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VERTICAL OFFICE PLANNING

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FLOOR PLAN



SECTION



Ritu Goregoaker

Concrete Space with Tactile Values...

Project: Blu Matrix, Mumbai
Architects: GA Design, Mumbai

Inhabiting a space in an office building in Elphinstone, the site is located on the 15th floor. The client brief called for a minimalist, collaborative workspace for about 6 to 8 people, comprising two cabins and two conference rooms as well as distinct areas such as the filing room, server rooms, a spare parts room, a pantry and two bathrooms.



Imbibing the elements from their brand identity, the colour blue manifests itself as an impactful and integrated element. Shifting away from a typically large reception space, the bulk of the space is planned as workspaces in a manner that exploits the view from the building. A clean and uncomplicated layout is crafted with a central waiting area in order to create an essentially transparent space that endows the feeling of a large, open environment. The requirement of a sound-proof, visually-sealed private cabin space facilitated its format of lightweight block work and a solid framed door, thus eliminating all the issues vis-à-vis sound and privacy.

The walled design invented itself as an element that challenges the transparent aesthetic that was a part of

the brief. Concrete is, therefore, adopted as a tactile, fluid material, endowing the volume with a seamless aesthetic by enveloping the walls and the ceiling. White brick, concrete tiles, Italian Satvario marble and a dash of bright blue integrate themselves with the palette, thus augmenting the clean aesthetic. The colour blue is integrated in an atypical manner by the designers, who added it to the central portion of the ceiling in an unfinished guise. In order to diffuse the rather bright, fluorescent blue, a diagonal grid frame of deodhar wood was crafted and suspended from the ceiling as an architectural element that augments that visual play of forms. The frame creates a suspended, grid-like screen that hides the open conduits and piping above, while being



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designed to float between the ceiling and the walls. Discernible as a design highlight, it bequeaths itself to the identity of the brand.

The minimalist concrete and polished white Satvario palette form the backdrop of the waiting area. Drama is added by the etched vector pattern on the glass partitions that syncs itself with the ceiling design. The conference room is lined with a white brick back drop that optimises indirect light to highlight its natural texture. Carrying the 'unfinished' aesthetic forward to the furniture, the conference table becomes a customised concrete slab supported by metal frames. The directors' cabins maintain the same industrial look with a marble-finished table. ✚

Factfile

Client: Nordmeccanica India

Design team: Ritu Goregacker, Yogesh

Consultants: Electrical – Jason Electrical, Civil – SKJ Interiors, HVAC – Mazda, Plumbing – Hirsari Enterprise

Contractors: Carpentry – BMG Interiors, Engineering – Shalendra Rathore

Built-up area: 1250sq ft

Year of completion: 2018