



Experiential Environments
CASE STUDY
Studebaker National Museum

Studebaker National Museum
South Bend, IN

Designers: Project Arts & Ideas
Fabricators: Fruland & Bowles



The Studebaker National Museum houses over 120 vehicles, with around 70 vehicles on display at one time. The collection dates back to the 1880's. Among the vast collection of vehicles are: the company's last farm wagon, the first automobile built in South Bend, Indiana, a large collection of World War I military vehicles, and the carriages of four US Presidents. The most famous carriage among them carried President Lincoln to the Ford Theater on that fateful night.

The Studebaker National Museum was formed in 1985, and in 1992 consolidated all exhibits and displays. The collection continued to grow until Studebaker ceased production in 1966. The collection has had several different homes. Its most recent, opened in 2005, is in South Bend's West Washington Street Historic District.

In late summer of 2004, The Studebaker National Museum's Board of Directors contracted with Fruland & Bowles, Inc. of Toledo Ohio and Project Arts & Ideas, of Dearborn, Michigan for the interpretation, design, fabrication, delivery & installation of new exhibits and graphics in their newly constructed facility. The entire process from concept to completion was accomplished in just over one year.



iZone Imaging's CHPL panels were used to create an expansive wall system that acts as a backdrop for artifacts and archives. The durable, scratch resistant material is a perfect fit for this application and easy to maintain. With its fully customizable integration process, it has allowed the designers to create a one of a kind backdrop for this unique experiential environment. iZone Imaging's ten year warranty ensures that this museum will look top notch for years, preserving the rich history of the Studebaker corporation.