

ENGLISH ABSTRACTS

FROM GEOMETRY TO EMOTION

Miguel Alonso del Val

Flexibility and spatial quality are of particular importance in any contemporary venue of production, and the Goiri project of the Bilbao Technology Centre for Ericsson is no exception. Flexibility is achieved through a modular conception of the rooms, materials, and building services. Through this modular conception, the interior layout of the premises can be easily adapted to future exigencies. As for spatial quality, any part of the building offers spaces of high environmental value.

MATERIAL, FUNCTION, FORM

Rufino J. Hernández Minguillón

In an era dominated by simple principles and pursuits, any architectural endeavor to work toward the archaic and seemingly forgotten Vitruvian balance can strike one as a sterile task. These are mediatic times. The value of objects, ideas, or persons is measured by their presence in the mediaæa presence that is always succinct and powerful, just like the laconic devotion expected of the message's target. The result: sketchy images, catchy phrases, stunning curricula. The spatial conception of the work matters little, as does its adaptation to the building's specified use, or whether or not it uses physical media correctly. One could attribute all this to the virtual creation of cinematographic fiction. Movies, however, use fragmentary materials and techniques to generate whole, complete ideas. They do not seek only a partial image or a false idea.

FROM SLIDING BARS TO THE MODULE

César Martín Gómez

The building analyzed here was born of very particular circumstances that altogether bore upon its conception, growth, and internal development. As the project text narrates, organizational changes incurred in the company responsible for developing the project, combined with fluctuating market demands, were such that physically separating the different corporate departments would not contribute to the correct functioning of the firm. Of course this would bear upon the design of the internal layout and building services.

A STUDY OF LIGHTING FROM THE ANGLE OF THE ARCHITECTURAL CONCEPT BLENDING AND EFFICIENCY

Antón Amann Murga, Miguel Juarrero Castaño

Avant-garde multinational companies are so dynamic that they frequently have to give their organization charts an overhaul, and with these, the layout of offices within their buildings. In this case it was important that the changes would not call for modifications in the building services, which are always costly and complex. There are several typologies within an office building: the beehive (desks arranged in such a way as to make the most of the space available), the series of cells (closed individual offices), the boardroom, the club (a hybrid space combining leisure and work), the lobby. Turning a given space from a beehive-type office to a corporate club and subsequently to a series of cells should be taken as something logical, and it shouldn't at each step require more alterations in the building services than reconfiguring a computer screen does. The specificity of the uses, the exigency of the client, and the sheer size of the space made it advisable to do a preliminary study of the lighting fixtures, the characteristics of which are summarized in this article.

MATURITY OF THE CITY BLOCK

Asier Santas

The following text tries to be a critical description of an exemplary mass housing project. The 168 social housing units conceived by Roberto Ercilla, Miguel Ángel Campo, and Patxi Mangado in Lakua (Vitoria) are the result of a mature and necessary reflection on the contemporary city block. The architects have tackled the exterior and private spaces by studying the relation between construction and environmental characteristics, offering a variety of communal-use places that is rare in projects of this kind.

DWELLING IN GORRAIZ

Francisco Mangado

The dwelling is located in one of those characterless and criteria-less developments that are devouring the land surrounding our cities, totally unmindful of architectural quality. The exact location in this case is an extensive and "exclusive" area near Pamplona, a real estate operation speculatively carried out to capitalize on the proximity of a golf course and therefore, to be sure, surrounded by attractive landscapes defining the distant horizon.

INSTALLING ELEVATORS IN PREVIOUSLY BUILT BUILDINGS

Javier Garayoa Gurucharri

This article endeavors to spark debate on something that all us who take part in supervising and executing building and renovation works in the city must at some point address, namely the matter of installing elevators in preexisting buildings.

THE ACOUSTICS OF BUILDING SERVICES IN A BUILDING PROJETO

Higini Arau

A very important and intricate matter to solve is acoustic insulation between halls, since many are connected, vertically as well as horizontally. The objective of the acoustics is that inside each hall, noises of external origin do not exceed a noise level of N dB(A), depending on the degree of comfort desired. Sometimes there are official guidelines to conform to, such as NBE-CA-88 or Municipal Regulations that set stricter criteria.