

HAWORTH

# Reinventing the Workplace to Appeal to Talents

May 2021

**Case Study**  
Cadence Design Systems

**Location**  
Edinburgh, Scotland

**Project type**  
Relocate to create  
an attractive urban  
workspace

**Design firms**  
Form DC  
obo



**“Whilst organisations will still look to leverage their property needs, there is now a greater appreciation of the importance to meet the needs of a diverse global workforce.”**

Gary Helm, obo



## Overview

Cadence is a leading EDA and Intelligent System Design provider delivering hardware, software, and IP for electronic design. The company is headquartered in the US, with offices around the world.

February 2021 saw the company relocate its Edinburgh office, Scotland, from a business park 15 miles west of town to a prime location on Princes Street, overlooking Edinburgh Castle.

As their lease came up for renewal, Cadence decided to review its suitability. In 20 years, Livingston had become their natural gravitational centre, and it was less easy to attract young engineers. “Many industry-leading companies are based in city-centre locations, and we felt that strategically we needed to relocate for our future hiring needs. Of course, these decisions were taken pre-Covid-19, and there has since been much speculation on what a new office environment will look like, and whether city-centre locations will still be as attractive,” says Cadence’s Software Engineering Group Director.

## Specifications:



### Location

Edinburgh, Scotland

### Project specs:

Timeframe of the project: 16 weeks

### Project size

800 sqm

1 floor

70 workstations

## Objective

Create a flexible working environment with an inspiring atmosphere and a modern feel to attract and retain engineers in a competitive environment.

## Solution

A flexible design with adjustable furnishings and open plan, bookable meeting rooms and acoustic pods.

## Result

A bright new office environment, whose design reflects both the technical needs and the individual wishes of the teams, while preserving the facilities’ performance.

## Designing for attracting new talent

The office location is the decision of the local team, though approved by Cadence's global facilities team in terms of cost and function suitability.

Princes Street is one of the major thoroughfares in central Edinburgh and the main shopping street of the capital. Most of the street is limited to public transport and bikes. It represents an outstanding environment for young professionals willing to work in an environmentally friendly place, with many amenities and recreational spots at hands. The interior space, offering a breathtaking view of the city and the castle, was designed to meet the team's preferences. Well-being led, workplace specialists, Obo, provided their vast ever-evolving market knowledge to assist with the design process.

**The new office offers a stunning panoramic view over the city and a bright working environment.**

Focus in the open space is guaranteed on each workstation with a Buzzwrap partition screen from Buzzispace, which provides the desired privacy.

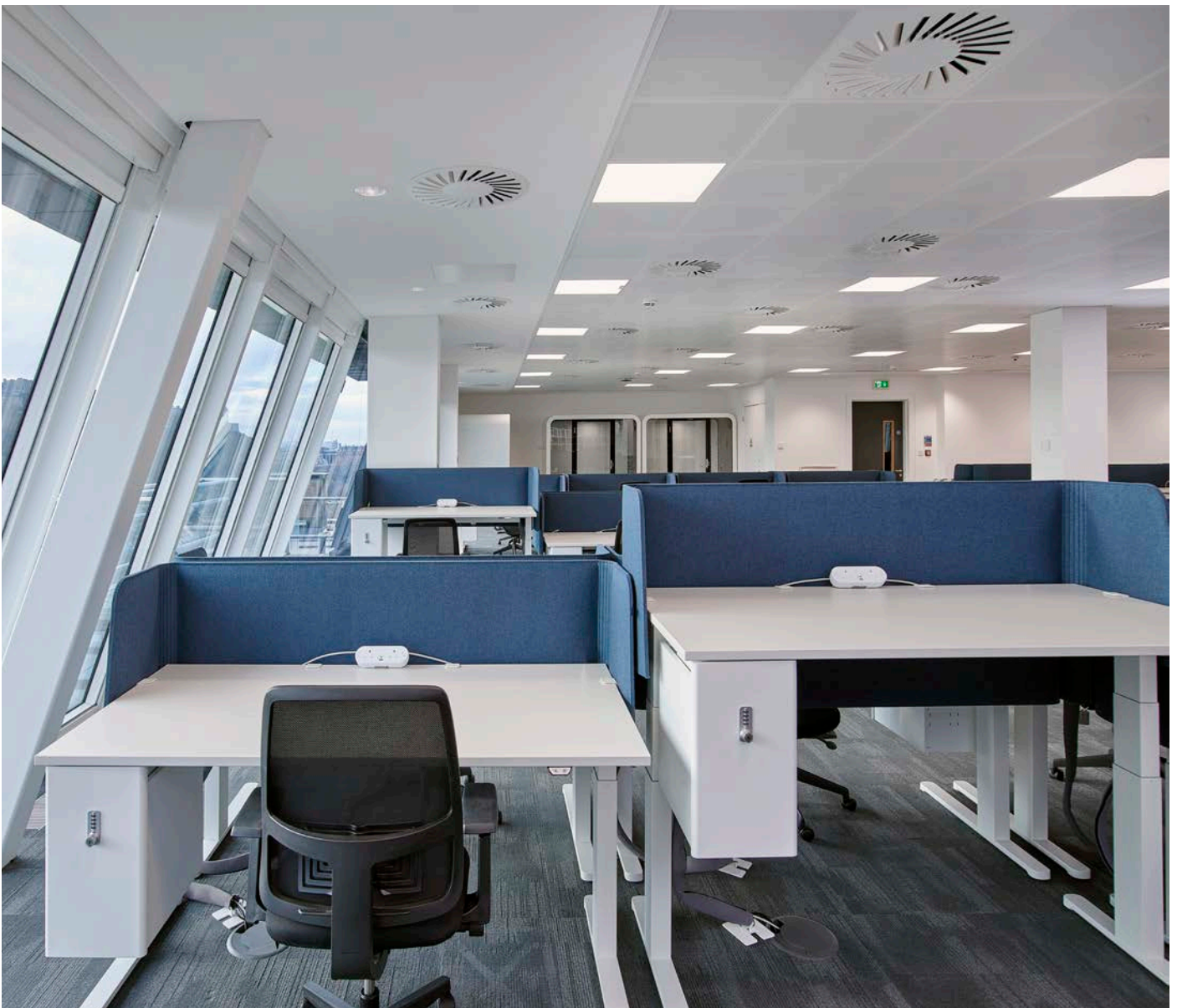


## Designed to meet every need

While collaboration is important at Cadence, the teams have requested individual workstations. The will to create a more flexible working environment resulted in private offices for managers who wanted them, on the basis that these rooms could be reserved for meetings when they were away. Each employee was allocated a fixed desk as opposed to a hot-desk system.

### Ergonomics and personal choice.

Haworth YourPlace motor-driven height-adjustable desks were chosen to reflect Cadence's desire for a different type of workspace, with a more inspiring atmosphere.

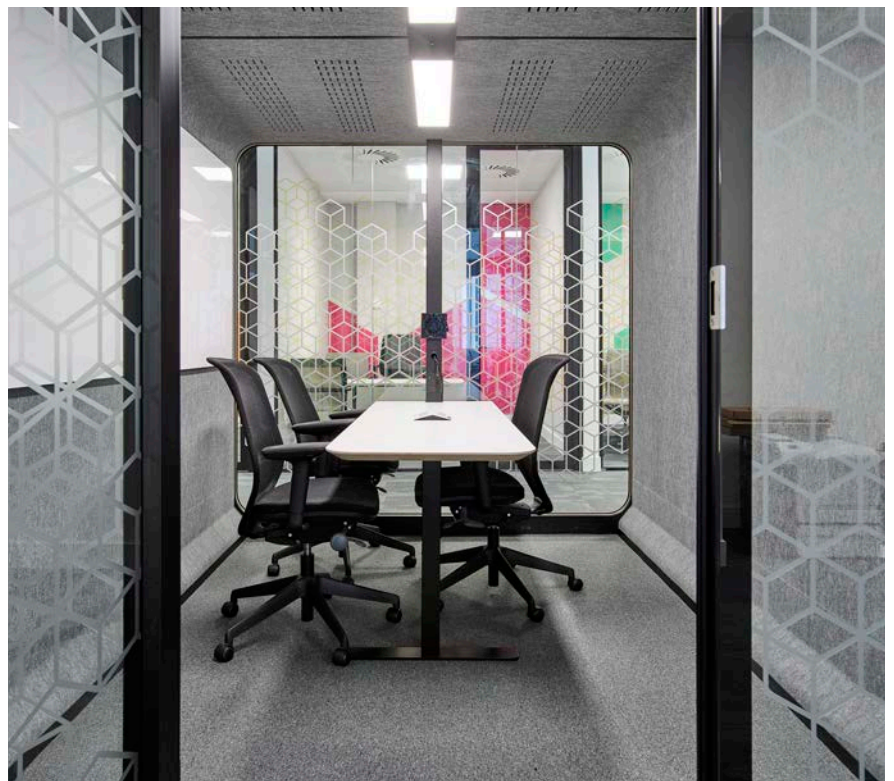


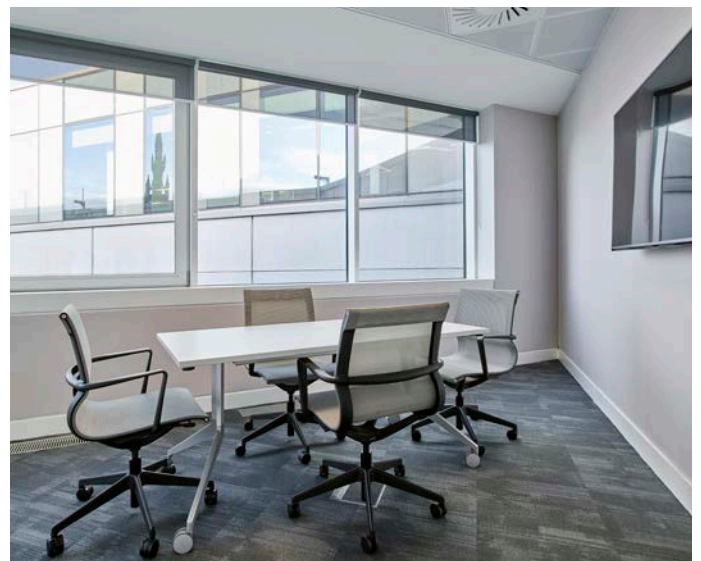
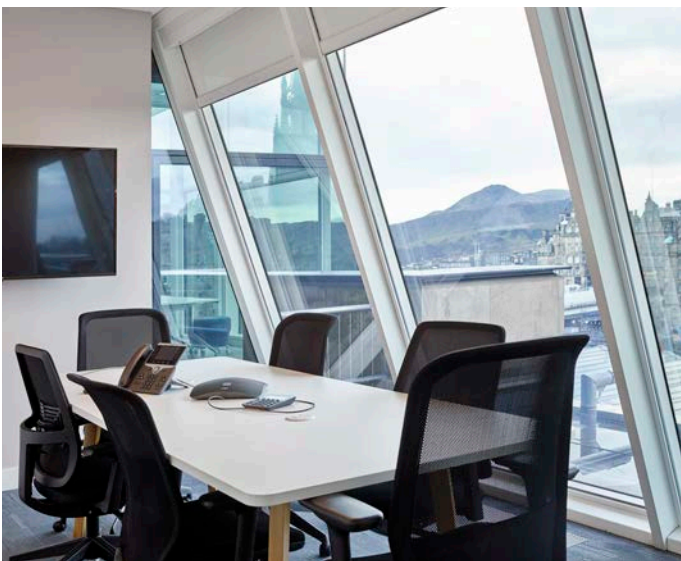
## Solution



### Space for privacy.

Haworth Collection (Framery) acoustic pods were selected for holding smaller meetings and conference calls, which gave the office a more modern and funkier feel.





### Room for collaboration.

Meeting spaces of different sizes, depending on the needs, are available to the teams. However, occasional meetings of the whole team will happen in nearby hotels. Cadence executive chose this solution rather than creating a space dedicated to such events but with low utilization.



Cadence objective was to create an inspiring and efficient office environment that would support staff well-being while increasing attraction to new talents. It was achieved through flexible workspaces which meet the teams' desire for both personal and shared spaces. The furniture elements, carefully selected to offer ergonomic, comfort and a modern feel, create an agile yet soothing environment. Gary Helm, the founder of obo, adds: 'Clients like Cadence expect and deserve best value. It is, therefore, our responsibility to specify and supply products in line with their philosophy of providing Great Places to Work.'

Featured Haworth products:

- YourPlace height adjustable desk
- Lively Task Chairs
- Buzziwrap screens, Buzzispace
- Framery acoustic pods
- Planes meeting tables