



Left: Pei Cobb Freed & Partners Architects managed the 2018 construction of the David H. Koch Center, a hospital in New York City, which became an epicenter for the COVID-19 pandemic. Photos copyright Albert Vecerka/ ESTO.

Right: C.R. Laurence created "an elegant barrier solution" for The Strand House, a restaurant that is part of the Zislis Group, a luxury hospitality group in Manhattan Beach, California. "We limited hardware inclusion for minimal visual obstructions in freestanding portable barriers with a stainless steel center post and two pivoting panels each," says Barbara Haaksma, senior vice president, marketing for C.R. Laurence.



ESSENTIAL PROJECTS

Glass industry companies remained essential in many ways in recent months, but especially in their ability to ensure the safety of the most essential workplace during the pandemic: hospitals.

In 2018 Pei Cobb Freed & Partners Architects completed the David H. Koch Center, part of New York-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, which became an epicenter of the pandemic. Glass played a major role in the firm's design, says Emma Cobb, senior

editor, with the purpose of increasing natural light to aid in patient comfort. The design allowed for light in areas of the hospital that are typically cut off, such as circulation, waiting and transfusion areas, she says.

Additional hospital improvements came in response to the pandemic. For example, Gamco Corp. provided Montefiore New Rochelle Hospital, located in New Rochelle, New York, with a new custom-fabricated Emergency Department entrance, constructed after

the onset of COVID-19. "Gamco was able to provide highend architectural products to finish this critical undertaking as quickly and efficiently as possible in order to protect both patients and health care providers within the Montefiore hospital," says Bailey Schroeder, executive assistant at Gamco Corp.

INNOVATIVE SAFETY PRODUCTS

Glass companies provided a range of protective products as the pandemic spread, especially glass barriers and easy-to-clean glass coatings.

GLASS BARRIERS

Binswanger Glass fabricated intubation boxes for front-line health care workers dealing directly with the pandemic. The box creates a barrier between the intubated patient and the health care worker.