

HAWORTH

European Space Agency ESRIN

2017 - 2021

Location

Frascati, Italy
Building 12 Phi Lab

Design Firm/Architect

Zucon International
Project

Space Planning

Full Project Srl

Photography

Mario Pietravalle



A photograph of a modern office hallway. The ceiling is made of horizontal wooden slats. The walls are white, and there are glass partitions with handwritten notes. The floor is light wood. There are several potted plants and a yellow bar stool in the foreground. The lighting is warm and modern.

“The evolution of the office environment and the attention paid to the comfort of those who work in these spaces always led me to explore any form of innovation for this purpose.”

Roberto Franciosi - Head of the Facilities Management
Corporate Services Division

Overview

The overall project included the demolition and reconstruction according to new seismic standards of Building 12 of the Italian headquarters of ESA, and its complete restructuring to enable new ways of working. The intention was to achieve an evolution not only in the building's architecture but also in space planning, the interior design and work styles. The new design concept was strongly influenced by the institution's commitment to achieving Leed certification, and we implemented the project with sustainable furniture and materials.

While the previous design relied on individual spaces and workplaces, our client desired to create an experimental space, which would accommodate all the cutting-edge innovations in the working environment. This successful pilot-project inspired future development at Esa-Esrin. Building 14 is undergoing a complete renovation in 2021.

Features



- Storeys: 1 floor
- Area: 370 sq. meter
- Workspaces
- Videoconference room
- Informal meeting zones

Goal

Designing a work environment incorporating leading-edge innovations..

Solution

A choice of furniture that helps shape the spaces, and solutions that support wellbeing, creativity and collaboration.

Results

Innovative, attractive and comfortable work environments, elevating the very concept of the office to "smart office".

The interior space, freed of architectural barriers, offers a unique environment where the furniture pieces shape various functional areas for different uses.

Innovation in the use of space results in collaborative areas that diminish any hierarchy - a small room for a four-person meeting or a large video conference space- , while respect for all is fostered by individual booths where people can enjoy privacy while on the phone without disturbing others.





The challenge with the interior design initially led the architects to suggest tailor-made products, but Haworth could easily use standard and already proven solutions to meet the needs. Engineers' workstations are Epure benches for four or six positions, whose tops offer an extra cut to integrate the Artemide floor-mounted luminaires. We also installed Be_Hold design lockers for personal storage and completed the workstations with Fern task chairs, which - like the Epure range - contribute to achieving LEED accreditation.

The project focused on the user's well-being, taking up the challenge of creating a unique, yet acoustically strongly protected environment, with panels and partitions, including vegetation, to optimize sound absorption. Acoustic expectations were to reduce reverberation on the desks as well as on the entire workspace. We, therefore, equipped the benches with Universal Screens, installed MeetYou partitions in various key-locations, and introduced suspended screens in others.



We created an ambience in line with ESA's corporate identity, selecting brown/grey finishes for the Fern chairs, yellow fabrics for the conference room, with a green accent on the workstations.

The green colour comes right to the workstations with Artemide lighting, but mainly through a wide variety of plants chosen to absorb indoor pollution and reduce electromagnetic areas, making this environment truly pleasant and attractive, as well as healthy.

Both users and visitors are highly enthusiastic about Building 12. It has become a blueprint for the future development of spaces within ESA- ERSIN.





Our Customer

ESA (European Space Agency) is an inter-governmental organisation whose mission is to ensure and develop cooperation between the European states in space research and technology. ESA's Centre for Earth observation in Frascati, near Rome, manages the ground segment for ESA and third-party Earth observation satellites, maintaining the largest archive of environmental data in Europe.

Featured Haworth Products

- Phone Booth Tulip by Cappellini
- Epure desks
- Fern task chairs
- Be_Hold Design lockers
- Openest Chick Poufs and cushions
- Meet You partitions
- Universal Screens
- Visio tables
- Very chairs
- Acoustic solutions

For more information, please visit haworth.com or call 800.344.2600.

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