Versatile and smart office light

**Freely position Jilly downlights and control them via smartphone: the cleanly designed loft office of communications agency mai public relations in Berlin-Kreuzberg upgraded with a new lighting solution from ERCO. Jilly downlights meet all the requirements of contemporary office lighting with LED technology. Outstanding quality of light, smart connectivity and a flexible infrastructure forge an inspiring environment for creative ideas.**

Start-up companies, extravagant bars and urban graffiti art. Kreuzberg is the Berlin district that has become an attraction for young, creative people from all over the world. The communications agency maipr is located in the somewhat labyrinthine rear courtyard of an old building so typical in Berlin. The team of architects, urban planners and media experts deals with topics related to architecture, building and design. It's therefore a logical consequence that this goes hand-in-hand with rigorous standards concerning the company's own work spaces. As a result, Managing Director Matthias Mai has linked the century-old loft with its high ceilings and generously dimensioned windows to a smart and flexible lighting concept from ERCO in order to meet the diverse requirements of his agency.

**Modern office lighting with design quality**

For a long time, wide distribution fluorescent lamps were the economically attractive but extremely unsatisfactory lighting solution in the agency's offices. In a working world in which people are focused on, light must meet design requirements as well as normative ones. The new lighting solution from ERCO with LED technology combines horizontal general lighting and wallwashing within a perception-oriented lighting concept. General lighting provides sufficient light at the workplaces, enables good visual comfort and achieves pleasant facial illumination. Illuminated vertical surfaces ensure a bright spatial impression and balanced contrast conditions for work on screens. The concept was implemented with Jilly downlights for track (13W) with extra wide flood light distribution and Optec spotlights (12W) with wallwash distribution. Jilly downlights for track represent a completely new type of luminaire, combining the flexibility of spotlights with the high visual comfort of downlights. The view into the Jilly from the side is almost magical, because thanks to excellent glare control it almost gives the impression that the luminaire is not switched on at all. The light only really becomes appealingly perceptible upon horizontal surfaces such as desks and shelves. The neutral white light colour of 4,000 Kelvin has a stimulating effect and forms the counterpart to natural daylight. Lucy task lights also ensure sufficient brightness on the work surface, e.g. for concentrated work in the evening hours.

**New freedom of movement for the future**

Flexibility and adaptability determine the everyday life of communications agencies, as is the case at maipr. Owner Matthias Mai also expected such characteristics from the new lighting solution for his agency. With ERCO track as the infrastructure, the luminaire installation is not only quick and easy but can also easily be adapted to the office layout. The Jilly downlights can be repositioned and fixed in the track in just a few simple steps according to orientation of the workstations in the room. Even retroactive changes are no problem and can be carried out without prior knowledge, as demonstrated by the recent conversion of the office. Further workstations, a communicative standing area and a changed seating arrangement made new demands on the lighting. What was special: it was not the furniture arrangement that had to change according to the lighting; the luminaires were simply repositioned to meet the changed use – no need for tools and no new cabling. And even when moving to other premises all the lighting can simply be taken along. In this way, Jilly fulfils the complete set of requirements placed on an economical and sustainable lighting solution for flexible working environments.

**Individual lighting control thanks to Bluetooth-capable luminaires**

The Berlin agency maipr is representative of many other companies with a need for a scalable lighting solution. The example shows how smart infrastructures enable a contemporary use of space. In addition, each employee can individually determine the lighting level at their own workstation. ERCO's lighting solution can be intuitively controlled by smartphone or tablet via Casambi Bluetooth. In addition to control via daylight sensors and presence detectors, pre-programmed light scenes can be called up and individual luminaires addressed. This is of high value especially for the various visual tasks in team meetings, concentrated text work or research. The light can be controlled via the free Casambi app for iOS and Android mobile devices. For seamless communication and intuitive operation, ERCO has integrated the Casambi Chip into the control gear of its luminaires. At the end of a working day, the luminaires can of course also be switched off "classically" via a Bluetooth-capable wall switch.

Project data

Client: mai public relations GmbH

Architecture: frank ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN, Berlin

Photography: Sebastian Mayer, Berlin

Products: Jilly, Lucy, Optec, Casambi

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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. Working 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.

If you require any further information on ERCO or image material, please visit us at www.erco.com/presse. We can also provide you with material on projects worldwide for your media coverage.