

# University of Delaware Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Laboratory

Newark, Delaware

**Owner**

University of Delaware

**Client/Architect**

Ayers | Saint | Gross

**General Contractor**

Whiting-Turner Contracting Company

**Completion Date**

2013

**Construction Cost**

\$120 million

**Total Area**

194,000 sf



Thornton Tomasetti is providing structural design services for a facility combining cutting-edge materials science laboratories with flexible classroom and instructional laboratory space. This state-of-the-art facility will define the University of Delaware as a leading research institution and showcase innovative methods of science education.

The research wing combines high-end laboratory space with offices for product development including complete cycle of research, development and marketing. The research wing, designed to anticipate its future needs, comprises a clean-room suite and microscopy laboratories. Connected by a three-story link is an institutional wing with classrooms and laboratories that integrate lectures and hands-on learning conducted in the same environment as scientists.

Thornton Tomasetti worked closely with the design team to optimize structural systems for high vibration control in the research wing. Our recommendation to use concrete frames and slabs to provide the best performance for this project was supported by the architect and construction manager, who helped explain to the owner about the advantages of this system over lower cost options. Trust and collaboration among project team members justified the extra cost to achieve optimal performance for the project budget.