Globally renowned architecture and design firm, CallisonRTKL regularly partners with REI to lead the design and construction on this iconic American outdoor recreation retailer’s brick and mortar stores across America. CallisonRTKL utilizes multiple designs in different areas of the country, each anchored with a combination of authentic natural materials such as wood, steel and concrete in true form to capture the rugged, yet refined essence of the REI brand. The CallisonRTKL team specified Echelon’s Trendstone® and Split Face concrete masonry units (CMUs) to complete their vision of a new REI store in Winter Park Florida, an affluent suburb just north of Orlando.

“In doing so, we specified a precision-style block that we can rely on for its uniformity in both color and finish in order to maintain the integrity of the mural.”

— Douglas Dohan, CallisonRTKL Associate VP

Looking to remain economical, yet go beyond the look of an ordinary blank wall, CallisonRTKL utilized Echelon’s Split Face units and Trendstone® block. The Split Face units feature a rough texture, similar to natural stone, which reveals the aggregates used in the block. In comparison, the Trendstone® product is a smooth, pre-finished, integrally colored concrete block with one or more faces ground to expose the variegated colors of the natural aggregates. A factory-applied clear satin gloss acrylic accentuates the natural beauty of the aggregates and provides moisture resistance.
CallisonRTKL used the Split Face block to create a wainscoting on the bottom along with the smooth features of the Trendstone® on top, which combine to create a focused visual interest that anchors the artwork. In addition to its aesthetic appeal, Echelon’s Trendstone® ground face concrete masonry units (CMUs) are maintenance free, easy to clean and offer one-step installation.

About Echelon®

Echelon is the new consolidated brand for the masonry products and services of Oldcastle Architectural. Representing the most comprehensive masonry offering in the industry, Echelon provides a singular go-to source and reliable partner who successfully completes projects from beginning to end. Backed by a national infrastructure with more than 150 operating locations, we have unparalleled logistical capabilities while still providing a local response and presence that feels personal.

Project Details

Project Description: REI
Location: Winter Park, Florida
Product: Trendstone® and Split Face Block
Quantity: 5,000 square feet
Architects: CallisonRTKL
Mason/Installer: Souder Masonry