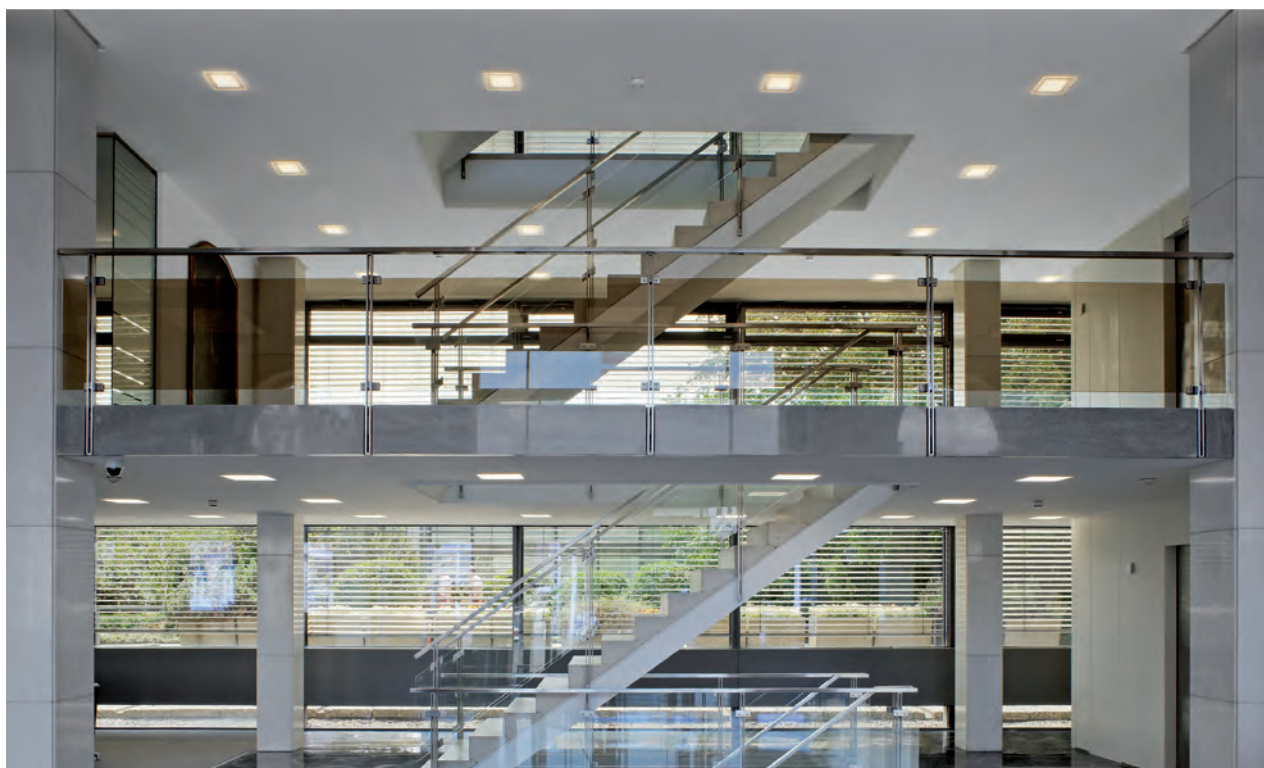


## PRESTIGIOUS AND OBJECTIVE NEW LIGHT FOR BANKS



Regardless of whether construction projects are big and prestigious or small and practically oriented, LED luminaires from Nimbus offer a large number of possibilities of mastering the most diverse lighting requirements. This is why increasing numbers of banking institutions are also deciding in favour of such future-oriented lighting.

- >> **New light for banks Pages 2-4**
- >> **Photos, Pages 5, 6**
- >> **About the Nimbus Group, Page 7**

## PRESTIGIOUS AND OBJECTIVE NEW LIGHT FOR BANKS

The stately 'old railway station' („Alter Bahnhof“) or 'Ottmerbau' after its architect Carl-Theodor Ottmer, which was built in 1845, has already experienced quite a few metamorphoses. Built as a terminal station and converted to an office building in 1965, the historic part of a three-part ensemble and headquarters of Nord/LB Braunschweig has been used for private banking customer advice since 2009. The brief for the Braunschweig-based Hamborg architect's office was to adapt the historic building to its new use, but to retain essential design features. Thus, the building's facade is under a preservation order and the large hall on the ground floor has transformed into a prestigious multifunctional room, where events, talks and exhibitions take place.

One aspect of the planning task was to enable creation of the adequate atmosphere for different needs, i.e. festive for receptions, but more matter of fact for talks and seminars. This called not only for highly flexible lighting solutions. „The type of light colour was also important to us“, explains the architect Eckhard Hamborg. The LED pendant lamp Q 400 XL was put to use because it can meet both conditions thanks to pleasantly warm white light with good colour reproduction. The architects arranged the luminaires, which measure approximately one square metre, in a strict grid that was given by a coffered ceiling adapted to the luminaires. Their fine light structure thus creates a two-dimensional impression that makes it possible to again experience the hall as such.

### **Contemporary interpretations**

„The pendant lights harmonise wonderfully with the existing historic architecture, at least existing in the outdoor area“, says Eckhard Hamborg, „They appear to be like a modern interpretation of the old chandelier. The luminaires succeed in creating the „brilliance“ wished for the by the architects, which lends the hall a festive note. A „classy“ ambience for the private banking area also complies with the builder-owner's wish, which „achieved very well“ with the Nimbus luminaire, according to the architect Homburg. After an inspection of samples, the purist, restrained aesthetics of the Nimbus LED luminaires crucially influenced the builder-owners' choice.

The hall is followed by a two-storey gallery area, which was equipped with the module Q 64 LED luminaires. On the one hand, the smaller format supports zoning of the various useful areas. On the other hand, the luminaires' low overall depth offers the advantage that they can also be installed in areas that have only a low storey height.

### **Flat construction for cool heads**

Another kind of bank project, the mobile interurban Werra-Meissner rural district savings bank, shows that LED luminaires from Nimbus are capable of unfolding their effect not only in large, prestigious projects. It has been travelling to customers since 2009 because it runs on ten wheels. In its interior, though, it looks just like a modern bank branch with all its usual features. Its inventory includes not only a self-service terminal for deposits and withdrawals, but also a small service zone and a discreet consulting room. The Nimbus luminaires were chosen not only because of the efficient LEDs' energy-saving aspect. „The extremely low ceiling height permitted almost no other alternative than to use the LED luminaires with their extremely low installation height“, explains the responsible Darmstadt-based architect Alexander Bredt, and the only moderate heat radiated by the built-in Q 64 luminaires was also a good reason for this choice.

When it came to outfitting the customer advisors' workplaces in the central building of BHF-Bank in Frankfurt, which is protected by a preservation order, the builder-owners also decided in favour of LED light. In this case, they opted for the Office Air standard lamp, for which both the aesthetics and the energy-saving aspect were crucial factors. „The clarity and simplicity of its shape matches the formal idiom of our architecture well“, says the Stuttgart-based architect Jens Wittfoht, who is responsible for converting the central building of the three-part building ensemble constructed by Sep Ruf in 1965. The Office Air standard lamp, in a completely chrome-plated variant here, creates a particularly energy-saving effect thanks to its ingenious technology. It features intelligent control with dimmability, presence and daily light control and also direct and indirect light, which can be switched on or off according to the need. Jens Wittfoht is convinced that, „The Office Air offers a good approach towards cutting operating and maintenance costs“.

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**Fig. 1** The module Q400 iXLLED.next pendant lamps generate pleasantly warm white light with good colour reproduction thanks to their diffuse share of light and the brilliance of the LEDs. Thus, depending on the requirement, the luminaire can ensure both a festive and a matter of fact mood in the large hall of Nord/LB Braunschweig.

**Fig. 2** The surface-mounted variant of the module Q64 LED.next luminaires was put to use in the edge zones of the hall and in the gallery zone. Thanks to its low installation depth of 25 mm, the luminaire can also be installed easily in areas with a lower ceiling height. The luminaires' different formats assist subdivision of the central area into areas for different uses.

**Fig. 3** The module Q400 XL LED.next pendant light was installed in a coffered ceiling coordinated to it. Thanks to the fine structure and the two-dimensional effect of the light, the hall can once again be experienced as one unit.



**Fig. 4** Due to the low ceiling, the module Q64 LED.next luminaires were installed in the interurban bus of the Werra-Meißner rural district savings bank. Not only the low installation depth, but also the low heat radiated by the luminaires crucially influenced the decision.

**Fig. 5** To be able to illuminate the mobile bank branch's entrance, two module Q9 LED.next luminaires were fitted at the folding entrance doors.

**Fig. 6** At BHF-Bank in Frankfurt, the customer advisors' workplaces were outfitted with the Office Air LED standard lamp, which creates a particularly energy-saving effect with its ingenious technology. It features intelligent control with dimmability, presence and daily light control and also direct and indirect light, which can be switched on or off according to the need.



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6