

Google Unveils Plush DC Office

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The new space is equipped with a game room, massage chair and catered kitchen.

WASHINGTON (WUSA) - Two years after Google launched its lobbying campaign in the Capitol City, the company has opened a brand new 27,000 square foot office for its 20 employees based in Washington.

Google Chief Executive Officer Eric Schmidt christened the office Friday night alongside a host of V.I.P guests including several lawmakers.

"This is some of the most important work we're doing," he said about the company's recent efforts to really connect with congress members.

The affair allowed outsiders to take a glimpse into the daily work environment that Googlers experience. People circulated the game room stocked with an Xbox 360, a ping pong table, a guitar and a drum set and a Foosball table. Candies in red, blue, green and yellow were separated according to color into four large jars, representing the hallmark Google colors.

Bars adorned the office space and cocktail servers swirled in and out of groups of people chatting. The company's kitchen was a hot stopping point. Its the same facility where a caterer comes to cook lunch for employees everyday.

"Our office here is also a showcase of the company and what it means," said Adam Kovacevich, Senior Manager of Google's Global Communications & Public Affairs. "So really the reason to have a Google office in Washington is to help tell our story in Washington." The new office building located on the second floor of 1101 New York Avenue NW is environmentally conscious and designed to encourage collaboration.

"If you walk around our offices - we have white boards everywhere. And the idea is let's get our ideas up there and collaborate," said Google employee Genevieve Herrera. "Google is -it's like a dream to work here. Honestly, when I got the job I couldn't believe it."

Dan Martin was recently hired for Google's DC team after graduating from the University of Notre Dame. In just a few short months, he has grown attached to the company.

"The people I work with are intelligent, creative and fun," he said. "And you wouldn't know it, but in the gameroom - some of our lawyers and political analysts are the best rock stars."

Written by Brittany Morehouse
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