

INSTITUTE FOR TECHNICAL PHYSICS, BAU 410, KARLSRUHE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

KARLSRUHE, GERMANY, 2009-2011

Client

Karlsruher Institut für Technologie

Architect

Behnisch Architekten, Stuttgart

Competition

2007, Study

Planning and Construction

2009-2011

Gross

1.950 m² / 20,990 sq.ft.

Volume

6.850 m³ / 241.862 cu.ft.

Address

Hermann-von-Helmholtz-Platz 1 76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen Germany To meet the growing demands of the Institute for Technical Physics (ITEP) in Karlsruhe, the existing single floor building has been replaced. The new building provides two levels of office space adjacent to a triple high atrium which at the same time forms the new main entrance for the Institute. Completing the ensemble, lab spaces are placed in the basement floor which opens towards the inner courtyard.

This formerly unused existing courtyard, approximately 2,000 m², is the heart of the enhanced working environment. Common spaces, such as kitchenettes, lounge areas and informal and formal meeting rooms, open towards the courtyard creating a friendlier environment that shall encourage more people to spend some time outdoor and take short walks. The result is a building that invites institute members

and visitors into this environment, promoting interdisciplinary communication.

The architectural concept of the interior is to obtain a visual openness, despite the requirement to maintain mostly singular and double office cubicles. The typical opaque partition walls were replaced with glazing, maintaining the privacy of the employees while creating visual connections into the corridor and common areas. These common areas provide spaces for relaxation and communication, enhancing the general working environment while breaking the rigidity of the corridor.

















