Dear Reader,

Over 100 years of automobile history have had a lasting impact on us and our world. Mobility requires traffic routes and traffic constructions. In the last decade alone, many architectural solutions have met the challenges of this development. The idea of integrating a showroom for luxury cars in a noise protection embankment – the very aim of which is to protect against the negative effects of individual mobility – realized by the company Hessing in Utrecht, is both a courageous and remarkable symbiosis in architectural terms. It is certainly not mere chance that this well-executed building is located in the Netherlands. Town planning and architecture there traditionally combine a sense for reality with creative solutions.

We are delighted to have received several awards at this year’s IF product design competition. The jury were satisfied that our luminaires were impressive in the ultimate disciplines of innovation, technology optimization and design. We are, of course, very proud to receive this praise from such an authoritative source.

Heiner Gantenbrink
In the heart of the Netherlands, right alongside the much frequented A2 motorway in Utrecht, car drivers are finding it hard to believe their eyes, their curiosity often causing tailbacks. An unusual structure meanders parallel to and just 15 metres away from the motorway for some 1.5 kilometres. What begins and ends as a noise protection embankment expands in its northern third into a spectacular transparent cocoon for exclusive cars. The canon of aerodynamic shapes of this innovative structure reflects not only the technological world of aircraft and aerospace but also the archaic aesthetics of fauna. The 8,500 triangular glass panes, which envelope the massive steel space framework to the motorway side, look like the shiny, evenly scaled belly of a fish. The showroom area, known as the «cockpit», seems at night almost to pulsate with life in its effective presentation of artificial light.
Building-owner: Hessing Holding, Utrecht
Architect: ONL, Coeterhuis-Lensink, Rotterdam
Construction management: A&O Bouwfirmapartners, Amsterdam
Light planning: Andresseen, Houten · BEGA
Electrical installation: Installatiebedrijf Andresseen, Houten
Photographer: Max Schulz, Mülheim a.d. Ruhr
Dutch architects are traditionally exponents of avant-garde architecture. Surprising and impressive solutions are found to construction tasks. And combining a noise protection embankment with an exquisite car dealership is no easy task. The architects from ONL Oosterhuis-Lénard BV of Rotterdam created a unique type of building in a construction period of just under two years in an optimized file to factory process. The architects’ 3D animation generated tens of thousands of single design components and transferred them to the supplier’s production lines. This innovative integration of planning and construction process ensures that the overall costs are kept in line with those of a standard building. All materials shimmer lavishly but discreetly in a colour spectrum of white - grey - silver to ensure that attention is not diverted from the show cars. On closer inspection, elaborate details materialize: ceiling and wall surfaces on the south side and the suspended galleries are spanned areas of fabric – a remarkable transformation of a car headlining. The mounting comprising eyelets and laces is a surprisingly simple solution for the connection to the slanted supports. Glass buildings become bright lanterns when darkness falls. The association with a spaceship touching down intensifies at night. The ›cockpit‹ artificial light concept functions with a dramatic effect graduating in depth: three principal light levels are arranged one after the other, giving the interesting structure a spatial dimension. All the luminaires are equipped with metal halide lamps where their brilliant white light is used to perfection. Their high lumen level and long life make them ideal for the most challenging illumination and lighting tasks. The light planners decided on BEGA luminaires at an early stage – in the building as well. The key arguments are the sophisticated lighting technology, impressive design and easy maintenance. The luminaires have protection class IP 65 and are completely dust and insect-proof. The outer building envelope of glass and space framework is floodlighted indirectly from below. The symmetrically flat beam light distribution focuses the light from the 70 W metal halide lamps into the buttress. The luminaires of this first lighting level are installed on the projecting ceilings.
The arched first line – the structure’s «spine» forms the boundary between the northern glazed area and the southern, aluminium cladded part of the building. A filigree pendant support, combining all the technical elements, runs below this angular crest. This is where the second line of luminaires is positioned comprising two components – but more about the second component later. Directly radiating BEGA high-power floodlights with symmetrically broad spread reflector characteristics and equipped with 250 W metal halide lamps provide brilliant illumination for the vehicles on the upper presentation levels. The precious cars are highlighted against the light flooring without any intrusive reflexes. The building-owner, Hessing’s Autobedrijven BV, is a family company founded back in 1929 and therefore one of the very first European automobile enthusiasts.

Today, the passion for exclusive cars is linked to a service philosophy guided by intensive customer care. The family’s bold new building project also demonstrates their feeling for exceptional corporate architecture which harmonizes perfectly with the brand identities of the cars they trade. The many visitors include not only motorists but also lovers of architecture from all over Europe. Automobile fans throughout the world dream of cruising along in a Bentley, Bugatti, Lamborghini, Maserati or Rolls-Royce – and now they are clearly visible too from the well-frequented Utrecht motorway. The large areas of glass spotlight the automobiles on show in direct context with the moving traffic outside.

The meandering shape of the noise protection embankment follows the curves of the road exactly.

The proportions are extreme: the length is ten times the height of the structure. For the cockpit, which covers an area of some 5,000 sqm over four levels, the concave and convex, curved serpentine geometry extends over a width of approx. 30 metres and a height of approx. 20 metres. The network form of the space framework is accordingly spread out and therefore expands the triangular shape of the construction into the large expanse of panorama glass. The aerodynamic shape translates optimum visual perception from cars passing at a regular speed of 120 kilometres per hour, which lasts just a few seconds, into actual architecture. The impression at night is heightened even more. The glass showroom ellipse becomes a brilliant stage for top-line automobiles.
During the day, a maximum amount of natural light penetrates the northern glass side of the building. The glass in the cockpit is a combination of safety glass with a sun or heat protection function. The values of the glass with its heat transmission coefficient of $U_g \ 1.2 \ W/m^2K$ resp. $1.1 \ W/m^2K$ are exemplary. The higher the glass is installed in the building, the greater the efficiency of its sun protection equipment.

Given a total energy transmissibility of just 43% but still a light incidence of 71%, this solves the conflict between panorama glass and summer heating perfectly.

The south side of the building in contrast is almost completely closed except for a few window slits, and is covered in linear aluminium panels. Parking spaces, entrance and driveway are located here.
Rotationally symmetrical BEGA power floodlights, with narrow-beam reflector technology, highlight the other components of the second line of luminaires. They sweep traces of elongated light over the spanned ceiling areas right into the very back of the room. The light cone of the 150 W metal halide lamps is focused on the joints of the spanned canvas and accentuates the interesting detail of the cording.
The translation of automotive shapes onto the spanned ceiling and wall surfaces on the north side and under the galleries works especially well. Here the showroom is designed as a monumental vehicle. The flowing transition from wall and ceiling geometry conveys the same intimacy as the spacious interior of an exquisite automobile. The choice of materials, design of details and colours are both simple and luxurious. The integrated technical elements appear like stitches in a high-quality car headlining. This is where the light planning has located the third level of luminaires. Two components are integrated in the ceilings. Wall washers partially recessed in the ceiling for 70 W metal halide lamps illuminate the slanting wall surfaces with their balanced surface light, providing an absolutely glarefree background to present the cars. This illumination is also extremely important for the impact of the building at night: it limits the spatial depth of the showroom.
Downlights surface-mounted on the ceiling with wide beam, rotationally symmetrical characteristics complement the wall washers and provide perfect direct illumination. Both types of luminaire are fitted with the same lamps. Their identical lighting parameters guarantee the highest level of visual comfort, combined with excellent colour rendering quality. These quality criteria are decisive to distinguish the different high-quality materials and diverse shades of colour in a car showroom.

Both builder-owner and architect placed great importance on the realization of the light concept to which they were committed.

The decision in favour of BEGA luminaires was made at an early stage of the planning. This allowed all installation details to be coordinated with perfect agreement on planning and execution. The luminaires are discreet but equally integrated into the overall formal concept.
It was the express political intention of the young Federal Republic of Germany: the Design Council was founded in 1951 by resolution of the German Parliament. The economic miracle in Germany saw clever minds encouraging the correlation between innovation and economic growth. Technical and design quality were supposed to go together and the best of the best given support through publicity. The legendary «Special Show for Well-designed Industrial Goods» at the Hannover exhibition center in 1953 literally opened the doors to a fruitful partnership between producers and a number of personalities who were committed to the development of contemporary design. In 1959, this «Special Show» was renamed «Die gute Industrieform». In the 1960s, the association «Die gute Industrieform e.V.» with non-profit status was founded and from then on organized the so-called IF competitions and IF exhibitions. Given the growing international importance of IF, the association was renamed IF Industrie Forum Design Hannover in 1990. IF International Forum Design GmbH joined the non-profit making association in 2001, and is today committed worldwide as service provider in the competing interests of industry and design and enjoys recognition as a competence centre for current design developments.

1997

TopTen Best of Category
Zero hour of the young Federal Republic of Germany was also the hour BEGA was born. Production started in 1945 with an order for 100 luminaires – made of wrought iron and without any electrical installations. Thanks to rapid development, we have been at the Hannover trade fair since 1949, and were a committed promoter of the »Special Show« in 1953. The previous year, BEGA had already received the »Medaille d’Or« at the international trade fair in Luxembourg in recognition of a complete collection of high-quality luminaires. In 1958, BEGA was partner in the building of the »Luminaire House« at the Hannover trade fair, where henceforth the »World Light Show« was to take place – the showcase for current developments in the lamp and luminaire sector. If and BEGA pursue the same aims: the development and distribution of technical goods with excellent quality of use combined with the best possible formal appearance. BEGA and GLASHÜTTE UMBURG have been among the IF prize winners since the very beginning in the 1950s, having meanwhile gained over 400 awards. Apart from many other special awards, placement on the ranking lists has increased over the past few years, indicating that BEGA standards in luminaire development are more than exemplary for excellent product quality. Criteria such as optimum technology, use of components, long life, easy maintenance and impressive design are increasingly winning recognition. High standards are required of our outdoor luminaires, which are a main focus of our collection, in terms of resistance to dirt, weather factors and temperature. And quite naturally we apply this competence to our indoor luminaires as well. This competitive edge is also helpful when new standards have to be met for world markets. Easy maintenance and environmentally sound sustainability are intrinsic to our work.

2004  2007  2008  2009

Silver Award  Gold Award  Gold Award  Gold Award
The innovative »light cube« luminaire concept won the »gold award« at the iF product design award competition in 2009. Compact cubes with a surface area of 40 x 40 cm structure outdoor spaces and define orientation systems. Their height of 49 cm provides three-dimensional presence without restricting space.
The distinction between paths and squares has until now been achieved through different materials, colours, paving dimensions and joint designs. This scope for design is now evolving into the third dimension.

The robust quality of the light cube makes it ideal for urban environments or green spaces. The housing made of heavy die cast aluminium withstands the impact of physical damage and weather factors. Open spaces of a high design level or landscaped roof terraces almost transform the light cubes into sculptures, harmonizing perfectly with fine furnishings.
The «pole-top luminaire» concept also received the «gold award» in the 2009 IF product design competition.

The luminaires seem to float, developing high illuminances on filigree poles at mounting heights of between 3.5 m and 6 m, and providing lighting for streets, paths and squares.

Highly praised by the jury: uniform illumination with an extremely low height – 30 mm at the edge, 130 mm in the centre.
BEGA has been building pole-top luminaires for over 40 years. They were and always have been a product of rational and aesthetic considerations. Advances in the increased efficiency and miniaturization of lamps and new material developments challenge us again and again to enhance proven products and find superior solutions.

More than any other lighting component, pole-top luminaires represent small-scale architecture for outdoor spaces. Apart from the lighting tasks they have to fulfil, they also define their surroundings by day and night.

The idea that the shape of a luminaire is determined solely by the requirements of its application is a material development approach at BEGA. This new series of pole-top luminaires impressively incorporates lighting competence with design safety. Luminaire variations equipped with 2 x 24 W or 3 x 24 W TC-L compact fluorescent lamps combine optimum cost-effectiveness at high operational efficiency with long maintenance intervals. The mounting system is sophisticated in construction and therefore easy to maintain with just one stainless steel screw on the top – and as usual available in protection class IP 65.
Efficient light planning with thick-walled glass luminaires is nowadays no longer a contradiction in terms. Architects, light planners and users are inspired by the high-quality lighting from masterpieces of glass craftsmanship. Glass luminaires are design elements and, apart from producing functional light to see by, they provide emotional light to enjoy. New luminaires 8906·8907·8914 with integrated downlight reflector technology are impressive solutions for indoor and outdoor areas. In addition, users also appreciate the easy maintenance of protection class IP 65.

The luminaire ring is made of white, partially frosted crystal glass, 20 mm thick, which emits light indirectly over its rim and onto the ceiling. An integrated glass thread connects it invisibly to the recessed ceiling housing. High-quality craftsmanship design from GLASHÜTTE LIMBURG with no visible metal parts.
The recessed ceiling luminaire is professionally complemented by a matching recessed wall luminaire with the same diameter and the same glass cover made of frosted crystal glass 20 mm thick, and equipped with halogen lamps or compact fluorescent lamps. This enhances potential applications in light planning. For luminaires 8903 and 8905, 2 cable entries for through-wiring and plaster frames and installation housings are, of course, available to meet the requirements of different installation situations. Other luminaire sizes and different wattages are being planned, and will be available shortly.
In the 1950s, BEGA developed the «light brick» series, an absolutely perfect example of luminaire design. No architect or light planner wanted to be without this product perfectly reduced to its simplest form with the highest level of use value. The surface-mounted wall luminaires with their compact dimensions still today grace indoor and outdoor spaces and create a pleasant atmosphere of light.

Glass manufacturer GLASHÜTTE LIMBURG is working constantly on the further development of our glass craftsmanship. The new series of wall luminaires has opened up a fascinating, modern chapter in the history of our «light brick».

Thick-walled crystal glass, coated inside white, dematerializes on its edges and takes on the appearance of melting ice cubes. The glass luminaire is being reinterpreted in three formal versions: simple classic angular, convex or semi-oval – depending on how much shape is required.

With no visible metal elements, the pure material is connected to the wall, structuring and adorning it. Equipped with efficient compact fluorescent lamps, these elegant light elements arranged singly or in rows, are a valuable addition to any interior.
Builder-owner: Deutsche Lufthansa AG, Frankfurt a.M.
Architects: J · S · K Dipl. Ing. Architekten, Frankfurt a.M.
Designers: Hollin + Radoke, Frankfurt a.M.
Installation: Knebel Metalltechnik GmbH, Frankfurt a.M.
Photographer: Jens Görlich, Deutsche Lufthansa AG
Business travellers and holidaymakers who fly appreciate well-designed waiting areas. The concept behind the Lufthansa Senator Lounge is to create luxurious space with high-quality furnishing features. Together with Stuttgart, Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Berlin, Paris, Detroit and New York, Frankfurt too now has the comfort of a Senator Lounge equipped with luminaires from GLASHÜTTE LIMBURG in the new terminal area of the C/D pier. Massive, warm wood parquet in traditional overlay-flooring covers the entire space. Comfortable leather chairs offering travellers a place of relaxation are grouped around the panorama glass window overlooking the runway. Every possible technical component is discreetly integrated in low, walnut wood tables. Table lamps, arranged in pairs, decorate these tables. These classic luminaires from GLASHÜTTE LIMBURG are fixed to the furniture by a filigree stainless steel base plate and invisible cable as a custom-made design. The warm light perfectly complements the comfortable atmosphere of the lounge. The luminaires are equipped with compact fluorescent lamps TC-L, 36 W in warm white. The pleasant, glarefree light completes the inviting design of the seating arrangements and will be providing a relaxing atmosphere at other airports in the future. The relevant table lamps (6525) and floor lamps (6526) are given in GLASHÜTTE LIMBURG Catalogue 58.
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