

PRESS INFORMATION

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CREATIVITY REQUIRES SPACE

Roxxane Leggera CL cableless luminaire in interactive
“in-between spaces”



It has happened to everyone: you grapple with a problem for hours on end and then you are talking to colleagues on the way to the canteen and suddenly it hits you – you have got the answer! It is a well-known fact that creativity is not only achieved at the workplace. In a recent study, Mark N. Phillips, a Stuttgart-based architect and professor for experimental space at the Coburg University of Applied Sciences and Arts, goes even further: he has put forward the hypothesis that “in-between spaces”, that is to say all those areas not yet planned and furnished but kept free as circulation areas, are places of creativity and innovation. To explain, document and demonstrate his idea, a 1:1 living showroom was realised with top-quality products from renowned office furniture manufacturers, including cableless luminaires from Nimbus.

The Roxxane Leggera CL from the Stuttgart-based manufacturer of premium luminaires is an integral part of the showroom along with flexible seating, acoustic elements, and wall and ceiling tiles. The table or floor-standing luminaire has a high-performance rechargeable battery that enables up to 100 hours of cableless operation, making it predestined for versatile use in a wide variety of situations. Other key features of the showroom furnishing and fittings included simple, uncomplicated, intuitive usability, an improvised and temporary character as well as mobility and adaptability. The Roxxane Leggera CL combines all of these features: mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets can be charged at the integrated USB port. The manoeuvrable head can be tilted through 270 degrees and has a sensor for gesture control on top, thus allowing intuitive and adapted light wherever it is needed.

It almost seems as if Dietrich F. Brennenstuhl, the founder and CEO of the Nimbus Group, anticipated the results of the Coburg study: not having a cable and weighing just about 1650 g (the floor-standing version), the Roxxane Leggera CL reacts to changes in the surrounding conditions at temporary workplaces like no other luminaire. It is intuitive to use: all you have to do to start the charging procedure is move it towards the magnetic charging puck. A clearly audible clack signals that a connection has been made. Disconnecting Roxxane Leggera CL from the mains upon completion of the charging process is just as simple. Just give the puck a light tap with the tip of your toes and raise the luminaire slightly.

CREATIVITY AS A SOCIAL ACT

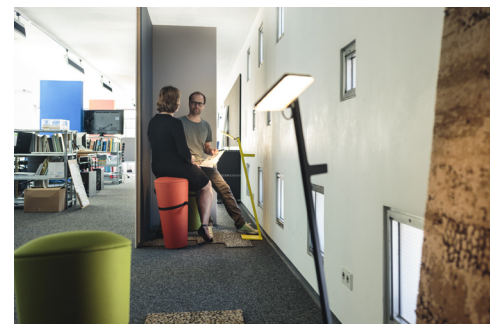
“Creativity and innovation occur in a balanced relationship between intuitive and rational working and when there are spatial opportunities to find the right surroundings for the activity in question,” Phillips explains. The showroom was installed with a scale of 1:1 so that his ideas could be substantiated. Tests have already been conducted. The evaluation process is now in progress in an appropriately equipped and planned office. The aim here is to



Creativity occurs in “in-between spaces”. The portable battery-powered Roxxane Leggera CL luminaire adapts to such temporary situations. (Photo: Gordon Koelmel)



Finding ideas in the course of a dialogue: the Roxxane Leggera CL is tailor-made for such situations (Photo: Gordon Koelmel)



Together with flexible seating and acoustic elements, the Roxxane Leggera helps to create the perfect surroundings for creative work. (Photo: Gordon Koelmel)

implement and review the core issues of the study. To this end, the first project agreements have been signed with two internationally operating companies. The projects envisage meeting points – places rather than spaces – and non-organised areas are planned in which employees can meet informally. Ideas can then be found in the course of dialogues if the places where the dialogues occur encourage communication and reflect a corporate philosophy: this can be a quiet corner, a storage area with access to the network, temporary seating or a well-lit place for exchanging ideas. In this way, Phillips wants to establish “new work cultures instead of conventional work structures” – the first successful implementation of his ideas shows he is on the right path.

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ABOUT MARK N. PHILLIPS AND HIS STUDY

Mark N. Phillips has been a professor for experimental space at the Coburg University of Applied Sciences and Arts since 2012. Besides the design of modern interiors, he is also interested in how ideas are born (as reflected in the title of his blog). In his blog he explores the interface between creativity and space. The latest highlight of this work is a project entitled “Collisions – room for creativity and innovation in the office”. His aim is to use a secure foundation to develop a causal connection between the conditions for creativity and the environment in the office. He is particularly interested in “in-between space” – that is to say spaces that are actually unplanned such as entrances to WCs, spaces in front of lifts, corridor zones or even stairwells. To substantiate his ideas, he entered into a collaboration with office furniture manufacturers such as Nimbus, with whose products he realised a 1:1 living showroom: his designs were implemented in offices in which people were actually working and were used for the purpose of documentation.

Besides his position at the university, Phillips also works as an architect for various companies and as the Director Interior Design at ORANGEBLU building solutions, in Stuttgart. Born in the United Kingdom, he holds presentations at international symposiums and publishes works on interior architecture and creativity.

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**nimbus^x
rosso^x**



The Roxxane Leggera CL can also be adapted to such spontaneous get-togethers. (Photo: Gordon Koelmel)



The Roxxane Leggera CL is available as both a table and floor-standing luminaire. (Visualisation: DesignRaum)



The study appears in the Coburg University of Applied Sciences and Arts' "Between the worlds" series. Follow this link for a summary in English:
<http://markphillips2012.blogspot.de/2016/07/collisions-room-for-creativity-and.html>

ABOUT THE NIMBUS GROUP

The Nimbus Group was founded by the architect Dietrich F. Brennenstuhl in 1988. It is different from most other enterprises and being different has helped the company to explore new avenues. Nimbus was the very first company to place its faith in LED technology, thus giving itself a global lead over the competition. The company has realised around 10,000 LED projects since 2006 and can now call upon a wealth of experience: its spectrum ranges from fitting out houses, doctors' practices, schools and boardrooms through to company headquarters like the Unilever head office in Hamburg, the ADAC headquarters in Munich and the head office of the WTO in Geneva. In January 2015, the Nimbus Group switched its entire portfolio to LED technology and no longer produces any conventional luminaires.

The same innovative ability also finds expression in the Rosso and Rossoacoustic brands of highly flexible shading and room-partitioning systems; this is particularly apparent in the integrated acoustics solutions, which were developed using the latest findings from science and research.

The brands in both fields – light and acoustics – have joined forces in pursuit of innovation. Together with leading research institutes, the Nimbus Group is developing acoustically effective LED lighting solutions and further new products aimed at optimising office design.

The Nimbus Group currently employs a staff of around 160 and is a member of the renowned "German Design Council" foundation and a founding member of the German Sustainable Building Council (DGNB).

You will find further information about the Nimbus Group at: www.nimbus-group.com

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