

ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL

**The Orthopaedic Center at Harrison** Silverdale, Wash.

Submitted by: **Rice Fergus Miller** Bremerton, Wash.



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AARON LEITZ, AARON LEITZ PHOTOGRAPHY

The healthcare landscape is under extensive pressure to change, to become more nimble and less expensive while at the same time provide better patient care. In September 2011, Harrison Medical Center offered the design of the project to the design team with several stipulations: an accelerated project, a tight program, and a tight construction budget. Hospitals traditionally have a high cost per square foot of built area, so a concerted effort was made to make all interior spaces as functional as possible. The contractor built full-scale mock-ups of an operating room and a typical patient room at the architect's office, including typical equipment and furnishings that were tested by end users for functionality, patient experience, and

design. Although the spaces are fairly compact, the users commented that they felt much larger than they actually were. By verifying that top-quality patient care could be provided in a smaller footprint through hands-on testing, early buy-in from the users was achieved, along with additional construction cost savings. The essence of a great project is its response to patient and staff needs while being efficient with the owner's funds, both in the development process and long term. The project succeeds on several levels including increased market share, better surgical and recovery outcomes, and a 99 percent Press Ganey patient satisfaction score in the two quarters since opening—all of which was achieved at a \$351 per square foot cost point.

**Project category:** New construction  
**Chief administrator:** Scott Bosch, CEO  
**Firm:** Rice Fergus Miller, [www.rfmarch.com](http://www.rfmarch.com)  
**Structural Engineer:** Reid Middleton, Inc., [www.reidmiddleton.com](http://www.reidmiddleton.com)  
**Design team:** Mike Miller, principal-in-charge; Matt King, project manager; Robbie McNamara, project manager/construction administration; Gena Lee, medical planner/interior designer (Rice Fergus Miller); general contractor (Andersen Construction); Dave Swanson, structural principal; Corbin Hammer, structural engineer, Katy Brawner, structural engineer (Reid Middleton, Inc.)  
**Photography:** Austin Flink, Rice Fergus Miller; Aaron Leitz, Aaron Leitz Photography  
**Total building area (sq. ft.):** 54,000 (new); 3,000 (renovation)  
**Construction cost/sq. ft.:** \$351 (new); \$477 (renovation)  
**Total construction cost (excluding land):** \$19 million (new); \$1.4 million (renovation)  
**Completion:** September 2013