Project Summary / Program Statement:

The impetus behind the concept for a new office outside of Dayton, Ohio, was the client’s love of adventure, aviation and the spirit of collaboration. The form of the building is created via a double-loaded office bar wrapping around itself and uncoiling toward the public street intersection, forming a point of entry and an interior glass enclosed atrium. A malleable solid wrapped around a voided center. The concept is informed by ideas of motion and lift, trajectory and momentum.

The outer “public” skin of the building form is clad in folded and triangulated sections of aluminum composite metal panels and glazing. The triangulations in the skin allow the building to twist and lean as momentum and movement build and pull around the perimeter. Intersecting the middle of this area east to west is a slice of point-supported curtain wall that allows views and natural light through the atrium. Reflecting pools surrounding the building give the form a greater sense of depth and provide a sense of crossing and arrival.

The building’s atrium is the collective/collaborative heart of the project, and the focal point of the entire composition. The walls along the perimeter of the atrium are transparent, mostly clad in glass: the “collaborative skin”. A large skylight over the atrium uses new electro-chromic glass technology to control heat gain while bathing the entire center with abundant natural light. Optimal day-lighting and views can be found everywhere. Bamboo floors are used throughout, and the use of this material in the center folds up into a large, collaborative amphitheater style seating stair that culminates in a glass conference room on the second floor. Liquid crystal privacy glass is used in this conference room and other spaces to control transparency versus privacy.
Composite metal details
Atrium view toward seating stair
Atrium with entry at left and reception at right