridge, illuminated at night, connects the Miller Building to the existing building where the Intensive Care Unit is located. The skybridge creates easy connectivity within the hospital and allows for an improved traffic pattern outside the hospital.
All 128 private patient rooms were planned with designated zones for the care giver, patient, and visitors. These spacious accommodations allow UVMMC staff to provide compassionate care while patients heal in a positive and comfortable environment.
Giving patients more control of their healing environment was a primary goal of the design. All rooms include reading lights, space for personal belongings, convenience outlets and various seating styles for patient and visitor comfort.
Patient lifts are included in each room to assist caregivers in providing every patient with the highest level of care. In total-care patient rooms, the lift can be used for both bedside and toilet room assistance.
Floor-to-ceiling windows with electrochromic glass provide bright views of Lake Champlain and the surrounding area without sacrificing thermal or visual comfort.
The main corridors employ indirect light at the ceiling and below the handrails to provide increased patient comfort during transfers. Chilled beams in the common areas provide energy savings without compromising the ability to adapt the acuity of the patient rooms.
Soft light and airy views soften the aesthetic of the exposed structure in the connecting skybridge between the Miller and McClure buildings.