Schneider Arena originally opened in 1973 and serves as the home of Providence College’s men’s and women’s hockey teams. Over the past 40 years, both programs have enjoyed success on the ice, but had fallen behind peer institutions due to the lack of any significant renovations to the facility. The college responded by developing a first-class facility that reflects their commitment to helping student-athletes reach the next level of success.

The new program required locating the locker room suites adjacent to training and sports medicine. The program also included press box upgrades, new premier suites, improved spectator seating, thermal envelope improvements, site improvements, and locker room/support spaces for the lacrosse program. Symmes Maini & McKee Associates’ design responded to the college’s program by developing a three-story, 30,500-square-foot addition, resulting in a contiguous footprint that provides a seamless integration between new and renovated facilities. The sweeping form of the exterior directs the community into the public space, and integrates the two-story lobby into the renovated facility. The exterior cladding materials (metal panel, curtain wall, and cast stone) reinforce the language of the Providence College campus. Furthermore, the renovations showcase the rich history and tradition of the PC hockey programs, create layers of space that organize the program for users, and emphasize the functionality of the arena.

Amenities now include exceptional locker room and support spaces, a shooting practice room, sports medicine and therapy, and strength training and conditioning spaces. The public space extends beyond the lobby and the renovated arena into luxury suites that further enhance the spectator experience. The offices on the second level provide ice views along with a connection to the lobby integrating the public and PC athletics.

After an eight-month construction period, Schneider Arena reopened on Sept. 27, 2013, and welcomed spectators into a modern facility that embodies the history and future of Providence College Hockey.

Symmes Maini & McKee Associates

Design team
SMMA: John Scott (Principal-in-Charge), Jim Deitzer (Project Architect), Steve Shteter (Architect), Megan Carriere (Architect), Laura LeClair (Landscape Architect), Richard Crosswell (Structural Engineer), Ellen Kuo (Structural Engineer); Other Firms: Caputo & Wick (Civil), Sterling Engineering (Electrical), Aero Mechanical (HVAC)

Client
Providence College

Area
Renovation: 60,598 sq. ft., Addition: 30,429 sq. ft., Total: 91,027 sq. ft.

Total cost
$22,050,380

Capacity
2,978

Cost/square foot
$242.24

Completion
September 2013

Photographer
Bruce T. Martin
“Providence College has a rich and storied tradition in both men’s and women’s ice hockey. This significant investment ensures that our student-athletes have the opportunity to play and train in a first-class facility as they compete for championships.”

—REV. BRIAN J. SHANLEY, O.P., PROVIDENCE COLLEGE PRESIDENT