

## Office Envy: Inside Cloud Storage Company Wasabi, NOT An Open Office

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David Friend, CEO of Boston startup [Wasabi](#), is very vocal on the disadvantages of open office layouts—which he describes as “big, open floors with people in cubicles.”

As a result, the cloud storage company he co-founded with Jeff Flowers is basically the opposite of an open office.

In terms of layout, Wasabi is almost “a black swan” on the Boston tech scene, where nothing is more common than open space offices (if you want proof, just take a look at the most recent installments of [our Office Envy series](#)).

Open space layouts are often described as great for collaboration and team building; at the same time, increased noise and distractions can make it difficult for employees to focus. In Friend’s view, people need to “shut the door.”

“Salespeople, for example, need peace and quiet,” he said. “I hate getting sales calls from a boiler room.”

The office of Wasabi, which includes around 19 rooms and a common area with couches, is based on traditional, one-person offices. Friend’s office itself could be the definition of a corner office, with its view of the city from the 29th floor of the Prudential Center.

Here are some photos I took during my tour of Wasabi:



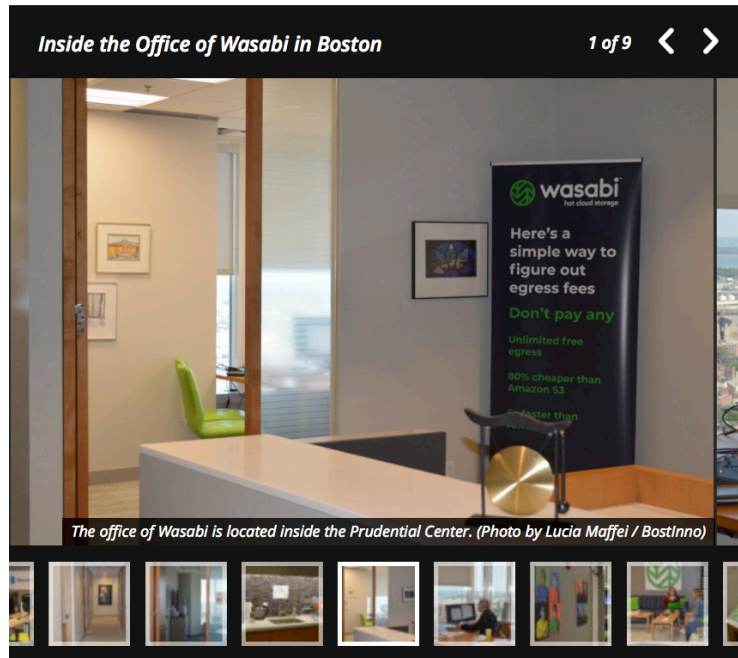


Image: The office of Wasabi is based on the 29th floor of 111 Huntington, inside the Prudential Center. (Photo by Lucia Maffei / BostInno)

