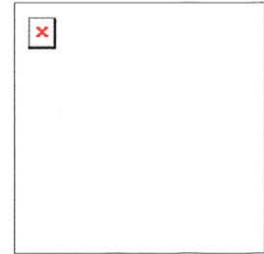


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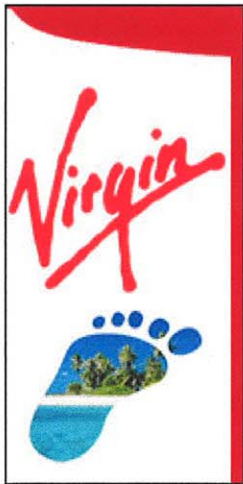
Carol Tobin: At a Glance

New Software Offers
 Customers Discount
 Instead of Change

Carol Tobin: At a Glance

Irenn Nolasco

NexC Staff



She transformed [Southampton Inn](#), a motel-like hotel, into a charming upscale inn that reflects its sophisticated location and its denizens. She gave New York City's 'fast-casual' franchise restaurant [Munchelino's](#) an atmosphere that is comfortably inviting and aesthetically pleasing. And she redesigned an English perfumery, [Floris of London](#) on Madison Avenue, from a dark, closed-in space into an open, bright, airy retail environment.

Viewing any one of these impeccably designed properties - hotel, restaurant or retail - is to get a glimpse at Carol Tobin's talent, philosophy and approach. Her skills were honed during her years working for a major New York City construction firm, which allowed her to gain first-hand knowledge on

construction, walls, electric lines and many other structural aspects of design.

"This singular experience gave me a clear understanding and invaluable insight not usually experienced by interior designers," Tobin says.

Tobin's approach to design is straightforward: She listens first before offering up her own ideas. "One of my favorite roles, though not necessarily the main one, is to listen to the customers to find out what design will address their wants, needs and lifestyle," she says. "Though I bring my design with me, I never try to impose my ideas initially."

Unique and Profitable

The diversity of her clients' projects reflects her ability to design in any style and make the most of new or existing site locations. She strives to make each interior she designs unique and profitable, while providing her clients the level of service they expect. She often focuses on the lighting, furniture design and the use of color and flow.

In designing Munchelino's restaurant in Manhattan, Tobin carved a clock face as part of the floor pattern and extended it halfway out the door to remind people on the

