

Accountable and sustainable architecture, innovating the future, improving sensory experiences, creating a positive impact. From the most recent insights to the most exciting projects.

Your essential go-to guide for 2020 is here.





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Welcome to the Armstrong **A Book 2020**

As we enter a new decade, this is your go-to guide for insight and inspiration. You can browse our latest and greatest projects, offering all kinds of innovative, contemporary designs for all kinds of spaces. We investigate how architecture is about more than just aesthetics and why sustainability has to be at the forefront of modern thinking design. We also consider the sensory experiences of inclusive interiors and the many positive effects of architecture on our mood and behaviour.



So keep the A Book handy and no matter what projects you get involved with over the next year, we're sure that its exciting ideas and helpful reference materials will provide the answer you're looking for.



CREATING A POSITIVE IMPACT

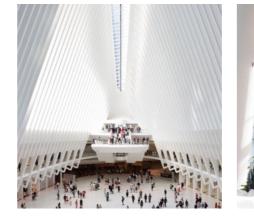
ARCHITECTURE ISN'T PURELY ABOUT MAKING A BUILDING LOOK BEAUTIFUL. THAT'S ONLY HALF THE STORY.

An architect's role can often be undervalued as simply focusing on visual stimulation, leaving the functionality of a project to engineers. However, good architecture goes beyond aesthetics. Creating a building that is interesting to look at is only part of the challenge; creating one that works in harmony with those who use it is the complete picture.



WE SHAPE OUR **BUILDINGS, AND AFTERWARDS OUR BUILDINGS SHAPE US.**

WINSTON CHURCHILL



Well-designed for better wellbeing

By carefully considering the practicalities of a space, good architecture can make a building's purpose understood. The way a building is designed and formed has a significant impact on our thoughts, our emotions and our wellbeing.

A term most of us are familiar with today is 'wellness', with an approach to achieving it largely consisting of mundane tasks such as clean eating and mindfulness. Something that is often less considered is the concept of wellness architecture, and as we spend most of our lives indoors, the toll that environments have on our wellbeing needs to be addressed.

A leaf out of nature's book

Biophilia is the human tendency to interact with the natural world. This strong connection has proven benefits, such as helping office workers be more productive, encouraging children to learn and helping hospital patients get better. From natural light and green spaces, to the use of organic attributes - you can determine the materials, developments in science and attitudes to design have resulted in spaces that can blend our modernday technology with the wholesome effects of the natural world.

Furthermore, consumers are becoming increasingly aware of the presence of chemicals and toxins in materials that we are exposed to daily, making a conscious effort to choose healthier materials. By selecting materials that don't harm humans or the planet, natural elements such as wood are embraced, sitting perfectly with the approach of biophilic architecture.





Looking up, looking forward

When it comes to wellness and social functions, what's above you plays a larger role than you may give credit for. By choosing a ceiling in a natural material – one that changes the parameters of a space, or one that can alter the acoustic and thermal functionality of a space.

Successful architecture is the seamless overlap between the social and the practical, with a large proportion of an architect's role being to improve relationships. By designing a space that allows everyone to communicate, concentrate, resonate and grow, you are bringing people together. You are creating social unity and forging a better world for future generations.



KLM Training Centre Netherlands





Ambition

Renewing KLM's Training Centre at Schiphol Airport provided the perfect opportunity to create a harmonious educational space combining functionality and style. The different environments within the centre all share one common requirement outstanding acoustic performance. It was therefore essential to give a space dedicated to concentration and collaboration, the acoustic comfort it deserves.

Achieved

From the corridors and reception area, to the briefing room and training hall, the team specified acoustic ceiling and wall solutions, individually tailored to specific aesthetic and sound treatments. Working closely with the architect to select a combination of Metal W-H 1000 wall solution, Wood Effects on Metal, Ultima⁺ OP and Hydroboard mineral ceilings, complemented by Optima Curved and Axiom Canopies and Blindboxes, to create pleasing acoustics for trainees and tutors alike.

Specification 01/02_ R-H 200, Custom Red Oak finish U-Profile + J-Bar W-H 1000, Rd 1522, RAL 7023 C-Wall Profile 03_ Optima Curved Canopy Convex Hanging Kit 04_ Axiom Circle Canopy Ultima⁺ OP Tegular

Prelude 24 XL²

Architect

Sodexo, Sander Griffioen

Client KLM

Ceiling Contractor Bovero (for Heijmans IBL Bouw Amsterdam)

Photography © Eisma Media

NPO Rizur Russia

Ambition

Located in a metal hangar, NPO Rizur had the challenge of transforming part of its workspace into a multi-use area, functioning both as a café and musical performance venue for employees. Mostly made of steel, the parameters and relative shape of the hangar can be affected by temperature and weather conditions. With the steel also providing no acoustic or thermal benefits, Armstrong proposed a solution that would create an expansive and flexible space for all seasons.

Achieved

In tackling the changing roof dimensions, the architect created a dramatic floating ceiling using a range of Optima L Canopies in circle, square and rectangular shapes. Allowing for structural flexibility under demanding external environmental conditions, the canopies also improve acoustic capabilities by attenuating and absorbing background noise, resulting in the perfect surroundings for entertaining employee performances.

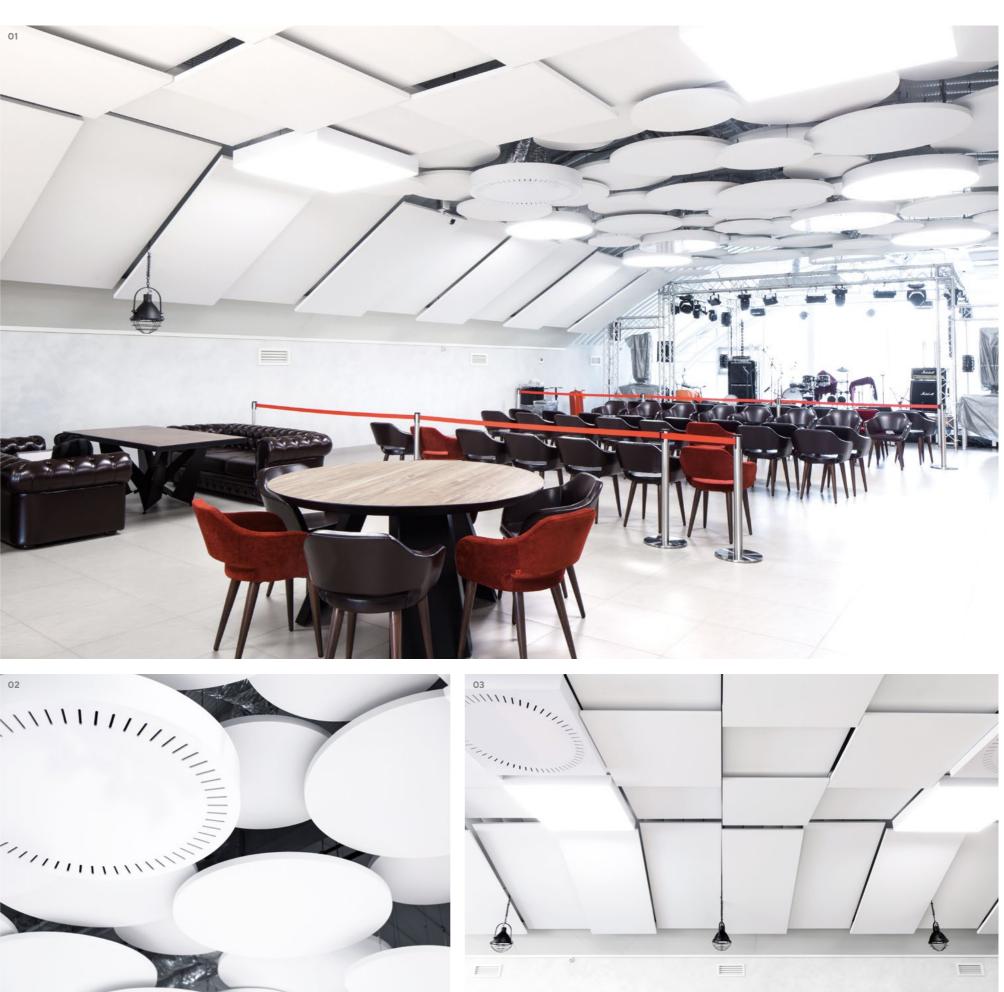
Specification 01_

Optima L Canopy Large Rectangle, Square, Small Circle & Circle . Hanging Kit 02_ Optima L Canopy Small Circle & Circle , Hanging Kit 03_ Optima L Canopy Large Rectangle & Square . Hanging Kit

Client NPO Rizur

Ceiling Contractor Centr Komplektacii SKM

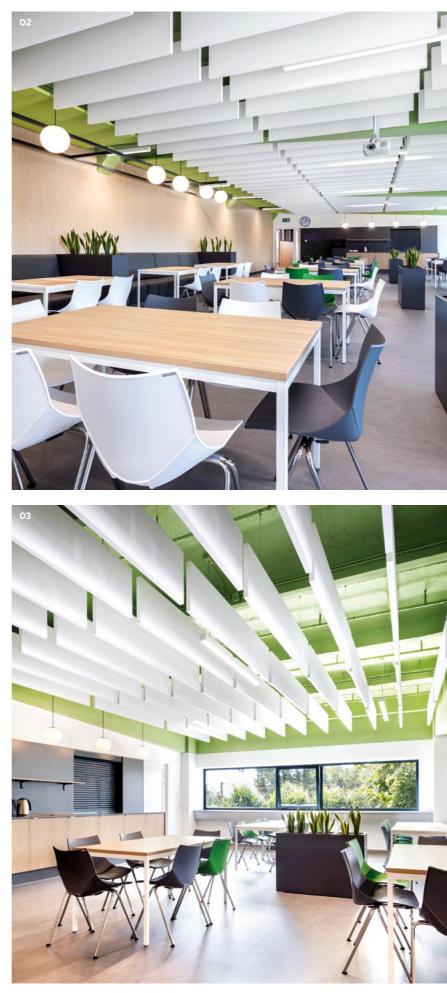
Photography © Stoppamedia











Stiegelmeyer Kępno sp. z o.o. Poland

Ambition

Achieved

Specification . 01/03_ . Optima Baffles Hanging Kits U-Profile 02_ Optima Baffles . Hanging Kits U-Profile Optima L Canopy Rectangle Hanging Kits

Architect

Client

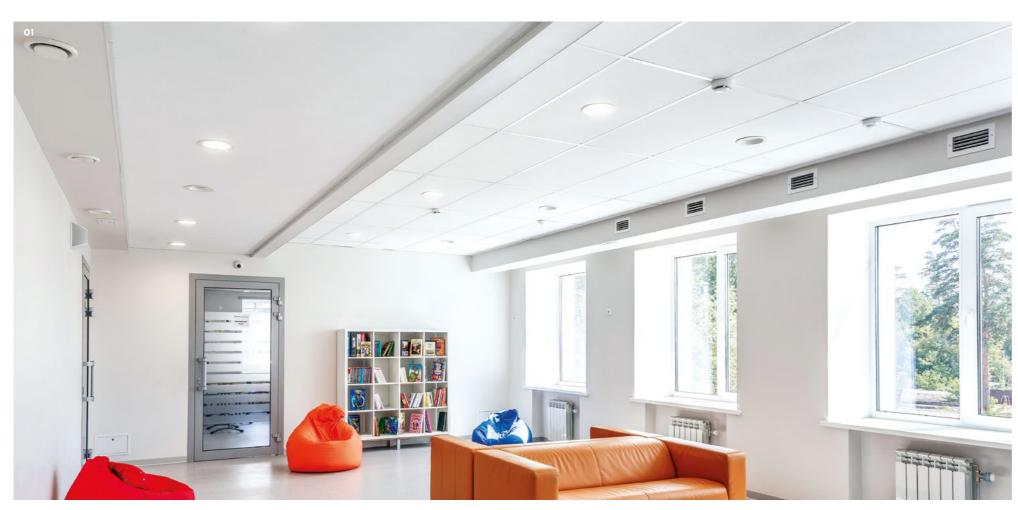
Photography © Szymon Polański

Stiegelmeyer Kępno successfully combines traditional values with modern strategy, making them an innovation driver in the global bed market. These values helped to guide the direction of design within its new headquarters, with the desired result of having a space that seamlessly fuses fashion and functionality.

Acoustic comfort is essential in a setting that consists of hard and reflective materials. Practical yet stylish and industrial in look, Optima Baffles floating ceilings also provided excellent sound absorption and reduced reverberation. Contrasting white linear baffles and green painted surfaces made for a unique and contemporary décor full of individuality.

Architectural Studio Pazdyka-Cisowska

Stiegelmeyer Kępno sp.zo.o.





Togliatti Secondary School Russia

Ambition

One of Togliatti's most well-regarded and top performing schools, the brand new building for Togliatti Secondary School needed a ceiling constructed of the highest quality materials, to comply with the latest standards and ensure a safe, practical learning environment.

Achieved

and staff.

Specification 01/02_ Sierra OP Board Javelin XL²

Architect

Client Togliatti Secondary School

Ceiling Contractor Industria Remonta

Photography © Roman Spiridonov

To deliver a brighter and acoustically balanced space, this project brought together Sierra OP and fire-resistant Dune NG mineral tiles, alongside Javelin XL². All products met the necessary fire, health and safety requirements, as well as attenuated and absorbed conversational noise, establishing a perfect educational setting for both students

House Makers (Vladimir Gurevich)

MAKING ARCHITECTURE MORE ACCOUNTABLE

SUSTAINABILITY IS A LONG-TERM CHALLENGE, NOT A QUICK FIX.

We are all aware of how much damage is being done to the planet, and this consciousness is what has put sustainability at the forefront of modern design. It's crucial that we approach this as more than just a passing trend, recognising that every decision we make has a substantial effect – both now and in the future.

Architecture's commitment to sustainable development is clearly set to continue. From the initial design, to the materials used, and on to the end of a ceiling's life, there is a renewed focus on the lasting impact of our products.







To understand the evolution of sustainable architecture, we have to look to the pioneers who went before us. Those who challenged perceptions about what could be achieved.

Since the 1930s, Frank Lloyd Wright's philosophy of creating structures that were in harmony with both humanity and the environment set the standards for today's widespread use of eco-friendly materials and renewable energy sources.

Renzo Piano, famed for The Shard in London and Pompidou Centre in Paris, creates sustainable architecture that doesn't bend the environment to its own purpose, but instead places an understanding on nature, respecting flora and fauna, as well as exploiting light and wind.

Material matters

To improve sustainability, the choice of materials is a central consideration. Selecting materials with a circular life cycle and that are 100% recyclable minimises the negative effect on the planet.

Exploring the potential of existing structures is another route. Old or unused buildings can be transformed into contemporary new spaces, without wasting resources that are already in place. Installing a new ceiling is a simple way to reinvigorate, whilst maintaining the foundations and bringing a building up-to-date. Examples can be seen in the Moxy Hotel and Atende (both featured in this edition), and located in Centrum Praskie Koneser, a regenerated vodka distillery in Warsaw.

Saving more than just the planet

Energy conservation is a simple way to reduce our environmental impact. A well-designed ceiling with high light reflectance will illuminate a room, reducing the need for electrical light outputs. By choosing a ceiling with good thermal qualities, the energy used for heating and cooling can be saved. These choices save the planet, and they save money too.

Being successful in our quest for sustainability is a commitment that can only be achieved if we all do our part. With the amount of options available, we can easily make the right choices. After all, sustainability is our future – far more than just a passing trend.







Ambition

A leading capital group in Poland's IT sector, Atende needed its new premises within Centrum Praskie Koneser to function faultlessly as an office, while retaining the neo-gothic character of this converted vodka distillery. Set apart from traditional IT offices, it would be a highly soughtafter workplace.

Achieved

With an individual and modern style, the architect teamed up with Armstrong, utilising Optima Canopies in various shapes to create a bold, unique space and enhance the acoustic capabilities. Metal Baffles were also installed in the corridors, adding to the industrial and contemporary feel.

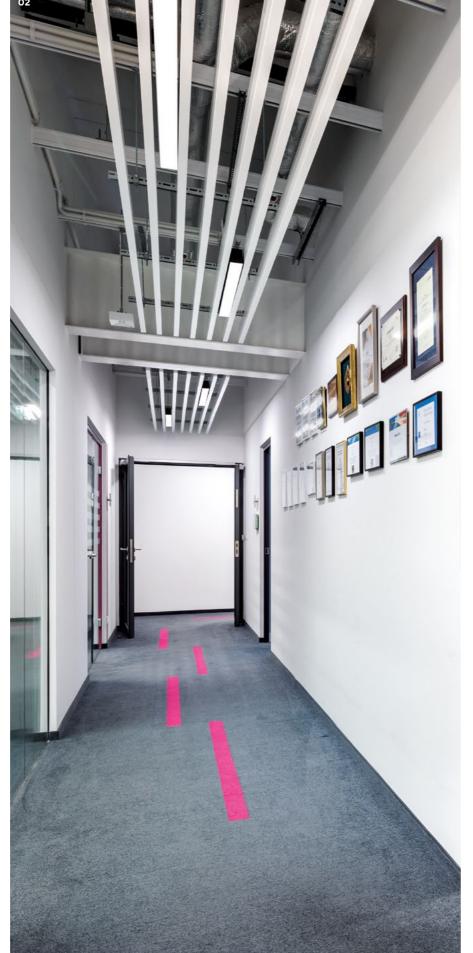
Specification 01_

Optima L Canopy Circle , Hanging Kit **02_** Metal Baffles V-P 500, RAL 9003 U-Profile 03_ Optima Canopy Hexagon Hanging Kit **04_** Optima L Canopy Medium Rectangle B Hanging Kit

Architect Concept Space Sp. z o.o.

Client Atende S.A.

Photography ©Szymon Polański











DePetrus Church Netherlands

Ambition

sensitive juxtaposition.

Achieved

Specification **01/02_** Eleganza™ Drywall Grid System

Architect lvo van den Thillart

Client DePetrus B.V.

Main Contractor

Ceiling Contractor Pennings Akoestiek B.V.

Photography © Marcel van Hoorn © Eisma Media

Dating from 1884, DePetrus Church in Vught has undergone a 21st century transformation to evolve into an impressive community space, featuring a library, museum, coffee house and shop. To maximise floor space a mezzanine was installed, weaving through the pillars to keep the centre of the church exposed. The new modern design needed to complement the period character of the building in a

Choosing Armstrong's Eleganza™ acoustic ceiling solution, the team embraced the stylish fluidity of the mezzanine, with a seamless finish producing smooth and monolithic lines. This Class A acoustic solution dampens any unwanted noise and also opens up the whole central area, flooding its modern, multipurpose space with light.

Molenaar&Bol&vanDillen Architecten,

Aannemersbedrijf M.P. Drijvers B.V.





Moxy Hotel, **Centrum Praskie** Koneser Poland

Ambition

Moxy are redefining the experience of economy hotels. Located within Koneser, an old vodka distillery, they wanted to blend the history of the building with the modern attitude of the brand. With the industrial architecture fitting perfectly with the attitude of Moxy, the task was to design a decorative ceiling with acoustic capabilities that would complement the space.

Achieved

throughout.

Specification 01_ 02/03_ Optima Canopy Hexagon, Hanging Kit

Architect

Client Liebrecht-Wood

Photography ©Szymon Polański

Opting for custom-shaped Optima Canopy Hexagon floating ceilings, the architect has created a look that is industrial and minimal. Demountable Metal F-L 601 ceilings with custom wall profiles were installed in the corridors, adding to the streamlined and highly contemporary finish

Metal F-L 601, Rg 0701, RAL 7016 Custom Aluminium Profile, RAL 7016

arch. Barbara Kowzan, Manuttone

LUCRON, **Steinerka Business Centre** Slovakia



As one of the largest residential developers in Slovakia, Lucron wanted the design of its headquarters to mirror its bright and innovative approach. Quality design is at the forefront of the business, so it was important to combine this attention to detail with Lucron's sustainable values.

Achieved

Acoustic consideration is key in every office environment. So, the team turned to selecting Optima Baffles, to deliver a ceiling system with Class A sound absorption and 87% light reflectance. Also made from 77% recycled content, they provided the height of sustainability, balanced by the height of elegance.

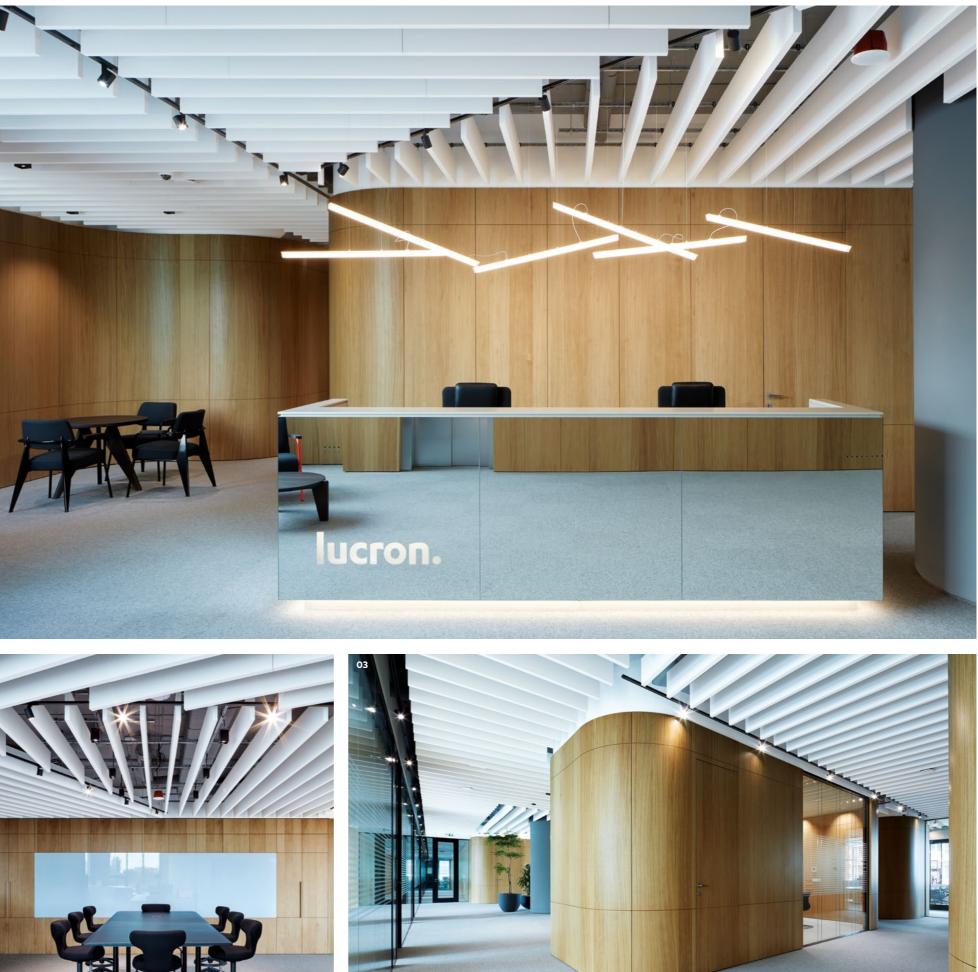
Specification 01/02/03_ Optima Baffles . U-Profile

Architect A81, s.r.o., Ing. Arch Tomas Čechvala, Ing. Arch. Ivana Jelenikova

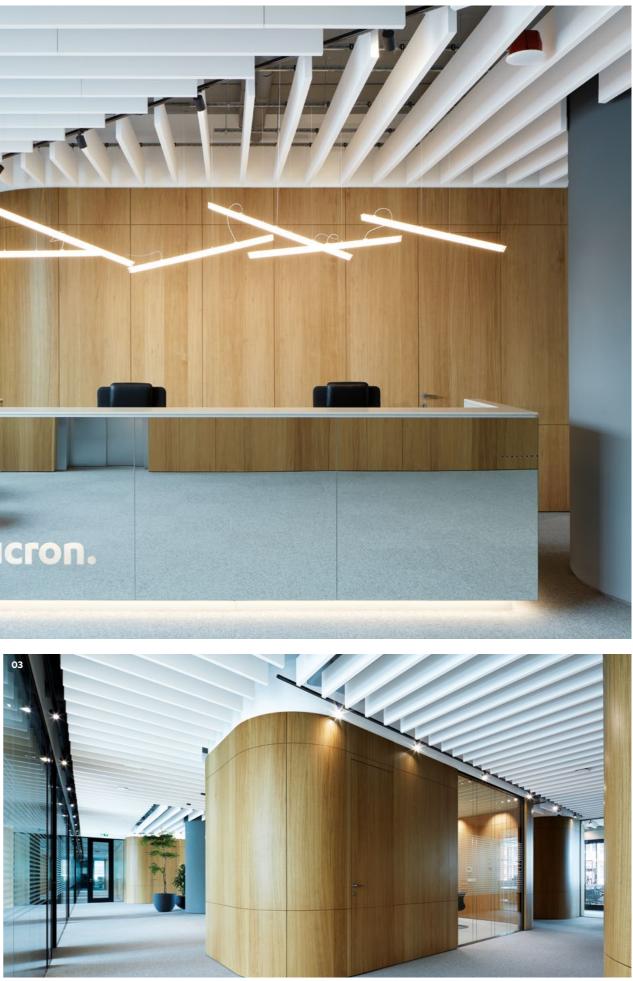
Client Lucron, a. s.

Ceiling Contractor Arakis, s.r.o.

Photography © BoysPlayNice







Lower Silesian Governor's Office Poland

Ambition

As times change, so do historical buildings if they are to adapt to today's demands. At the Lower Silesian Governor's Office, the existing courtyard was transformed into the main reception space for visitors. Creating balanced acoustics that didn't detract from the beauty of the building, citizens needed privacy to communicate with officials – a tall order in a high roofed courtyard.

Achieved

Boasting a contemporary appearance, Optima Baffles are linear panels that offer excellent sound absorption. This solution was the perfect way to combine modern aesthetics with the building's rich heritage. The subsequent booths that were formed allowed customers to enjoy confidential appointments and benefit from optimal acoustic comfort.

Specification 01/02_ Optima Baffles Custom suspension system

Architect arch. Jacek Klaminski

Client Lower Silesian Governor's Office in Wrocław

Photography © Szymon Polański



INNOVATING THE **FUTURE**

AN INTERVIEW WITH ALFONSO VERGILLOS MORENO, MSC. ARCHITECTURE (DESIGN & ENGINEERING) AND MANAGER OF YOU INSPIRE SOLUTION CENTER EMEA.

In a world that is constantly evolving, designing spaces to withstand trends is challenging. People admire new innovations, while shutting down any ideas that push the boundaries too far. To get an expert perspective, we spoke to Alfonso about his journey from studying and working as an architect, to joining Armstrong's You Inspire team.



Did you always want a career in architecture? What made you transition from being an independent architect to joining the You Inspire team?

I come from two generations of architects and have always seen my father working as one. This has had a huge influence on my career, and Armstrong has given me the chance to apply everything I've learned into a very specific area of building: the ceilings. I like to think the details are key to making bigger things work, and with metal ceilings, one millimetre can be the difference between something which is possible, or not. That's a lot of responsibility.

So far, which project has given you the most satisfaction?

I enjoy every project that challenges our department, but what comes to mind is a transport project we are currently developing in Switzerland. It'll completely change the future of metal ceilings.

Which architects, past and present, do you admire most?

I always feel inspired by architects that try something new, architects that challenge the 'not possible', and create entirely new concepts. Architects such as Luis Barragán and Antoni Gaudí are good examples of what innovation means, using colour and geometry in a way that is far from the norm.



Do you feel architecture can be best expressed when exploring more challenging concepts, or when focusing on wellbeing and social responsibility?

Both aspects are equally important. Beautiful architecture with no practical use is nonsense, and in the same way a very functional space that doesn't produce any reaction can end up as wasted architecture as the end user isn't attracted to it. The challenge is finding a balance.

Is sustainable design becoming more prominent when approaching an architect? Is this achievable when you're required to challenge product design or the status quo?

Sustainability is, fortunately, becoming increasingly important in architecture. Armstrong is constantly trying to develop new ways to reduce the impact of our product portfolio on the environment.

How do you approach projects and collaborations with architects, suppliers and Armstrong's stakeholders?

Our philosophy at You Inspire is to always try to find solutions that make architects' concepts a reality. We work with physical materials which means physical limitations, but there is always a way to design a solution that can satisfy expectations. We have a team that ensures our customers are always going to get the best support and the best products on the market.

During your independent career, and time with You Inspire, have you noticed trends or evolutions in the materials, shapes or references that architects get their inspiration from?

The main trend would be the evolution from a two-dimensional ceiling into a three-dimensional one. Architects don't see the ceiling as something to cover the building services anymore, but as a way to differentiate their design and connect the interior spaces with a concept that fits the whole building.

Which architectural elements, if any, bring You Inspire projects together, or on the contrary, set them apart?

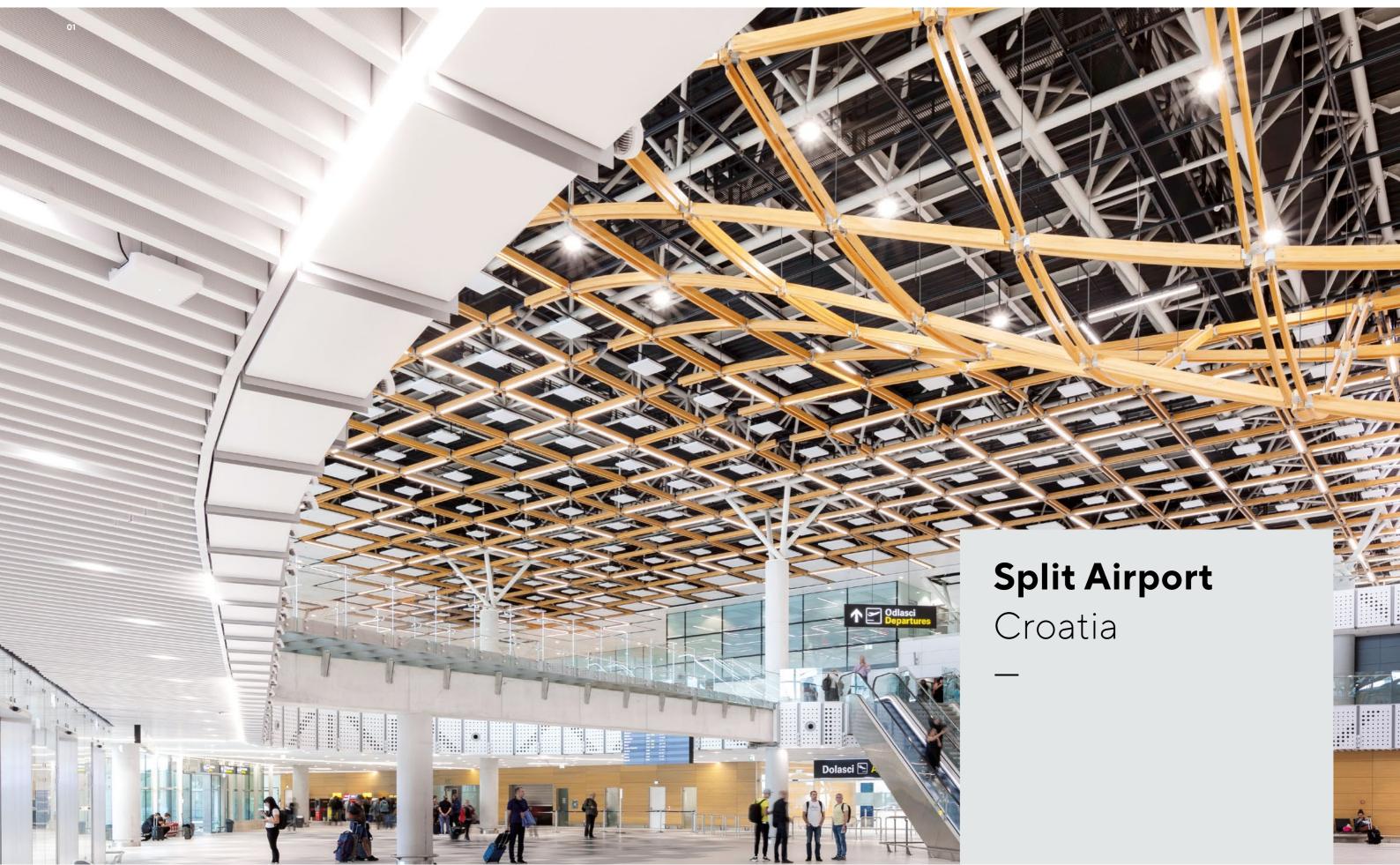
It's more than just architectural elements. I would say the innovation behind the thinking process is what brings them all together.

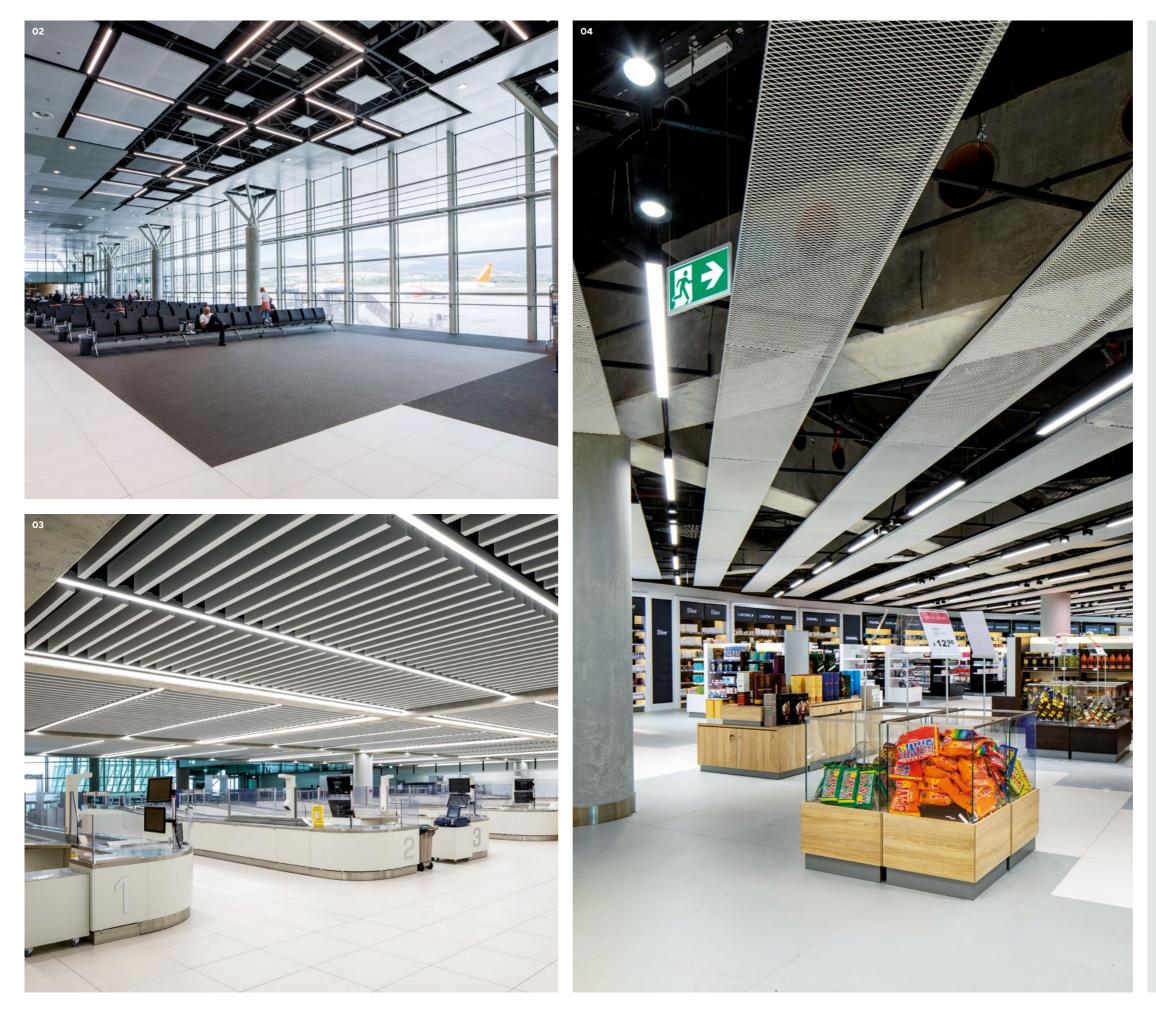
What is the most rewarding part of being part of the You Inspire team?

The most rewarding part is getting involved in such spectacular projects, connecting with great architects and building relationships that go beyond the professional level. I am more than lucky to share my professional life with a great team every day.

If you had just once piece of advice for aspiring architects, what would it be?

Do not give up! Architecture is a never-ending process. What works today will probably be out in a few years, therefore everyone has the chance to influence what will come in the future. The key is to get out of your comfort zone and drive change through innovation.





Ambition

The concept behind the 'You Inspire' project for Split Airport evolved from how humans conceive time and space. People are inquisitive threedimensional beings, and the ability to fly allows us to connect two faraway places, in a relatively short time frame. The motive was to design a space that would resemble a four-dimensional habitat never seen before.

Achieved

Armstrong's 'You Inspire' team worked closely with both the architect and ceiling contractor to transform this vision into a reality. Using a combination of custom Metal Hook-On ceilings, Metal Canopies and Metal Baffles solutions, the end result enhances the shape of the mezzanine and brings the large open space to life.

 Specification

 01__

 Metal Baffles, Rd 1522, RAL 9016

 U-Profile

 Metal Canopy, Rd 1522, RAL 9016, Premium OP19

 Custom Metal Hook-On, Rd 1522,

 RAL 9005 & 9016

 02__

 Custom Metal Hook-On, Rd 1522,

 RAL 9005 & 9016

 03__

 Metal Baffles, Rd 1522, RAL 9016

 U-Profile

 04__

 Custom Mesh Hook-On, RAL 9005 & 9016

Architect Ivan Vulić, VV - Projekt

Client Split Airport Ltd.

Ceiling Contractor Stjepan Posavec, Maksim IV d.o.o.

Photography © Miljenko Hegedić

Brands' Stories Outlet Center Russia

Ambition

Home to a selection of distinguished global brands, this characterful shopping outlet in Yekaterinburg required a light and airy, geometric ceiling solution that would draw attention to the window displays throughout. Its corridors would emulate the winding streets of small neighbouring towns, with design features helping to create a continuous flow.

Achieved

To emphasise the main concourse, a bespoke combination of triangular Optima L Canopies and plasterboard installed on a Drywall Grid System with integrated LED lighting were specified. A variety of brightly coloured triangular elements and geometric canopies appear throughout the rest of the mall, creating a striking contrast to the black background. They attract the eye to the shop signs and displays, while openings in the high ceiling bathe everywhere in natural light.

Specification 01/02_

Custom Optima L Canopy Longspan & Hanging Kit 03_ Custom Axiom Profile 150mm DGS Drywall Grid System

Architect AHR, adaptation by AVK Architects, Alexey Kopylov

Client Shopping Mall Outlet Center

Main Contractor Forum Group

Photography © Mickael Pomortsev, TyGra Design Ltd.





Equator IV Poland

Ambition

Equator IV provides sophisticated workspaces for a selection of prestigious businesses. With an interior design to reflect their high standards, one of the investor's main ambitions was to create a ceiling solution that gave careful consideration to protecting the environment, while complementing the glass façade and elegant offices of Equator IV.

Achieved

By choosing a mesh ceiling, an industrial and contemporary style was achieved, enhancing the refined interior of the lobby. Armstrong Mesh Metal ceilings are also Cradle to Cradle certified[™] as safe, healthy and endlessly reusable, effectively answering the environmentally conscious design brief too.

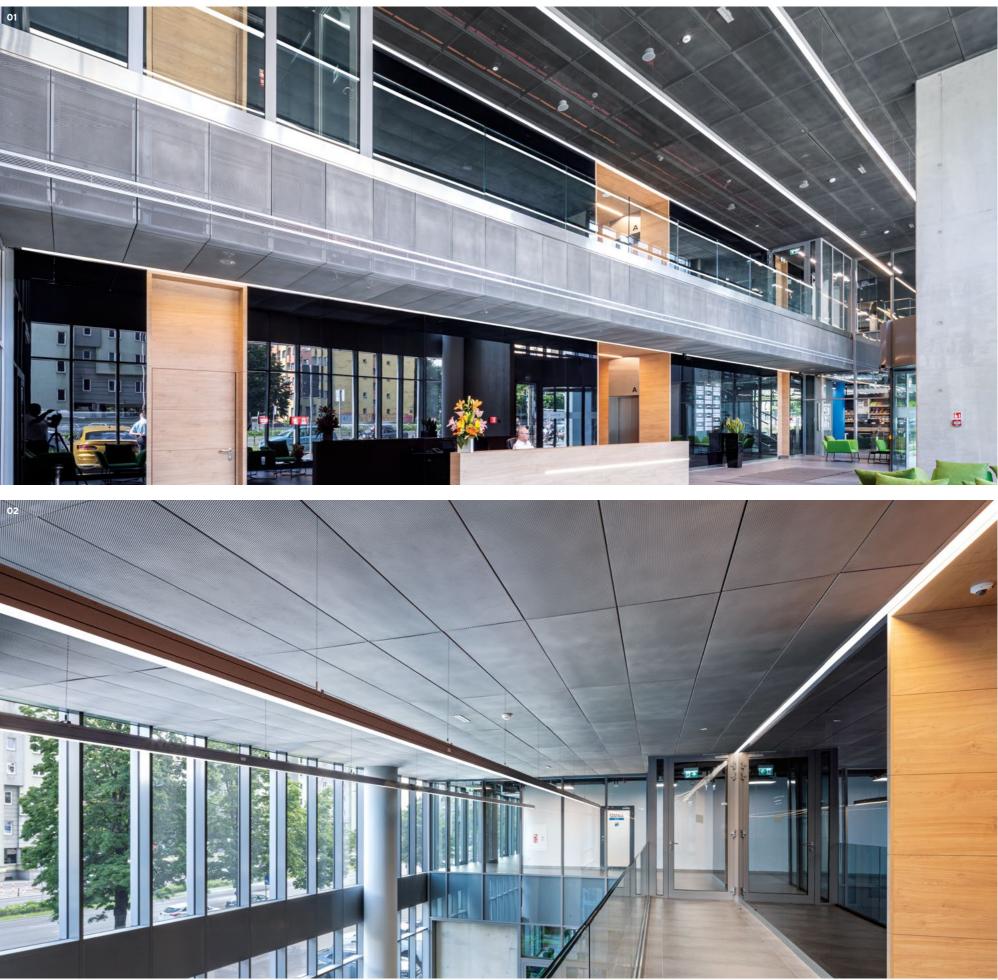
Specification 01_ Mesh R-H 215, RB25, RAL 9007 U-Profile W-H 1000, RB25 C-Wall Profile 02_ Mesh R-H 215, RB25, RAL 9007 U-Profile

Architect APA Wojciechowski

Client Karimpol

Photography ©Szymon Polański





Morris Law Sweden

Ambition

Breaking away from the traditional, the contemporary new office of Morris Law reflects its brave and innovative approach. By choosing a ceiling that was a distinctive feature within the architectural design, the Swedish law firm wanted an impressive corporate space that was unmistakably its own.

Achieved

The signature ceiling was made possible using Armstrong's aluminium Metal Q-Clip ceiling system, with a polished-mirror finish. The reflective surface gives off a soft and diffused light, creating the illusion of a higher ceiling. Resulting in a bright, spacious and sophisticated feel to complement Morris Law's qualities of clarity and transparency.

Specification **01/02_** Metal Q-Clip, Rd 2508, Mirror Effect U-Profile

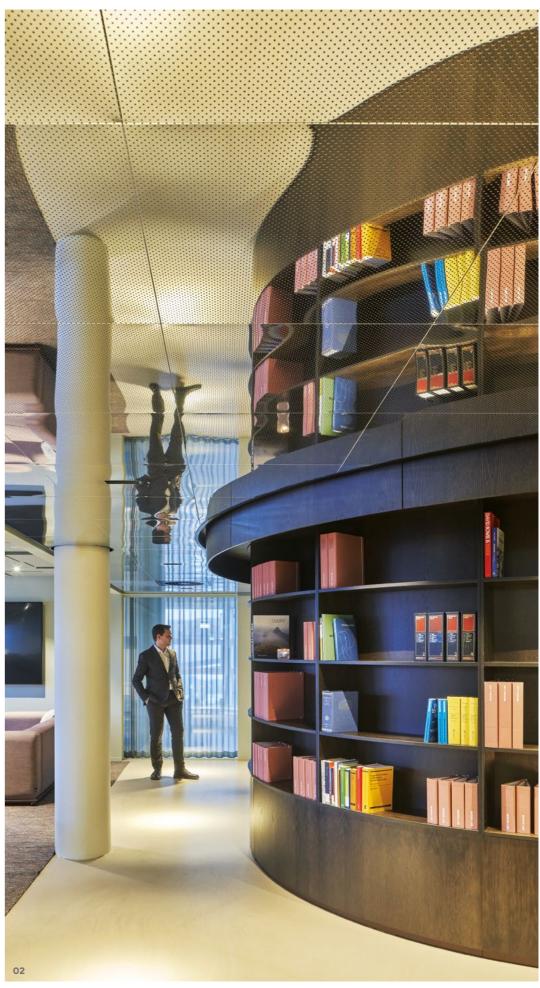
Architect Johan Olsson, Bornstein Lyckerfors Architekter

Client Morris Law

Photography

© Lindman Photography/Åke E:son Lindman





Zagreb Airport Ltd, General Aviation Terminal Croatia

Ambition

In designing the General Aviation Terminal at Zagreb Airport, the architect took inspiration from the sky, requesting a ceiling that brought the space closer to the passenger experience in the air. This was a perfect chance to introduce an element of creativity to a space that pushed simplicity and functionality.

Achieved

By using Mesh and Optima canopies in uniform hexagons, the You Inspire team designed a ceiling that formed an abstract representation of clouds. Combining different textures with varying shades of blue and grey, and by setting the canopies at altering levels, the ceiling had plenty of depth to emulate flying through the clouds, giving this terminal a distinctive identity.

Specification 01/02_ Custom Hexagonal Mesh RB35, NCS S2020-R80B Custom hanging system Custom Optima Canopy Hexagon, RAL 7035 & 9010

Architect Gorana Giljanović, Eugen Popović

Client Zagreb Airport Ltd, General Aviation Terminal

Main Contractor Gradel d.o.o.

Photography © Miljenko Hegedić









FORM, FUNCTION AND INCLUSIVITY

FROM SENSORY EXPERIENCES TO DISSOLVING THE BOUNDARIES BETWEEN INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR SPACES, YOUR CHOICE OF CEILING MATTERS. When it comes to interior design, it's important to ensure that everyone can benefit from their surroundings. Whether that's by improving sensory experiences – allowing the senses to move us through a space – or by connecting humans with nature to improve wellbeing, this is about inclusivity. Transforming an environment through the integration of light, sound and natural materials for the advantage of all.

Common sense

When you think that over 50% of the brain is used to process images, it's no wonder that so much emphasis is placed on the visual side of design. But how can the other senses be utilised to not just improve perceptions, but improve our lives and wellbeing?

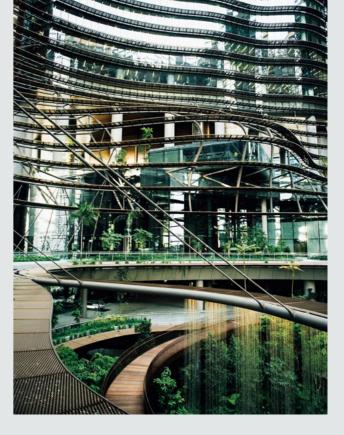
The answer lies in taking a more progressive approach to the form and function of a building. Moving beyond just ticking boxes for disability and accessibility and considering what can make a difference to everyone who enters its doors.

The good news is, making a space more inclusive doesn't have to be a tall order. Not if the senses are opened up.

Things like allowing ambient light to enter naturally. Avoiding bright focused beams or contrasting shadows which could impact visibility. Ensuring that ceiling tiles reflect and diffuse sunlight within the building, so as to reduce the dependency on artificial lighting.

Scents and aromatherapy can help, but this is as much about breathing in what's clean and healthy – air that's free from VOCs due to the use of natural cleaning supplies and low-emission materials.

Touch is hugely significant. Including nature in our spaces helps to reduce stress, enhance cognitive performance and enhance moods and positive emotions. This is something everyone can benefit from.



At one with nature

More than just being a tangible experience, bringing elements of the outdoors in, can transform spaces like never before. The use of water, stone, plants and the warmth of wood all provide a unique visual connection with nature – textures and colours that are comfortable, reassuring and a boost to our sense of wellbeing.

Nothing is more inclusive than joining the outside and inside together. A blurring of lines for an environment that increases productivity and creativity, making people want to actively spend their time there. Such as our recent project for The Green Planet (featured in this edition), which successfully blended a rainforest ecosystem with educational, laboratory and support spaces inside a cylindrical biome.

It's not just about bringing the outdoors in either. The outside courtyard of The Lower Silesian Governor's Office (a realisation also featured in this edition) was transformed into an indoor functional space. Enclosed, yet still kept in balance with natural light.

It just goes to show that you don't need to look to the sky for inspiration. The right ceiling material to match the right project, can open up a world of possibilities – to which everyone is invited.





Ambition

The objective for The Green Planet Science Centre was to design an environment that allowed for a symbiotic relationship between human beings and life found within a rainforest. A cylindrical biome would house a living, breathing ecosystem, alongside educational, laboratory and support spaces. The ceilings therefore needed to withstand a simulated tropical environment, while remaining safe and attractive for visitors.

Achieved

To implement a ceiling system in such demanding conditions, the architecture specialties team had to find an aesthetically pleasing solution resilient enough for high moisture levels. Combinations of Wood Grille, fashioned from Ipe wood, Metal R-H 200 and Optima Tegular Mineral tiles were used in different habitats. Strategically placed Wood Grille slats enhanced the curvature of the central cylinder, and in less exposed areas, smooth Optima Mineral ceilings provided excellent sound absorption.

Specification 01_ Wood Grille, Ipe Wood 02_ Custom Metal R-H 200 Custom Radial Bulkheads

Architect Grout McTavish Architects

Client The Green Planet

Property Developer Meeras

Photography ©Daniel Cheong Photography

Centre for Research and Interdisciplinarity (CRI) France

Ambition

Situated within the historic Parisian neighbourhood of Marais, the CRI wanted to emphasise its architectural ambition, while operating as a multi-functional urban campus. The collaborative spaces within the centre act as a hub for nurturing conversation and debates - therefore acoustic consideration was crucial.

Achieved

To work in harmony with the skylight's frames and the overlooking façades, custom Optima Baffles were the solution of choice. Assembled in one metre cubes gently suspended in mid-air, these minimalist features create a striking visual focus and strengthen the sound absorption capacity within the space. Contributing not only to acoustical comfort, they also help to create a stylish and sophisticated ambience.

Specification

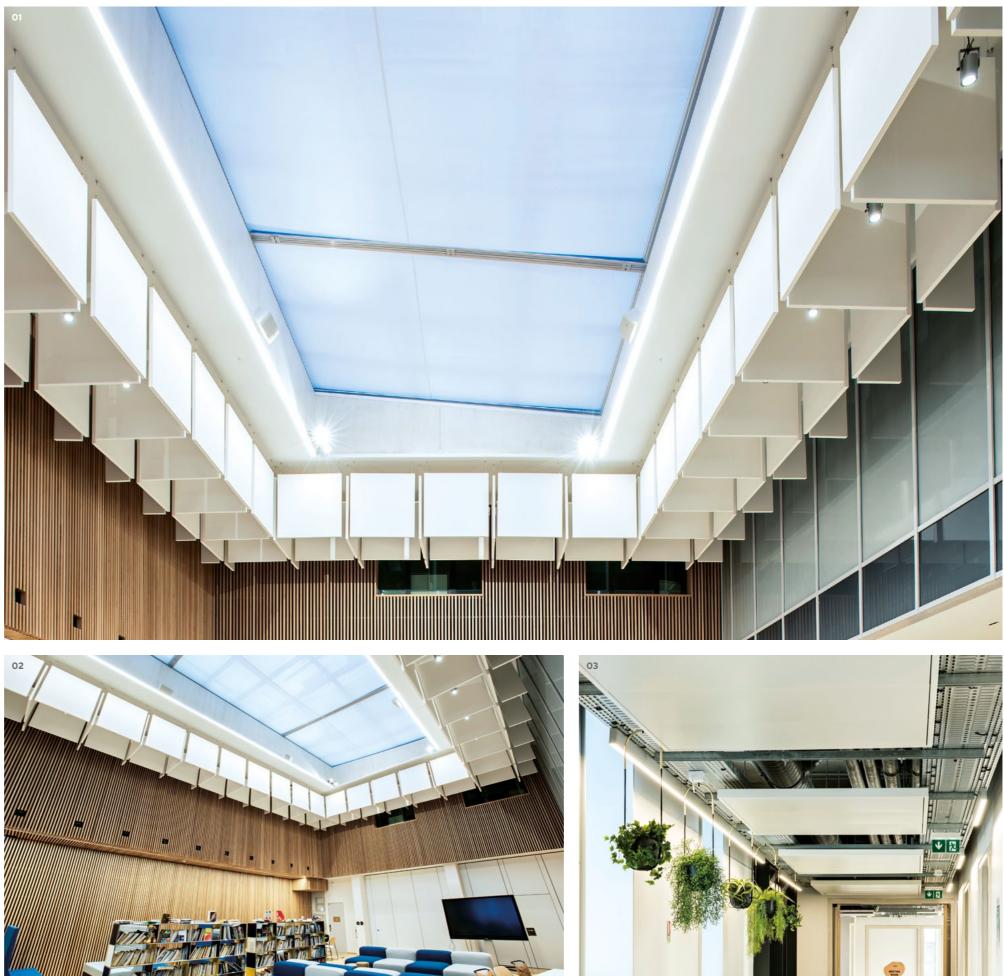
01/02_ Custom Optima Baffles Hanging Kit 03_ Metal F-H 600 with Swing-Down function Custom installation with G-Profile

Architect Architecture Patrick Mauger

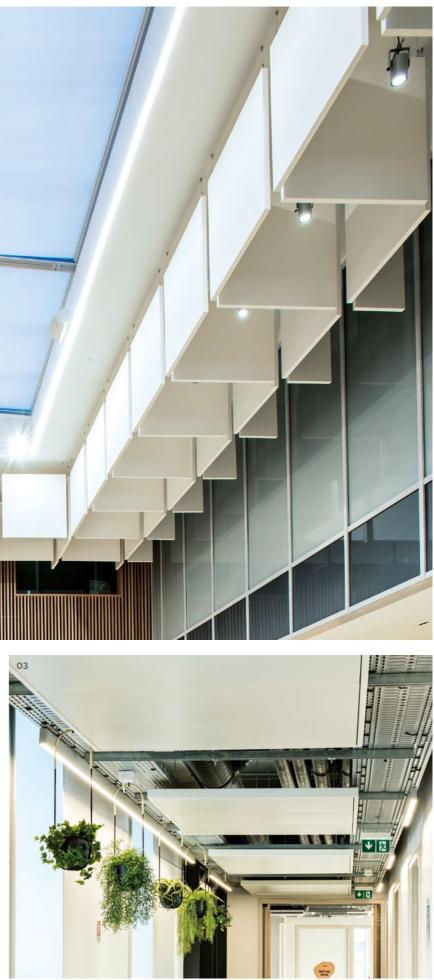
Client Centre de Recherches Interdisciplinaires

Main Contractor Vinci Construction

Photography © Studio Vu







Ivanja Reka **Primary School** Croatia

Ambition

A popular neighbourhood in the Croatian capital of Zagreb, the construction of Ivanja Reka's new primary school called for a robust yet aesthetically pleasing ceiling solution, to help create a light and airy atmosphere throughout the busy corridors, library and lecture hall.

Achieved

Optima Baffles, complemented with Optima Baffle Curves provided the perfect combination of form, function and style. Mesh F-H 600 floating solutions were used to give corridors and circulation areas a distinct industrial look, with visible technical elements and see-through lighting. Designed to reduce ambient noise and meeting all fire, health and safety regulations, this resulted in a welcoming educational environment for all.

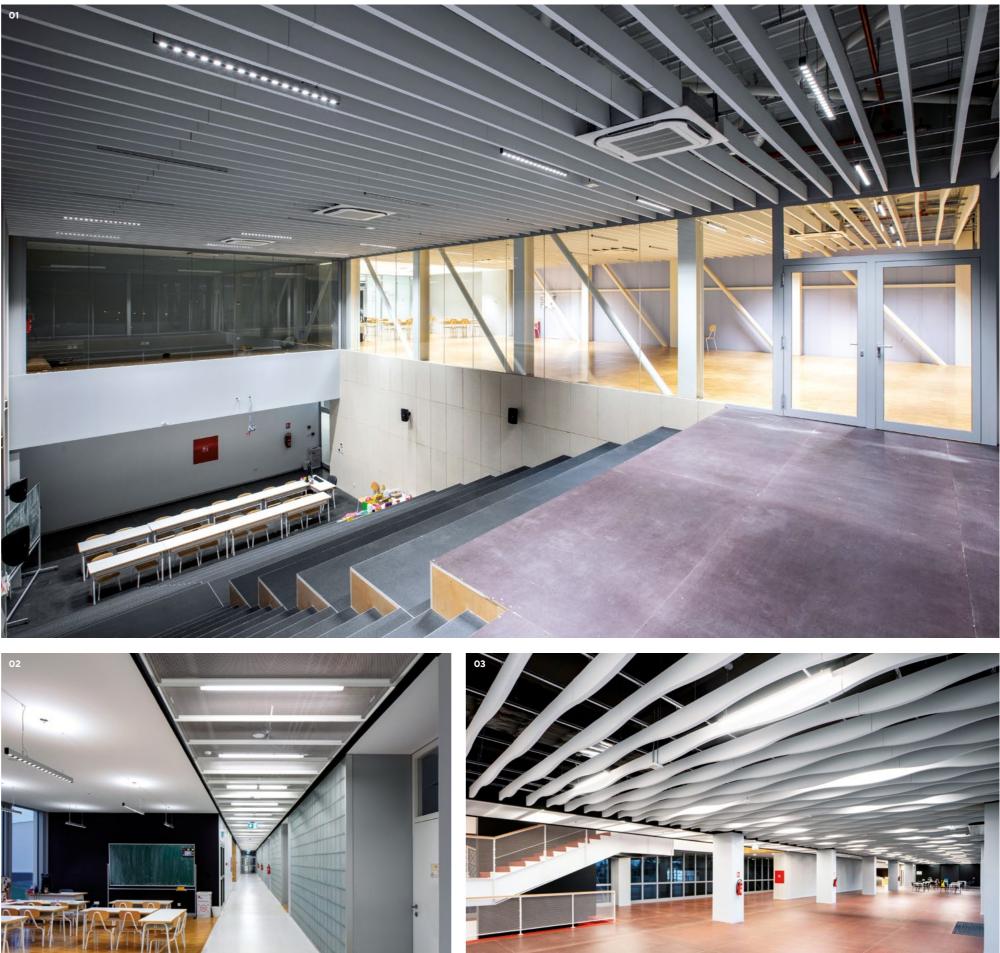
Specification

01_ Optima Baffles . U-Profile 02_ Mesh F-H 600 Wall Bracket + J-Bar 03_ Optima Baffles Curves U-Profile

Architect Marija Burmaz, Ivo-Lola Petrić, Submap d.o.o.

Ceiling Contractor Stjepan Posavec, Maksim IV d.o.o.

Photography © Miljenko Hegedić







Mall of the Netherlands, Randstad Netherlands

Ambition

Set to become the country's biggest shopping destination, Mall of the Netherlands will boast almost 300 retail outlets with 7.5 metre-high shopfronts, as well as many restaurants and entertainment venues. To emulate the iconic scale and style, it demanded an innovative ceiling system with seamless, monolithic looks and outstanding Class A sound absorption.

Achieved

For such a flagship project, there had to be only one choice. Eleganza™ is a complete system solution that puts sophisticated sensory design at the core of your constructions. It's quicker, easier, more flexible and more cost-effective to install, bringing order and acoustic control to quietly enhance retail and leisure surroundings. The perfect balance of sight and sound, beauty and performance – quietly enhancing the spaces and physical experience.

Specification . 01/02/03_ Eleganza™

Architect MVSA Architects

Client Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield

Ceiling Contractor Pennings Akoestiek B.V.

Photography © MVL Media Groep







Priboj **Technical School** Serbia

Ambition

Achieved

Specification 01/02_ Sahara MicroLook Shadowline Perimeter Prelude 15 TL

Architect Studio A&D Architects DOO and GHVC Studio

Client Republic of Serbia

Ceiling Contractor Kej Valjevo

Photography © Studio A&D Architects DOO

Founded in 1947, Priboj Technical School had seen 68 generations of students come through its doors, before a much-needed renovation in 2018. The Office of Public Investment Management needed help to breathe new life into the old school building, as well as bring it up-to-date with the construction of a modern gym.

Combining a light textured surface with a good balance of sound absorption and attenuation, Sahara MicroLook tiles created a bright, contemporary flow throughout classrooms, corridors and other spaces. All brought together with a Prelude 15 TL grid system and Shadowline Perimeter trim resulting in a soft, visually pleasing shadow effect.

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THE IMPACT ARCHITECTURE HAS ON A PERSON'S MOOD IS HUGE. ARGUABLY THESE **ARE THE FUNDAMENTALS OF ARCHITECTURE:** NOT HOW IT LOOKS, BUT HOW WE FEEL IT, THROUGH THE WAY IT ALLOWS US TO ACT, BEHAVE, THINK AND REFLECT.

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DR MELANIE DODD

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR OF SPATIAL PRACTICES, CENTRAL ST MARTINS ART SCHOOL, LONDON.

OPTIMAL SPACE

HOW A CEILING CAN **GIVE A ROOM A GREATER** SENSE OF PURPOSE. NOT JUST BIGGER, BUT MORE RESOURCEFUL.

In architectural circles it's a common fact that elements such as light, geometry and materials can all affect our moods. But none more profoundly than space. Space is the great extender. The opportunity to make creative statements and add functionality to a room. Space is why, when it comes to the interior of a building, we should consider the ceiling as the perfect place to start.

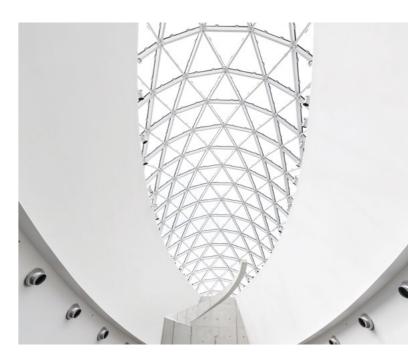
Greater space, intelligent design

We live in a world with a growing population. By 2050, nearly 70% of the world's population will live in cities, compared to 55% today. It equates to an extra 1.2 billion people¹. This demographic - those who are younger, more affluent and more driven to demand living and workplaces which provide a greater sense of 'space' to benefit their wellbeing, will expect their buildings to outperform and be more resourceful.

So how do we go about it? How do we address this need of making more of what's above our heads? Naturally, through intelligent design. Using techniques such as light-reflective panels to expand the feeling of volume and openness. Drawing attention to vertical lines with eye-catching canopies or skylights.

Bold lighting can create a room with a greater sense of space, making it feel larger. But it's more than just going bigger, though. A building's interior should be conceived in a way that uses available space to its advantage.

¹Source: UN.



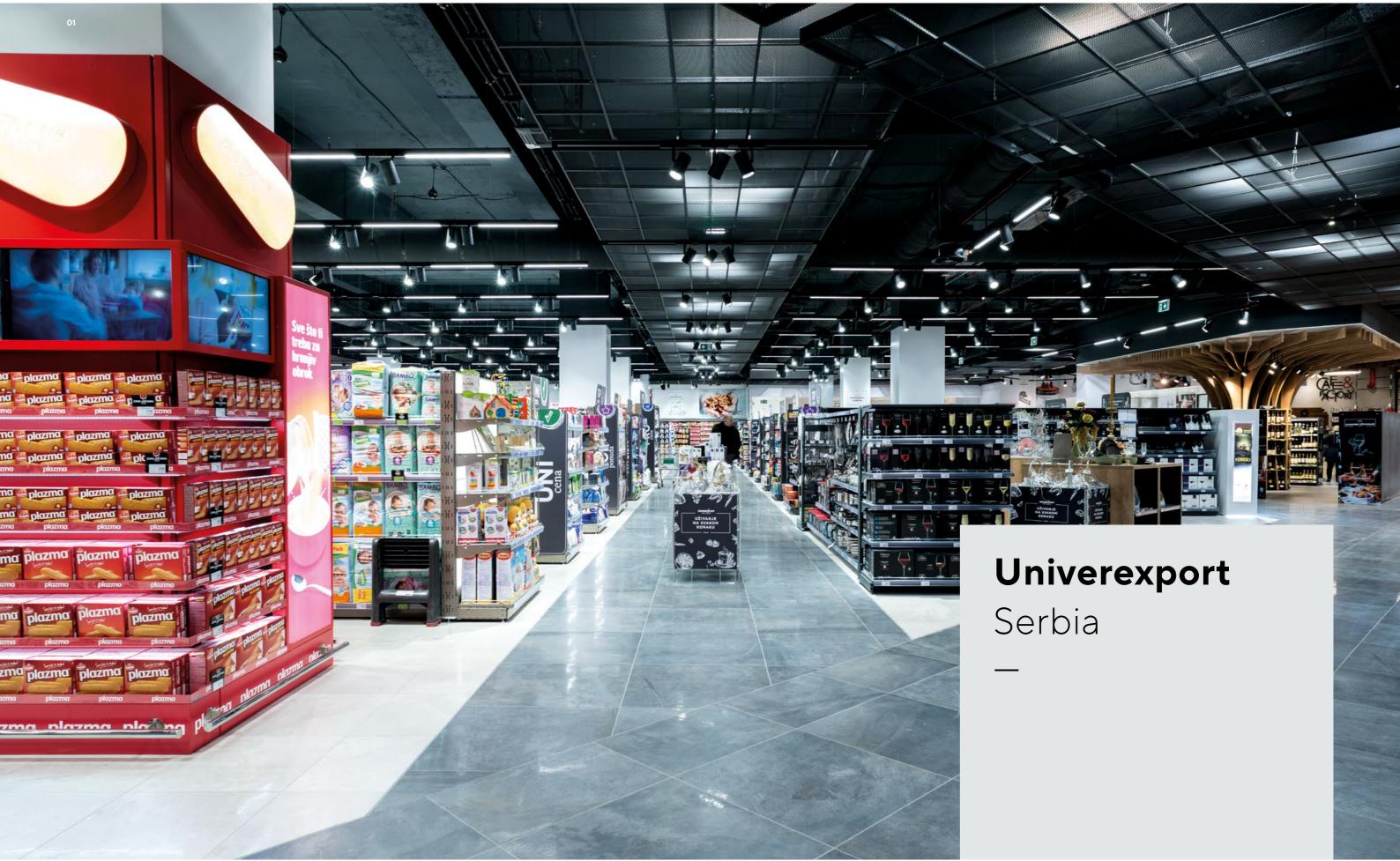
Allow for flexibility

Places such as operating theatres, make best use of lower ceilings - it focuses and encloses everything in, not least the surgeon's attention. Whereas any artist will tell you they'd rather create in a studio with a high ceiling - the space for free-thinking and ever-expanding plans.

But when it comes to the design of your next building, its structure should not try to dictate how a person should feel. Instead the aim should be to allow flexibility - letting each person experience and explore it in their own way.

Whether for individuals or groups, working or leisure, choosing the right ceiling allows for optimal conditions.

Combining acoustic and thermal comfort with natural light, or finding a balance between striking angles and seamless curves, it is possible for architects to create a ceiling with a greater sense of space. Not necessarily bigger, but bolder and more assured.



Ambition

To create a next level shopping experience, Armstrong worked with the architect to design a bespoke and modern ceiling that fitted around the flexible layout of a contemporary new supermarket located in Serbia's second largest city. An exciting project with plenty of opportunities and just as many challenges.

Achieved

Island solutions are particularly suitable for achieving striking, free-flowing industrial design. To do this, sleek Mesh Metal board ceilings in Axiom Profiles were introduced, highlighted with vertical, sound absorbing Optima Baffles and Metal R-H 200 curved panels in a variety of vibrant colours. It formed a captivating space to draw customers in and shape the entire retail experience.

Specification 01/02_ Mesh Lay-In Board, RAL 9005 Axiom Profiles 100mm, RAL 9005 Prelude 24 TL², RAL 9005

03_ Custom Metal R-H 200 Concave & Convex Panels, RAL3015 U-Profile + J-Bar

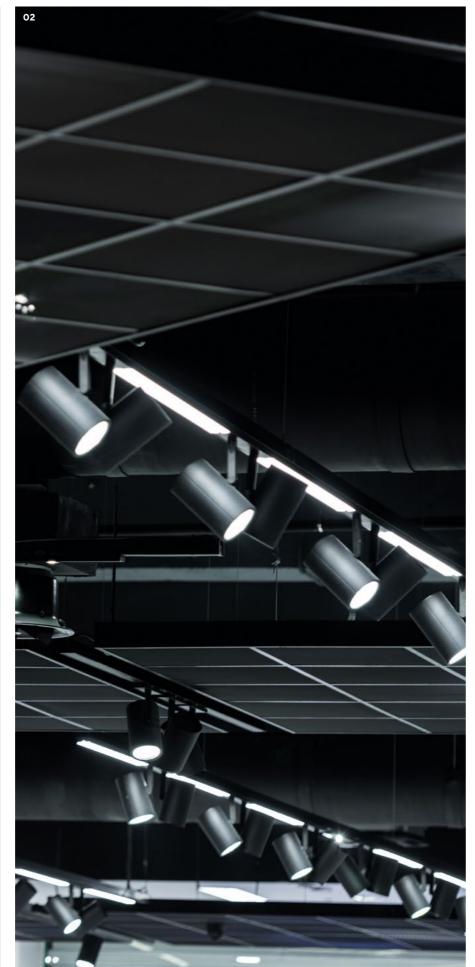
04__ Optima Baffles, custom colour Hanging Kit

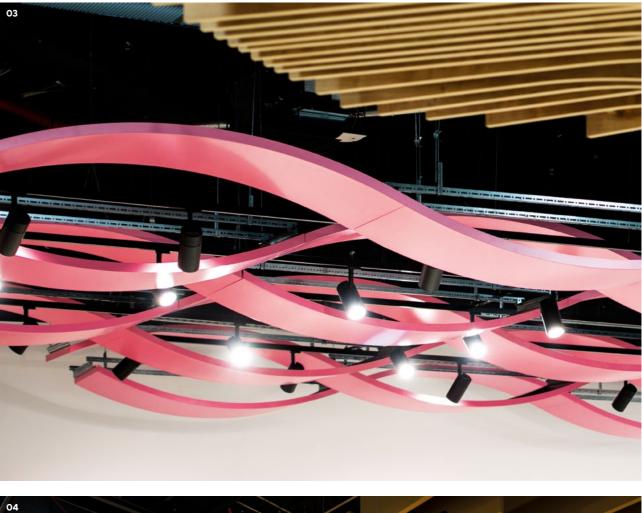
Architect Djordje Bajilo, dba

Client Univerexport

Ceiling Contractor GIA

Photography © Marko Cvetkovic Cvele









Centre of Medical Simulation, **Medical University** of Lublin Poland

Ambition

Achieved

Specification 01/02/03_ Prelude 15 TL

Architect arch. Piotr Machowiak Pracownia Architektoniczna 1997

Client Medical University of Lublin

Photography © Szymon Polański

Professionalism, commitment and cooperation are the three core values adopted by the Medical University of Lublin. To honour such principles, the Centre of Medical Simulation asked for a learning environment that put hygiene, durability and quality at the forefront of the ceiling design.

Metal R-Clip F, Q-Clip F and Metal Lay-In solutions opened up the possibility of using various perforation patterns and acoustic infills, to achieve the demanding acoustic performance of a healthcare space. A durable, sleek finish lent itself as a hygienic choice and easy access to the ceiling allowed service devices to be concealed, creating a resistant and easy to maintain environment.

Metal Lay-In MicroLook 8, Rd 1522, RAL 9010 Black Premium B15 Acoustic Fleece

Sheremetyevo International Airport Russia

Ambition

As the international hub for Russian flag carrier, Aeroflot, it was essential that Sheremetyevo's new interterminal passage took on a welcoming, modern and streamlined design. Accommodating over 40 million passengers annually meant providing a ceiling solution that was highly durable and in keeping with the overall striking appeal.

Achieved

To deliver the high-end aesthetic, balanced with a low maintenance, seamless installation, the architect and contractor teamed up with Armstrong to design a custom Metal Clip-In solution. The bold angular ceiling enhanced this highly visible public space, making every arrival and departure as memorable as the destinations themselves.

Specification 01_ Metal Lay-In Axal Vector, RAL 5020 Prelude 24 XL² 02/03_ Custom Metal Clip-In U-Profile + DP12 A-Bar

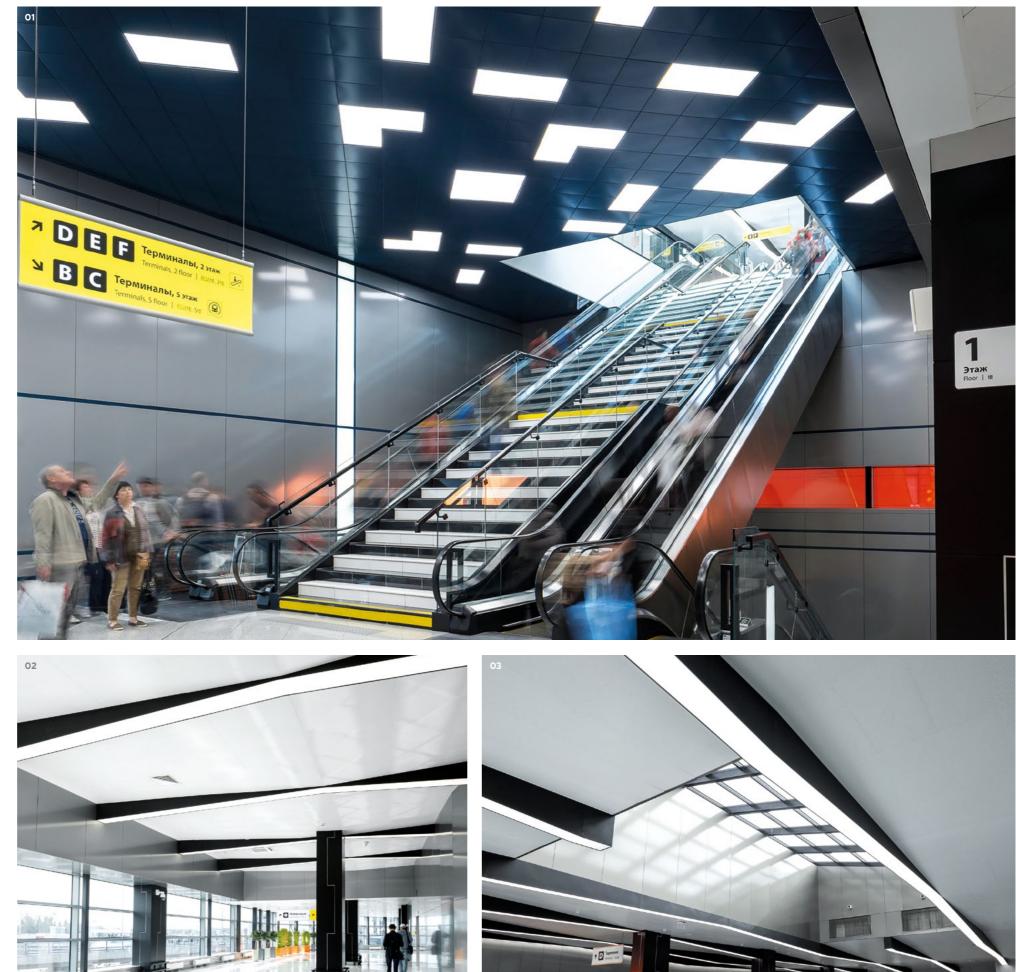
Architect RMJM

Client TPS Avia Holding

Main Contractor LLC Energo-Stroy

Photography © Stoppamedia

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Salon Meblowy VOX Poland

Ambition

To emulate real homes and apartments, this furniture retailer desired a simple and streamlined design with a maximum ceiling height of three metres. Armstrong's challenge was to provide a solution that brought the light and airy feel of Nordic styling to these residential dimensions.

Achieved

With this firmly in mind, the team from Salon Meblowy VOX decided on Cellio open cell metal ceilings in white. It created a lighter appearance, allowing for lower ceilings without adding unnecessary weight to the room. Bandraster profiles were also integrated to act as a tray for cables, resulting in a clean and minimalist vibe.

Specification 01/02/03_ Metal Cellio C49, RAL 9010 Prelude 15 TL Bandraster 75

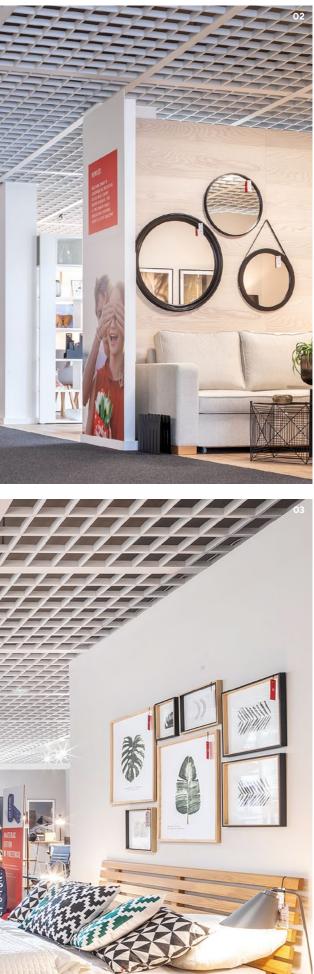
Architect Meble Domo

Client Meble Domo

Photography © Szymon Polański

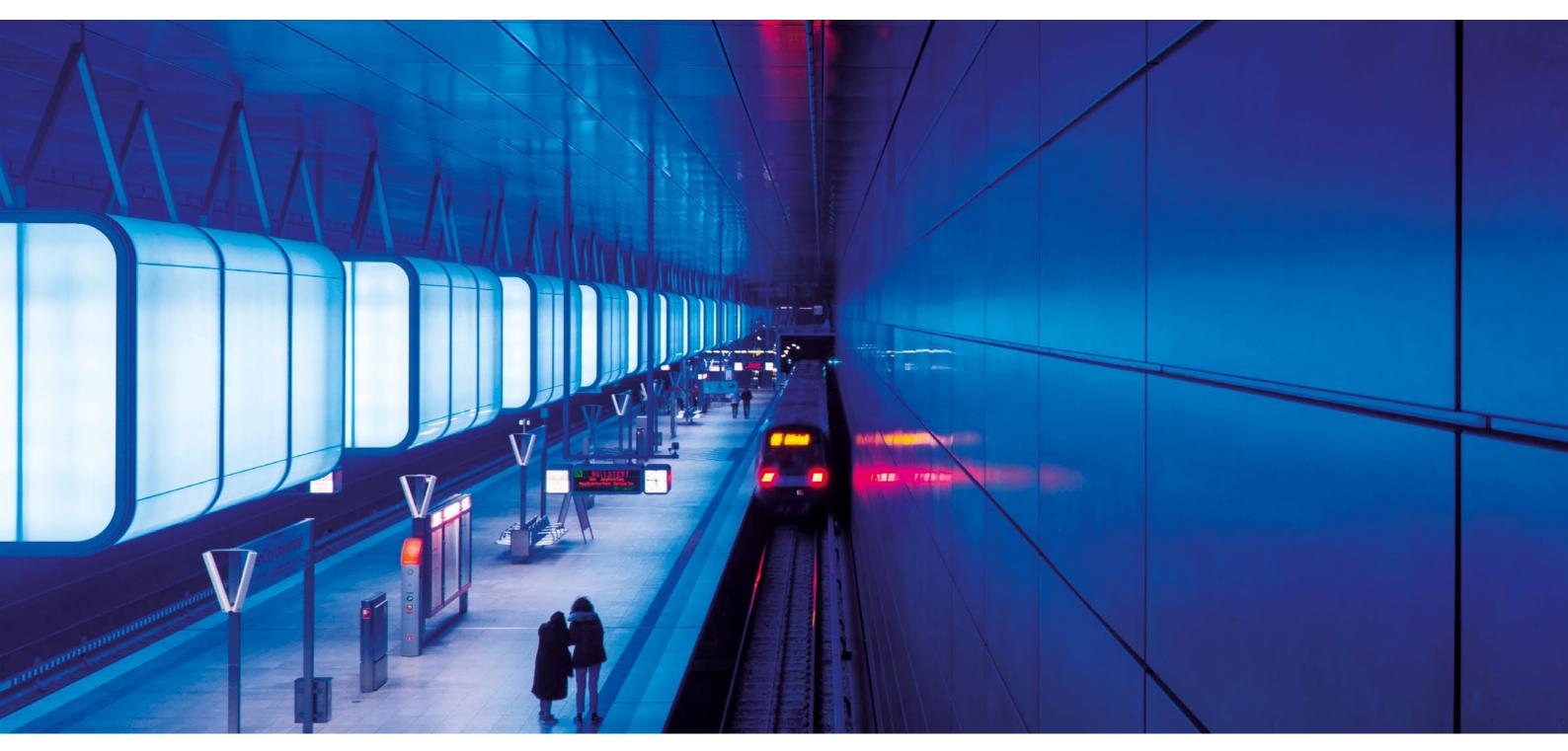






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Ambition Achieved

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