

PRESS INFORMATION

The nucleus for innovations

The new Viessmann pilot plant in Allendorf (Eder)

As a family-owned company on the threshold of the fourth generation, Viessmann has set technical milestones again and again in its hundred-year history. More than 1,500 patents and intellectual property rights are testament to the great power of innovation of the manufacturer of heating, industrial and cooling systems. In order to continue playing the role of the industry's technological pacesetter, the Viessmann pilot plant, a new research and development centre, was opened in spring 2017.

Openness and transparency characterise the architecture of the pilot plant: ceiling-high, glazed façades and walls, a central atrium and the open-plan room layout promote communication between the teams of engineers, technicians, mechatronics engineers, laboratory technicians, product managers and software developers. This is particularly evident in the central hall with its test facilities. At first glance, the space is reminiscent of an industrial hall, but at the same time a large open-plan office, and even team meetings or presentations can be held directly at the test islands.

The large surface area of the ten-metre high hall demanded powerful spotlights. Generous and evenly distributed illumination levels had to be generated in the circulation areas, which also include the test bench platforms and a surrounding gallery. It was also important to avoid glare on the computer displays and desks and, despite shading by the platforms, good visibility had to be guaranteed at the testing facilities themselves.

Impressive technology and design

With two types of NORKA lamps, optimal visual conditions have been created throughout the hall. CENTAURUS LED floodlights have been installed under the hall ceiling at a height of 9 metres. In this instance, the type chosen features four LED arrays, neutral white colour temperature (4,000 K) and wide beam light distribution. In this 300N version, the floodlight generates a gross luminous flux of 27,760 lumen at 212 watts of system power. With the resulting high light efficiency of 130 lumen per watt, the floodlights are an important part of energy-efficient building operation.

However, the CENTAURUS floodlight was able to qualify for this project with another, if not rather unusual, argument for hall lights. The pilot plant's clear and function-oriented architectural style was also to be reflected in its interior design details at the request of the client and the architects. The basic shape that frequently arises is the square. For example, four test benches are arranged in a square grid around a square tower. The flat square design of the CENTAURUS floodlight was an excellent match. For a hall space of 15 times 15 metres, eight spotlights are used; these are always placed symmetrically, four at a time, around a test facility.

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Project-specific adaption

With regard to lighting, the focus was on fulfilling all lighting standards as well as a design aspect: while the individual LED arrays are visible behind the cover in the series version of CENTAURUS, the luminaire was slightly modified for the pilot plant. Behind the lamp cover, there is now an additional frosted plastic film to allow the light-emitting surface to appear completely homogeneous. This not only prevents distracting reflections on the glass surfaces, but also improves the aesthetics of the ceiling.

Robust light quality

The illumination of the work and test benches below the platforms is the job of the ZUG type NORKA luminaires. The LED tubular luminaires with transopal tube are suspended from the underside of the platforms. With their clear lines and reduced form, they also fit in well with the design concept of the pilot plant. With a luminous flux of 6,700 lumen and a power consumption of only 53 watts, they provide bright and homogeneous illumination of the workstations. With regard to robustness and durability, they provide the well-known NORKA quality; this ensures a long service life and opens up further advantages to the operator in terms of investment security and sustainability.

Client: Viessmann Werke GmbH & Co. KG, Allendorf (Eder)

www.viessmann.de

Architects: RSE Planungsgesellschaft mbH, Kassel

Technical building equipment : Schnepf Planungsgruppe Energietechnik, Nagold, <http://www.pg-schnepf.de>

Luminaires: NORKA, Hamburg, www.norka.de

Photos: Viessmann Werke

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Viessmann pilot plant / Photos: Viessmann Werke



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