

Intelligent ruin remains beacon of light



In the case of the renovation and extension of the Light Tower, once owned by Philips and the icon of the city of Eindhoven for almost 100 years, one thing was clear from the start: the tower was to be preserved. Everyone involved was bursting with anticipation at the thought of the wide range of functions the building could accommodate. One of the architects engaged in this project lovingly called the tower 'the intelligent ruin'. It is every inch a listed building, which meant that a lot of time had to be spent on preliminary research, especially to find a way of copying the architecture of the original steel window frames, while at the same time meeting the current structural requirements. Quite an investment, but worth it considering the 6,500 m² of windows to be installed. Windows, which used to radiate light 24 hours a day, 7 days a week ...

The upper floors of the tower have been converted into lofts that are for sale and for rent. [Offices](#) are available on the first floor and the ground floor houses shops, a hotel and a café-restaurant. Throughout the building, various authentic, historic elements have been preserved or restored. In order to keep these intact for the future, neither the occupants of the lofts nor the users of the offices are allowed to drill holes or hammer in nails into the concrete structure. Even painting structural parts is prohibited. The Light Tower has to maintain its visual identity, but follow a modern approach when it comes to its interior. Bolidt's strength lies in its proven ability to work by this principle. Architecture and interior need to reflect unity and to achieve this Bolidt is used to thinking out of the box. Persisting until the ultimate idea is born, so that all the pieces of the puzzle fall into place. But then it has to be implemented. Bolidt has the knowledge, materials, people, technology and creativity to handle every detail. To make it exactly as it should be. So that it always supports and strengthens the basic idea, in colour, material, form, atmosphere, functionality. For restaurant Usine and in the large [car park](#) opposite the Light Tower, Bolidt had the opportunity to do this. A [kitchen floor](#) that has all that is needed to run a successful restaurant business and a special Bolicoat[®] system with a parking finish with bright red lining for a stylish reception of those who come to visit the city centre including its icon by car. The 'eternal' light in the Light Tower may have been switched off, the warmth of its historic and new-found charm will light up the city from now on.

