

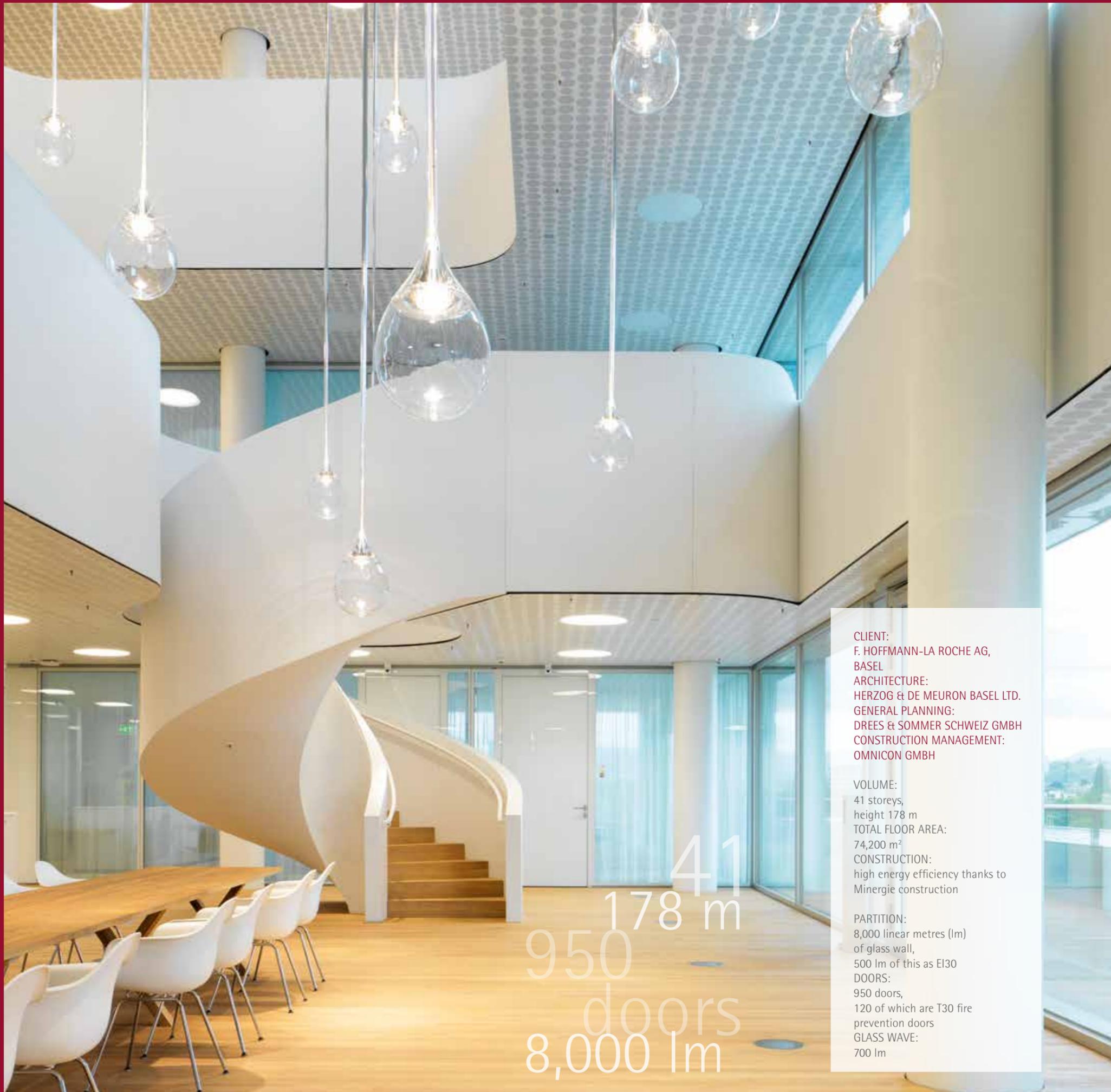
SYSTEM 2300

BUILDING 1

F. Hoffmann-
La Roche AG,
Basel



CASE STUDY
NO. 35



Attractive offices for innovative work

Planned by architects Herzog & de Meuron, "Building 1", 178 metres tall, was erected on the Roche site in Basel. Here, 2,000 Hoffmann-La-Roche members of staff work on 41 floors in attractive workplaces in the tallest building in Switzerland. The aim was to create innovative working conditions in a building that fosters internal organisation and actively supports communication.

The public and semi-public areas, such as the auditorium, are located on the lower floors. The office floors above them can be separated into three areas: communication zones with conference rooms and kitchenettes; offices; and the lift-lobby. Herzog & de Meuron had clear ideas for the interior decoration as regards aesthetics, function, technology and flexibility.

Strähle's partition wall system 2300 fulfils all these requirements. It combines an elegant all-glass appearance with fire safety and soundproofing and is easy to disassemble and move if required.

THE EXTERIOR OF BUILDING 1 IS DESIGNED IN THE TRADITION OF MODERN ARCHITECTURAL LANGUAGE OF THE 1930S, WHEREAS THE INTERIOR CAN ADAPT TO THE CONSTANTLY CHANGING REQUIREMENTS OF PRESENT-DAY, INNOVATIVE WORKING CONDITIONS.

CLIENT:
F. HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE AG,
BASEL
ARCHITECTURE:
HERZOG & DE MEURON BASEL LTD.
GENERAL PLANNING:
DREES & SOMMER SCHWEIZ GMBH
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT:
OMNICON GMBH

VOLUME:
41 storeys,
height 178 m
TOTAL FLOOR AREA:
74,200 m²
CONSTRUCTION:
high energy efficiency thanks to
Minergie construction

PARTITION:
8,000 linear metres (1m)
of glass wall,
500 1m of this as EI30
DOORS:
950 doors,
120 of which are T30 fire
prevention doors
GLASS WAVE:
700 1m

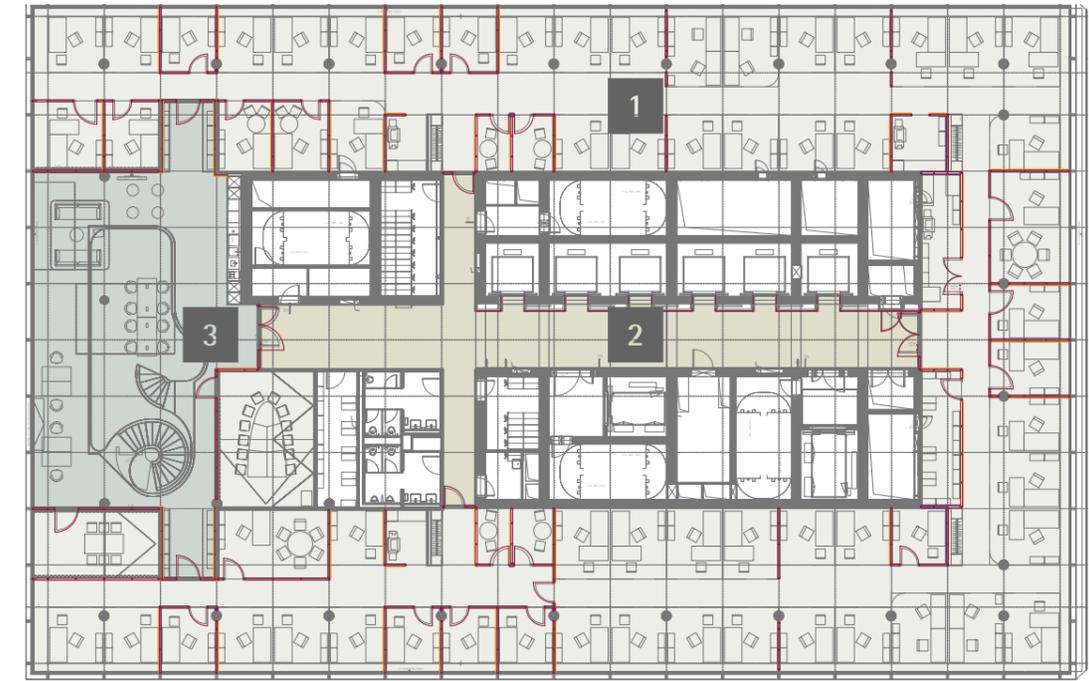
41
178 m
950
doors
8,000 1m

Many requirements, one partition wall system

For the interior architecture, Herzog & de Meuron wanted to ensure a uniform, flush-bonded appearance and at the same time fulfil high standards of soundproofing and fire safety. A further requirement was high flexibility in the use of the building.

All this was realised using the all-glass system 2300 by Strähle. It is highly modular, enabling partitions to be specified in accordance with the wide range of requirements. For the first time, the glass was bonded as white glass with special white silicon. This ensured a calm, purposeful appearance taking up the main colour of the building and co-ordinating perfectly with the oak flooring.

Depending on location and use, the partition walls conform to soundproofing specifications Rwp 46 dB and Rwp 50 dB, as well as fire safety specifications. A total of 8,000 running metres of high-quality glass walls and 950 doors were installed by Strähle. The walls and doors to the communication zones conform with fire prevention specification EI30. In particular, the room-height doors give the floors their elegance.



UPPER FLOOR 19

- 1 office space
- 2 lift lobby
- 3 communication space

A further development of the site in the planning stage.



BUILDING 1
F. HOFFMANN-
LA ROCHE AG,
BASEL
Architecture:
Herzog & de Meuron

SYSTEM
2300

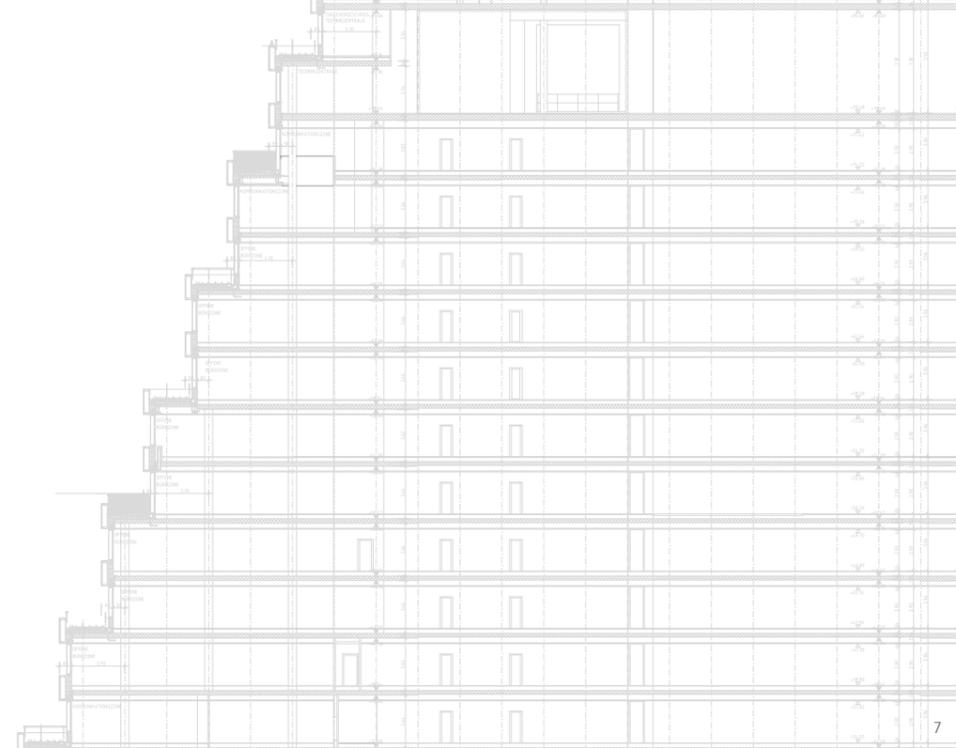


Visual references

A significant element of the high-standard interior architecture is provided by the flush-bonded glass walls without a visible frame. They divide the room into individual, team and open-space offices and create an open, transparent office environment on each floor.

The floor design of the modular, highly flexible partition wall system 2300 is based on Strähle's patented mullion structure. The glass units were suspended directly into the system modules, forming one static, structural unit. This system, combined with the modular layout and the ceiling design in the office areas, enables simplified spatial reorganization.

light
flush-bonded
transparency
glazed

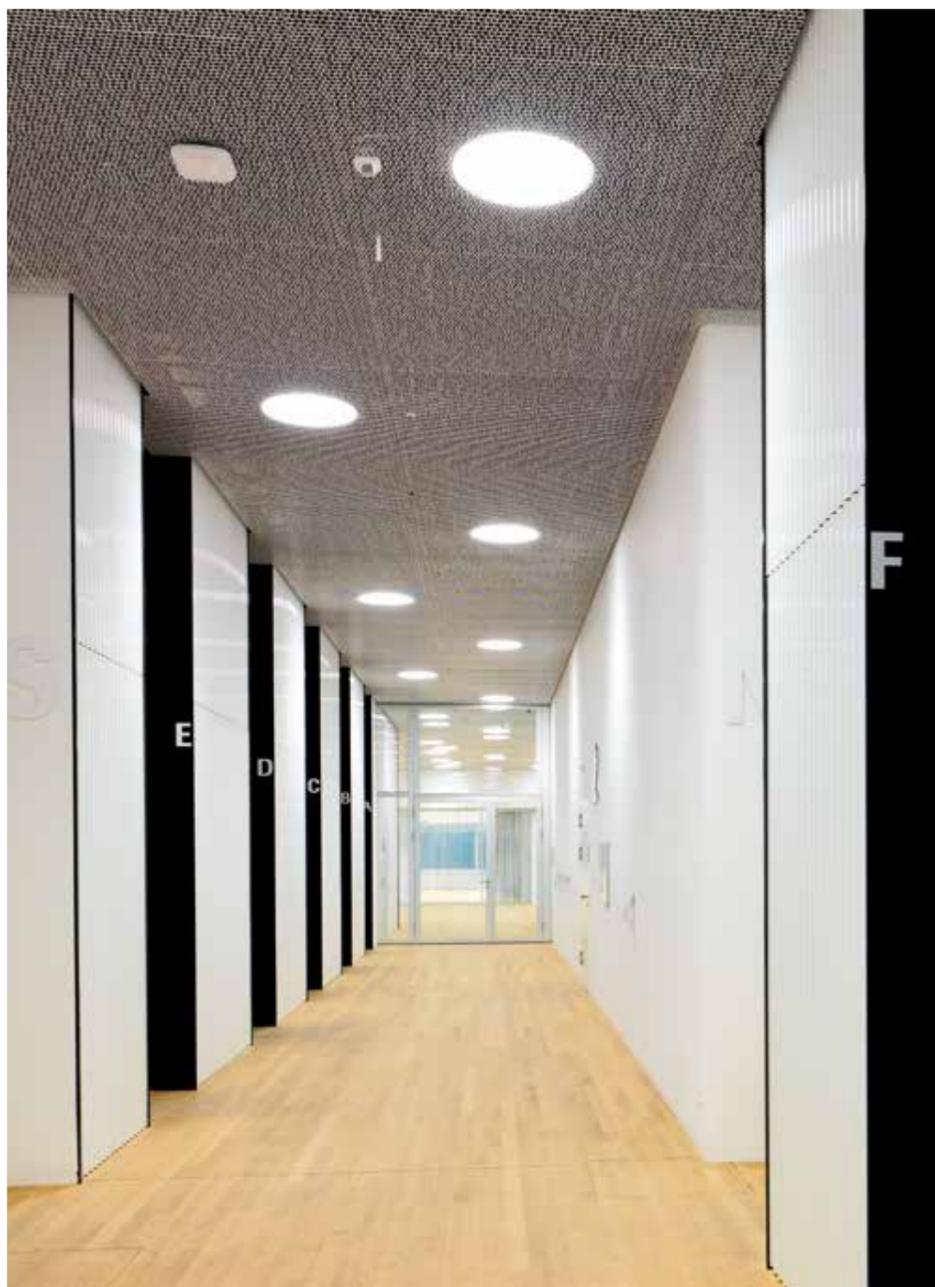




INNOVATION REQUIRES COMMUNICATION. ON ALL THE OFFICE LEVELS, THERE ARE MULTI-FLOOR MEETING SPACES CONNECTED TO EACH OTHER BY SPIRAL STAIRCASES. THESE OPEN COMMUNICATION ZONES FOSTER EXCHANGES BETWEEN COLLEAGUES AND STAFF ON DIFFERENT FLOORS. "BUILDING 1 IS INNOVATIVE BECAUSE ITS INNER STRUCTURE WAS DESIGNED FIRST AND FOREMOST WITH THE PATTERNS OF MOVEMENT AND COMMUNICATION NEEDS OF ITS OCCUPANTS IN MIND," SAID PIERRE DE MEURON, THE ARCHITECT.

innovation
communication
occupants
in mind

REDUCED
SHAPES,
HIGH-QUALITY
MATERIAL,
ELEGANT
APPEARANCE.



Clarity

White and glass characterise the entire interior of Building 1. This combination can be found in the lift lobby too. There is a white glass wave mounted as a facade in front of the concrete wall. A contrast is provided by the door jambs with steel portal panelling painted in black.

Strähle constructed a total of 700 running metres of rear-painted toughened safety glass (ESG) specially for Building 1 in accordance with the design drawings by Herzog & de Meuron. The glass wave, wall and door elements all combine into one harmonious whole. With their understated styling, they support the high-quality architecture.

700 lm
rear-painted
toughened
safety
glass



THE AIM OF HERZOG & DE MEURON WAS TO PROVIDE ARCHITECTURE WITH STAFF WELL-BEING IN MIND. THE OFFICE AREAS ARE CHARACTERISED BY BEING BATHED IN LIGHT AND BY HIGH LEVELS OF INDIVIDUAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL. EACH MEMBER OF STAFF CAN ADJUST THE LIGHT, THE BLINDS AND THE TEMPERATURE OF THEIR OWN WORKPLACE.

The office environment is divided up into single offices and group offices. The room structure can be adapted variably to new requirements. High soundproofing values ensure a concentrated working atmosphere.



Room-height glass doors, flush-bonded white glazing, the white bonding detail and profiles reduced to a design minimum imbue the floors with an elegant atmosphere.





Individual doors for optimum working conditions

Strähle developed a 100 mm thick flush-bonded door with a dual aluminium profile construction especially for the interior of Building 1. This conforms to 42 dB soundproofing specifications and is used in EI30 and EI0 (fire prevention door) designs. As with all elements installed by Strähle, they are flush-bonded on both sides and fit seamlessly into the continuous appearance. Depending on the location, the doors are equipped with automatic door opening and closing functions, panic protection and systems for regulating access and recording work time.



IN THE OFFICES, THE SCREEN-PRINTED PARTITION WALLS AND CORRIDOR WALLS ENSURE DISCRETION.

Building site logistics

In addition to the typical challenge of high-rise buildings of having to organise a smooth-running vertical material flow over 178 metres, the interior construction of the Roche Tower presented other challenges. As Building 1 is located in an entirely built-up area, there was virtually no logistics or storage space available. Out of consideration for the neighbours, traffic to the site was reduced to a minimum. The suppliers first had to drive to a checkpoint outside Basel where they were registered, after which they were allotted an appropriate time and location at the construction site.



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