

The Philips logo is displayed in a white rounded rectangle on a blue background. It consists of the word "PHILIPS" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

Office Lighting

'thuis



Case study

**Housing association
enjoys LED lighting
in its climate-
controlled ceiling**

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We made a complete turnaround.”

Dennis Kerkhof
 Real Estate Development Project Manager at 'thuis



A housing association in the Dutch city of Eindhoven does its best to provide more than just a 'roof' over its residents' heads. And what applies to its customers also applies to staff and visitors, so the association has fitted LED lighting into the climate-controlled ceiling of its new head office! After initial doubts about using LEDs due to the on-going myth that they only emit a cold, unnatural light, the eyes of the people on the association's steering committee were soon opened by the quality and warmth of the light - and the huge cost savings - made possible by using Philips LED lighting.

Making a difference by making people feel at home
 The Housing Association is called 'thuis' which mean 'home' in Dutch. It's an appropriate name for an organization that wants its employees to feel at home, so when the new head office was being realized in a building complex that also houses 48 rent-controlled flats and a health center, the lighting was an important consideration. Dennis Kerkhof, Real Estate Development Project Manager for 'thuis, said, "When designing our office, we were certain about one thing; when you enter, you need to feel immediately at home. But at the same time, we need to keep a close watch on the costs."

After a merger, two housing associations moved to a single office, meaning considerable savings could be quickly realized. The number of square meters was further reduced by creating multi-functional and flex spaces for staff. "There's a good reason for this," added Dennis Kerkhof, "because sustainability is important for us. It's in our blood. You can see it everywhere in our work. And the new office building provided the opportunity to realize sustainable and energy-smart solutions." However, early in the planning phase, the steering committee was not convinced about LED lighting. People thought it gave off an unpleasant cold light and believed that to produce the same output as conventional lighting solutions, more luminaires would be necessary. "So we had actually already written off LED lighting," explained Kerkhof. "That is, until a tour of the Philips Lighting Application Center opened our eyes. We saw office lighting that we really liked. In fact, no one realized it was actually LED lighting. When we learned this, we made a complete turnaround."

How it was done
 Because there are residents' flats directly above the offices, underfloor heating was not an option, so an Inteco climate-controlled ceiling was an ideal solution. This ceiling takes care of optimal heating and cooling. Philips and Inteco have worked together for years, so both parties knew PowerBalance LED light fittings could be integrated alongside conventional light fittings. This provided a 'roof' with added value.

What it means
 With its round optics, PowerBalance has a pleasant appearance that complements the ceiling's modern design. Thanks to daylight control and presence detection sensors combined with the smart LED luminaires, this solution ensures that the lighting is only ever on, where and when it is required, saving energy wherever possible without compromising on comfort.

The last word...
 "In the beginning, a lot of our people were skeptical about integrating heating, cooling, acoustics and LED lighting into a single ceiling, but now I only get positive feedback. There is a friendly atmosphere, and thanks to the pleasant lighting, everyone feels immediately at home."

Lighting solutions realised in this project



PowerBalance
 PowerBalance not only provides sustainable performance for lighting office spaces with LED luminaires, but it also quickly pays back the initial investment. It is the most energy-efficient, office norm-compliant LED luminaire from Philips, and saves more than 50% on energy costs compared to a T5 solution. The light source also has a much longer lifetime, which significantly reduces operational costs as well.





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