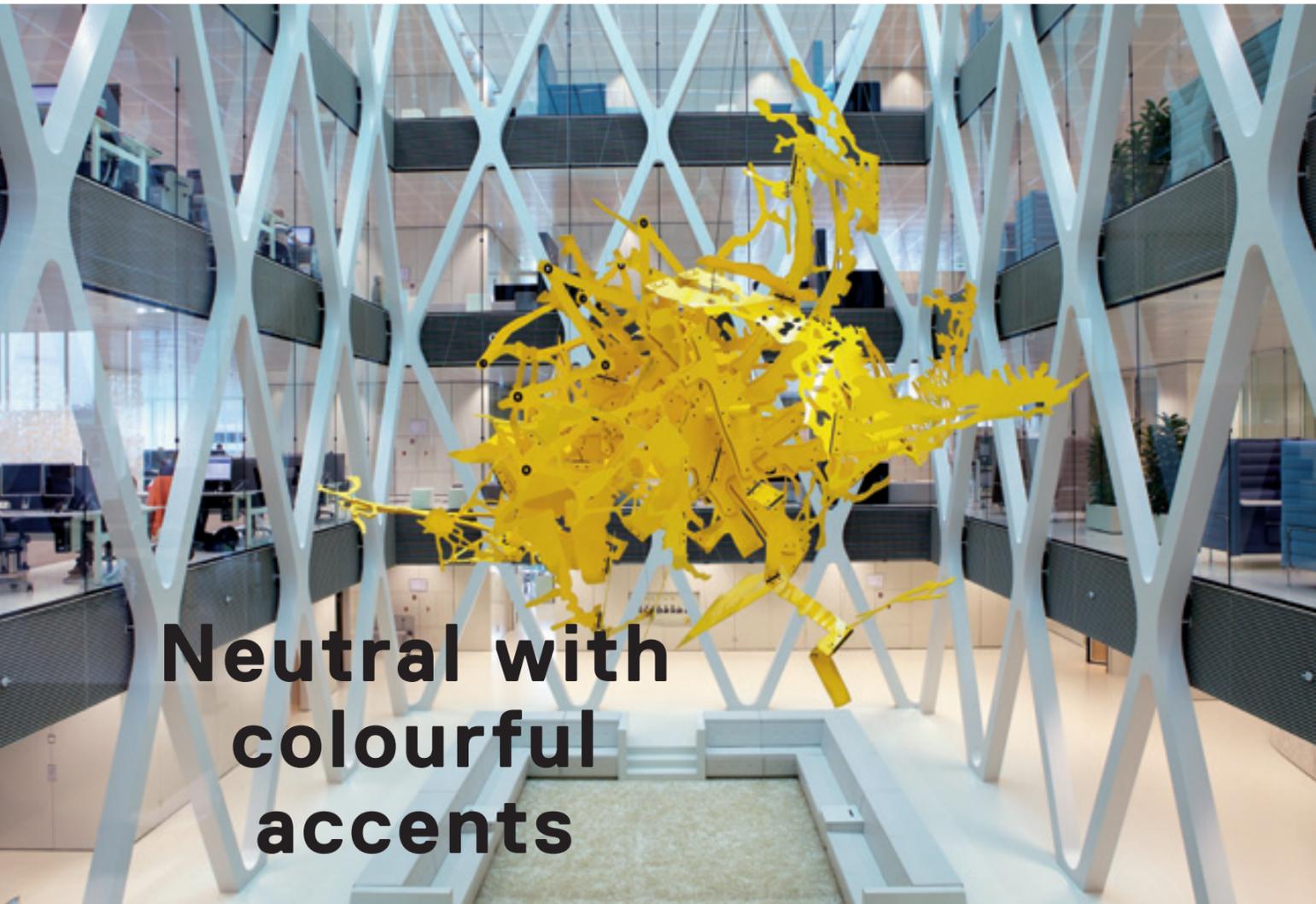


office

text: Ton Overtoom
images: Facilitylinq



Neutral with colourful accents

In collaboration with Team 4 Architects, interior architect Ton Overtoom from OdV Interior Architects designed the interior of the new Centraal Justitiele Incassobureau (Central Judicial Collection Agency) in Leeuwarden. The workplace concept of Activity Based Working was an important starting point.

Project: Interior CJIB
Location: Leeuwarden
Total floor area: 8,580 m²
Completion date: 2012
Client: The Government Buildings Agency /
Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Architect: Claus and Kaan Architects
Interior architect: Ton Overtoom (OdV Interior
Architects) in collaboration with Team 4 Architects
Website: www.odv-intarch.nl

office

The new accommodation of the Central Judicial Collection Agency (CJIB) features four floors and is designed by Claus and Kaan Architects. By working with two separate glass climate façades within the building, the office obtained a transparent appearance. Together with Team 4 Architects, Ton Overtoom created an innovative and sustainable office interior measuring 8,580 m², featuring 400 workplaces.

Centre stage artwork

On the ground floor, right besides the auditorium and a multifunctional room, are a few meeting rooms in various sizes. Reaching up from the decentralised rectangular floor plan annex sunken sitting area, all the floors are enclosed by a glass wall, creating mezzanines. A large bright yellow artwork by Japanese artist Taniguchi is suspended in the middle of this open area allowing everyone to see it from all the floors. The felt wall in the auditorium is designed by Claudy Jongstra and fits well with the papyrus white colour (RAL 9002) of the building's architectural frame and the permanent parts of the interior.

CJIB had a few focus points for the interior; it had to be functional, modern, ambitious and neutral, complemented with a few bright accent colours, whilst keeping the exploitation and management costs in mind. As employees of CJIB cannot work outside the office due to the nature of their work, the concept of Activity Based Working was implemented into the interior design.

Coordination through colour accents

OdV Interior Architects envisaged the interior design to connect to the qualities of the building and to add a dimension of its own. Maintaining transparency, respecting the powerful contrast between the yellow artwork and the neutral environment, adding colourful accents linked to four different atmospheres, were very important starting points. These colourful accents add character to the corners of the building as they jump location on every floor to strengthen the visitor's orientation.

The entrance from the lift hall to the various floors is shaped like a runway, which runs along the atrium in two directions. This 'runway' has various lay-bys on the side of the atrium, with open workplaces and seating elements for informal meetings. The colour scheme of the interior has been kept neutral, to let the artwork in the atrium stand out.

Transparency

A line of low lockers with printer units divides the open workplaces at the narrow side of the atrium from those near the façades. A few transparent voiles reach up to the ceiling and emphasize the corners, together with a large work table and comfortable chairs. On top of that, every corner of the building showcases an eye-catcher, chosen by the employees, to mark the end of a sightline. By doing so, each and every corner now has a recognisable and unique character.

To optimise the desired transparency a pattern was created for the functions of the rooms, starting in the corners and moving to the right. The pattern starts off with the required closed rooms, a small meeting room and one- and two-person 'cockpits', all situated behind the building-specific cores. The adjacent open workplaces are separated by a line of low lockers with low vertical gardens on the side of the corridors, which add fresh green accents.

Relaxation and interaction

All four atmospheres come back in the interior design of the meeting rooms on the ground floor. This floor allows for various ways of having meetings, such as the classical layout featuring tables and chairs or sofas and fauteuils, meeting while standing, or using a separate space for brainstorming. The new CJIB accommodation presents its employees with a relaxed and interactive way of working together.

'The interior design refers to the qualities of the building and adds a dimension of its own'

