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"There is a danger when every building has to look spectacular, to look like it is changing the world. I don't care how a building looks if it means something, not to architects, but to the people who use it."

Ar. David Chipperfield



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VISAGE OFFICE, NOIDA

group dca, new delhi
lead architects: ar. amit aurora and
ar. rahul bansal, partners

Design brief and aim

To create a contemporary workspace.

How this was accomplished

The client wanted the workplace to facilitate collaboration, engagement and employee efficiency. The design intervention for the previously-flat 20,000 sq. ft. floorplate is chosen to make the interiors more dynamic while optimizing workplace efficiency and well-being.

The design revolves around transforming this space into a powerful and memorable insertion in the surroundings. The façade on the south-west and south east is designed based on volumetric analysis – with carefully designed



fins and fenestrations crafted to block the summer sun and allow penetration of sunlight in winter. The superposed second façade, the Corten steel fins, act as solar protection, while giving the elevation increased depth. From inside, the façade is perceived as planes superimposed on the concrete volume, increasing the impression of lightness.

Keeping the people at the core of the design, the building focuses on the typological aspects of offices and individual user experience. The heart of this new workplace is the three-storied void or the amphitheater that connects the building vertically and visually. With striking horizontal and vertical views across and between floors, it presents a clear view of Visage's everyday life at the office and enables a sense of connection. The stepped amphitheater allows for open discussions and presentations in a muted color palette with the striking black backdrop.





The open spaces are dispersed throughout and are adjacent to the void on all floors, where workstations, conference rooms, and collaboration zones become destinations that drive connections between people, clients and partners. The staircase that connects reception on stilt level with main office vertically is a playful structure with palatial lighting- floating between the ground and upper ground floors. The staircase connecting the first and second floor is like a bridge that links work zones via intermediary collaboration spaces reflecting on the engineering origins of the workplace.



All furniture is custom-made and designed to resonate with the brand ethos. The notion of teamwork and collaboration continues in the furniture systems and layout of each floor. Bespoke height-adjustable desks are laid out in clusters allowing for privacy, personalization, wellbeing and collaborative working.

The customized ceiling in the form of horizontal fins is a design response of the façade and hide services and has efficiently designed down-lights for tasks and up-lights for general illumination. These fins are clad with acoustic panels, the quantity and positioning of which has been carefully calculated to provide auditory comfort.



The biophilic design strategy enables employee well-being and health. The immersive experience of nature is reflected in the longitudinal system of planters which runs vertically through the interiors. The ingress of daylight and natural ventilation is maximized by the façade.

A relentless pursuit of technical excellence, a commitment to pushing boundaries and consistently challenging norms have been driving forces in this project. In a collaboration between design and engineering, the workplace has been created, where the exchange of skills, knowledge and central tenets of work culture are facilitated. **72**

