

New on the market: corona-proof office concept

Interinvest Offices & Warehouses opens a pop-up about future-oriented working environment

Doors that you can open easily with your elbow. Acoustic felt panels that fence off personal work bubbles. Or an espresso machine that you do not have to touch for that essential cup of coffee at work... These are just a few examples of how the NEREOS office concept responds to the new corona-safe way of working today. From 19 to 30 October, real estate company Interinvest Offices & Warehouses (hereinafter Interinvest) opens the pop-up in Mechelen to the public.

Office of the future

Mechelen Business Tower, in the Mechelen-Noord industrial zone, has recently been housing the office layout of the future: NEREOS, which stands for NEW REality Office Space. Specifically, it concerns a flexible design concept that prevents virus infection in the office environment in the best possible way. From 19 to 30 October, those interested can take a look at the pop-up and try out the working environment themselves.

The NEREOS office interior already takes account of the evolutions in the “new way of working”.



“Today, accommodation for companies is less and less a matter of square metres. They are no longer merely looking at space, but want a total solution for the future. This is because the corona crisis has also changed the office environment, whereby far-reaching digital transformation and technological evolutions make it possible to combine teleworking and office work. As a real estate company, Interinvest wants to think ahead together with its customers and provide inspiring, flexible and sustainable office solutions. In this way, customers can focus on their core activity.

GUNTHER GIELEN, CEO INTERVEST

Five corona pillars in practice

Interinvest has its own team of interior designers who can convert the customer's office environment into a corona-proof model. The pop-up in Mechelen translates the NEREOS concept into practice in 5 pillars:

› 1. Separation of office spaces

The NEREOS concept separates publicly accessible spaces from private spaces. For example you can work on different floors or on a single floor with separate zones. Consider, for example, the division between "public spaces" such as meeting rooms, reception and waiting areas and more "confined spaces", such as an informal flex room or cafeteria in the company.

› 2. Stimulation of one-way traffic

NEREOS applies strict one-way traffic in both public and private spaces. Clear direction indicators - in the form of stickers on floors and walls or 3D LED displays - encourage this behaviour. This allows you to integrate the desired walking direction aesthetically into the design.



NEW REality Office Space › Strict one-way traffic



› **3. Distance: 1,5 metres**

With round carpets under each seat, you can easily visualise the distance of 1,5 metres. Think of it as a personal working circle which is clear to everyone at a glance. Acoustic panels also contribute to maintaining the necessary distance.

› **4. Fewer contact surfaces**

In the pop-up, NEREOS also presents some brand innovations for less contact. For example, adapted door handles that allow you easily to open and close a door with your elbow, automatic waste bins that work with a sensor and light switches that you do not need to touch but which adjust the light intensity and colour automatically depending on whether anyone is present and the daylight.

› **5. Microarchitecture**

The Nereos concept also deliberately opts for microarchitecture. This office furniture itself provides a protective cocoon and also brings a piece of architecture to the work floor. Furthermore, acoustic felt panels can be a contemporary alternative to plexiglas: to the eyes they are visually appealing and they also absorb ambient noise.

Intervest Offices & Warehouses nv, (hereinafter Intervest), is a public regulated real estate company (RREC) founded in 1996 of which the shares are listed on Euronext Brussels (INTO) as from 1999. Intervest invests in high-quality Belgian office buildings and logistics properties that are leased to first-class tenants. The properties in which Intervest invests, consist primarily of up-to-date buildings that are strategically located in the city centre and outside municipal centres. The offices of the real estate portfolio are situated in and around centre cities such as Antwerp, Mechelen, Brussels and Leuven; the logistics properties are located on the Antwerp - Brussels - Nivelles, Antwerp - Limburg - Liège, and Antwerp - Ghent - Lille axes and concentrated in the Netherlands on the Moerdijk - 's-Hertogenbosch - Nijmegen, Rotterdam - Gorinchem - Nijmegen and Bergen-op-zoom - Eindhoven - Venlo axes. Intervest distinguishes itself when leasing space by offering more than square metres only. The company goes beyond real estate by offering 'turn-key solutions' (a tailor-made global solution for and with the customer), extensive services provisioning, co-working and serviced offices.

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