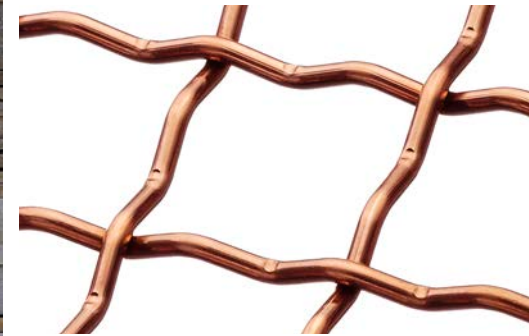




TREE OF SUCCESS

Sculpture
Appleton, Wisconsin USA

I-188



Fox Valley Technical College wanted a large-scale sculpture to place behind the concierge desk of the new Student Success Center. To encourage students to visit the desk, the sculpture needed to stand out beneath a large skylight in the two-story space. Designers and architects created a sculpture of a large tree. Students in FVTC's Wood Manufacturing Technology program designed and built its stump with the wood from a large oak tree removed during the center's construction, and Banker Wire I-188 woven wire mesh was chosen to recreate the appearance of greenery on a thriving tree.

The high percent open area, 79.8%, of I-188 allowed the intricate stonework to show through the sculpture. More importantly, the wire mesh is a canvas on which to hang the Tree of Success "leaves". FVTC students were invited to describe success in one word, those words then became the leaves that were hung from the wire mesh. These leaves can be moved or changed as the college evolves, allowing the tree to serve as a metaphor for continued growth.

"We were happy with the outcome of this project, and, most importantly, our customer was, too," says Tony Cole of Custom Metals, Inc., the fabricator of the sculpture.

