Determining which ceiling/grid combination will most effectively enhance a commercial or retail space can be a difficult process.

Just ask Randall Ng, project executive with Walker Group/CNI, a Los Angeles, California-based interior design firm. “On a recent project, we experienced a problem with the appearance of the ceiling panel/grid combination,” he says. “It really impacted the overall look of the space.”

In order to avoid a recurrence of that situation, Ng went through a rather involved selection process for determining the ceiling combination used in a Broadway Southwest store he recently designed in Phoenix, Arizona.

“After researching a number of different ceiling panel/grid combinations, we finally narrowed it down to four top choices,” Ng explains.

Walker Group/CNI then created display samples of each of the four finalists and presented them to Susan Younger, regional store planning director for Carter Hawley Hale, the owner.

“Weshowed the options to the management teams from both construction and planning,” Younger says, “and we finally decided to go with the design firm’s top recommendation—Orion Ceiling Panels and Donn Meridian Ceiling Grid.

Both the Orion panels and the Meridian grid are manufactured by USG Interiors, Inc. The Orion270 panels arc 3/4” thick and 2’ x 2’ with a square edge. The panels have an 0.80 - 0.90 NRC and a 25-29 STC. The texture is a Nubby glass-cloth face with a brushed canvas look. The panels are unusual in that they are so resistant to humidity and sag (90 degrees F/90% R.H.) that they are warranted against sag for 10 years.

The Donn Meridian Ceiling Grid is a narrow 9/16” grid with a rounded 5/32” reveal to soften the effect of the grid lines.

The involved selection process proved to be worth the effort. Store principals are very pleased with the finished results. . . and so is Ng.

“The combination we chose provided a ceiling panel with a very attractive, understated texture and a thin-line grid that together established a subtle ceiling with very clean lines, which complements the overall design of the store,” Ng maintains.

For further information on Orion Ceiling Panels or Donn Meridian Ceiling Grid, contact USG Interiors, 101 S. Wacker Dr., Chicago, IL 60606.

Soft, clean lines of Donn Meridian Ceiling Grid combine with light, subtle texture of Orion 270 Ceiling Panels to provide a ceiling look that ideally fits the overall design concept in the Phoenix, Arizona Broadway Southwest outlet.