



A meditative atmosphere with state-of-the-art LED technology: the Usnisa Palace in the Niushoushan Culture Park

Nanjing in China is a traditional pilgrimage centre. A new temple complex has recently been opened at the location. The central hall with a priceless relic of the Buddha Shakyamuni radiate in light from ERCO.

Project data

Project:	Niushoushan Culture Park, Nanjing / China
Architecture:	ECADI East China Architectural Design & Research Institute, Shanghai / China
Interior design:	Hye Design HKG, Shanghai / China
Lighting design:	ATL Lighting design, Shanghai / China
Photography:	Sebastian Mayer, Berlin / Germany

Legends saying that at one time Buddhas met together on the Niushou Mountain in Eastern China. Over the centuries many Buddhist buildings were constructed here, and recently a palace of superlatives even by Chinese standards. Its main attraction is a piece of skull bone that believers worship as a relic of Buddha Shakyamuni, and as a consequence the palace was named after the characteristic elevation on the back of the head of Buddhas that represents wisdom and is called "Usnisa" in Sanskrit.

A contemporary temple at a heritage location

The Usnisa Palace with its two domes can be seen from afar. It has a length of approximately 220 metres, a width of 160 metres and is 90 metres high, with three storeys above ground and six storeys below. The Thousand Buddha Hall is situated in the centre of the complex with an elliptical base and a dome above achieving a height of 28 metres. A monumental memorial is situated in the centre, surrounded by Buddha representations. The complex ornamentation in strong yellow,

red and gold tones is according to the design tradition of the famous Bao'en Temple, constructed in the 15th century in Nanjing during the Ming Dynasty. The Ten Thousand Buddha Corridor surrounds the Thousand Buddha Hall, and contains exhibitions focusing on the Indian and Chinese history of Buddhism and the life and relics of Buddha Shakyamuni. The Usnisa relic is located in its own room called the Usnisa Worshipping Palace. Here it lies within a memorial that due to its open structure enables the relic to be seen from outside.

A contemplative atmosphere with state-of-the-art LED technology

The Usnisa Palace is illuminated with ERCO LED lighting tools. Interior designers from Hye Design HKG together with lighting designers from ATL Lighting design ensured that the light supports the meditative atmosphere of the space. They specified warm white light with 3000K that brilliantly emphasises the warm colour tones of the artworks, while strong accents guide the attention of visitors to the Buddha representations. The light is aligned precisely onto the target planes to

avoid glare for observers despite the glossy surfaces. The luminaires installed on the high ceilings not only provide high lumen output but are also controllable via DALI and large-ly free of maintenance. Furthermore, the light sources are as far as possible concealed from view and lend the impression that the space illuminates from within. Thanks to their compact and discreet design the luminaires are hardly noticed, placing a focus on the light impact itself. ERCO Parscan spotlights with 48W and 5040lm were mainly installed with spot, flood and wide flood light distributions.

XS floor washlights and Nadir recessed floor luminaires from ERCO communicate a feeling of safety and security to visitors without detracting from the religious character of the representations. The relic is illuminated with Grasshopper projectors and the interior of the memorial with Beamer projectors from ERCO. To install the lighting tools to the base of the memorial and for reasons of space, outdoor luminaires were specified. Luminaire families can be ideally combined because of the same high LED quality used throughout all ERCO product ranges.

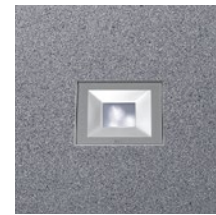
Luminaires used in the project



Beamer



Grasshopper



Nadir



Parscan



XS floor washlights

Copies and links requested.

For further information or image material please contact:

ERCO GmbH
Nina Reetzke, Press Officer
Postfach 2460
58505 Lüdenscheid
Germany

Brockhauser Weg 80-82
58507 Lüdenscheid

Tel: +49 (0) 2351 551 690
Fax: +49 (0) 2351 551 340
n.reetzke@erco.com
www.erco.com

mai public relations GmbH
Arno Heitland
Leuschnerdamm 13
10999 Berlin
Germany
Tel: +49 (0) 30 66 40 40 553
erco@maipr.com
www.maipr.com

About ERCO

The ERCO Light Factory in the German town of Lüdenscheid is a leading international specialist in architectural lighting using LED technology. The family business, founded in 1934, now operates as a global player with independent sales organisations and partners in 55 countries worldwide. Since 2015 ERCO's portfolio has been 100% LED. With this in mind, ERCO in Lüdenscheid develops, designs and produces digital luminaires with focus on photometrics, electronics and design. Work-

ing closely with architects, lighting designers and engineers, ERCO develops lighting tools used primarily for applications in the following fields: Work, Shop, Culture, Community, Hospitality, Living, Public and Contemplation. ERCO understands digital light as the fourth dimension of architecture – providing highly precise and efficient lighting solutions to support creative designers in turning their visions into reality.

