



Design processing and spatial planning for creative work environment



1



2



3

Topics of today;

1. The project
2. Historical review
3. Spatial planning process
4. Design elements and performance
5. Outlook and the next step

The project



Article from June 2009 in the French Magazine Ergonoma



Alexandra Moore

NCC Sweden : Design processing in crisis times – Space planning for creative work environment.

by Alexandra Moore, Interior Architect.

Society's facts - Faits de société



Photo Moore NCC, the Lounge

This is a design project where a close dialogue between the interior architect and the client resulted in a successful open plan office. The method included different strategic tools as knowledge about interaction between design factors (from a recent case study in my research work) and main findings from my clients Future Office Study survey production. The client is the Swedish construction company NCC Property Development in Stockholm. There has been an ambition in the project to develop a good example of an office solution with a dynamic work environment where people get stimulated feeling good doing their job. It was also about formulating organisational interaction between man, environment and technique by using design factors (light, colours, acoustics, air condition etc) and good space planning that could bring all working teams together.

The design task was focused on creating a social and flexible work environment. The first step has been taken to create a dynamic flow, stimulating people to communicate within teams or walk around in different zones for different tasks. From completely quiet zones to social and energetic zones and also different meeting zones. All in order to create a sustainable and an attractive work environment to tempt – and to keep – the right people. This specific office was a quite common one, however every workplace was large and good quality, but did not allow flexibility or communication. This aroused frustration as several working teams needed to interact. Also there was a bad overview although the open office solution. These kind of issues are dangerous stress factors at work no matter the quality of leadership. The presence of the staff at the office varied (due to the task) every day, so the logistics had to be changed to enhance a better feeling and human performance. The challenge was to create such an environment within an ordinary building that enhance flexible solutions. A building that in the mean time has to be supportive and sustainable to enhance work behaviour and work environment.

The solution was done in several steps, where the first step just has been taken. The space planning was all the time combined with ergonomic thinking considering efficiently flow in the logistics, adjustable workstations with privacy, movement and variation in work behaviour. Also different kinds of meeting areas had to support the work behaviour. The first step still required workstations, however the size was reduced due to the new way of work behaviour. So, with Kinnarps Interior there was a new desk standard for laptops developed with adjustable height which released quite a lot of the floor area. This solved and facilitated the problem with a flexible

work behaviour, so that you could change working spot when doing different tasks. This is of course an ergonomic dream – movement and variation. However that is also a way of keeping us alert longer during the day and fits our wireless society. Thanks to the individual workstations reduced to half the previous size, there has become a natural flow of people and the office does not seem to be "emptied" those "working out of the office days". It gives a feeling of participation and a good relation to work, also confirmed in my research work. The new logistics improve communication, small-talk and contemplation with its different area zones. The overview and possibility to rest your eyes out of the window or at well thought-out colour settings enhance the ability to concentrate.

Unfortunately the global financial crisis changed the conditions in this project. From a wonderful design and ergonomic solution we had to look it over all again. The cost to realise the project had to be reduced. However no one in the project ever had the thought of reducing any of the essential ambitions for a better work behaviour. In a workshop every opinion was considered and the conclusion was that the new concept idea had to be realized with a minimum of cost. Which means that we had to reuse a lot of furniture and just purchase the most important parts. A hard task with priorities, but in my opinion there was a great job done and the client adapted my advises to do the important investments in the major fields including work stations and some meeting areas. Still keeping the good ideas of logistics and the essential ergonomic and social solutions.

This is however an everyday situation that in this case became a good example of a determined leadership that easily will get its payback by human performance and creative work environment. The message is, that when times grow better, there will be a next step developing the office where there is now a living and changeable work environment.

www.moredesignconcept.se



Photo Moore NCC, meeting area

continuation p. 24

Life style and Work



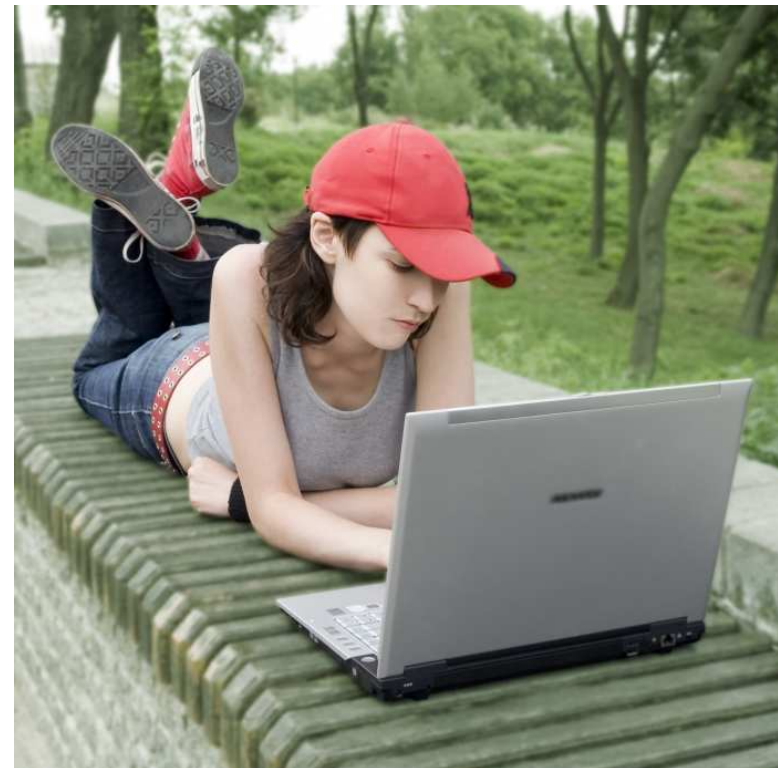
Life style and Work



4



5



6

Historical review

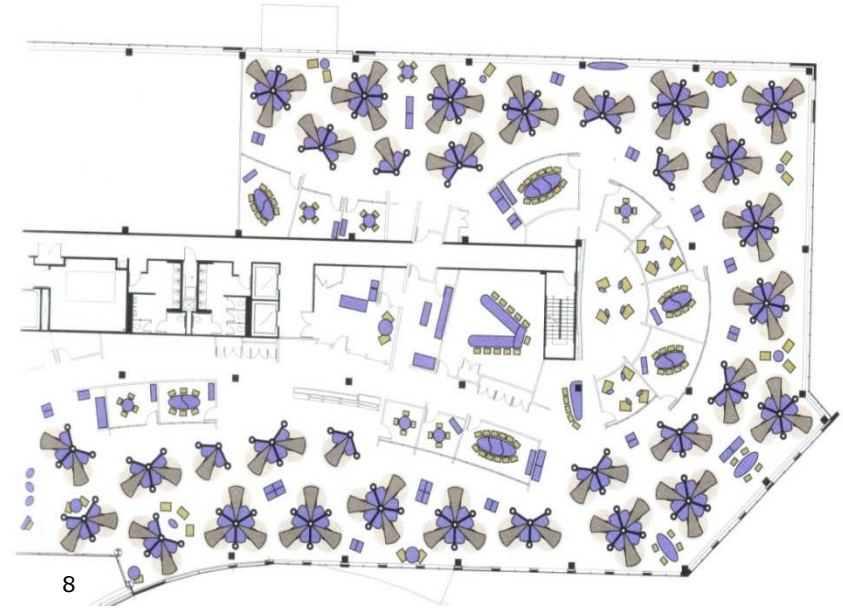
2010



2000



7



8



9

1980



1960



10

1860



7th century



12

2020



13

Spatial planning process

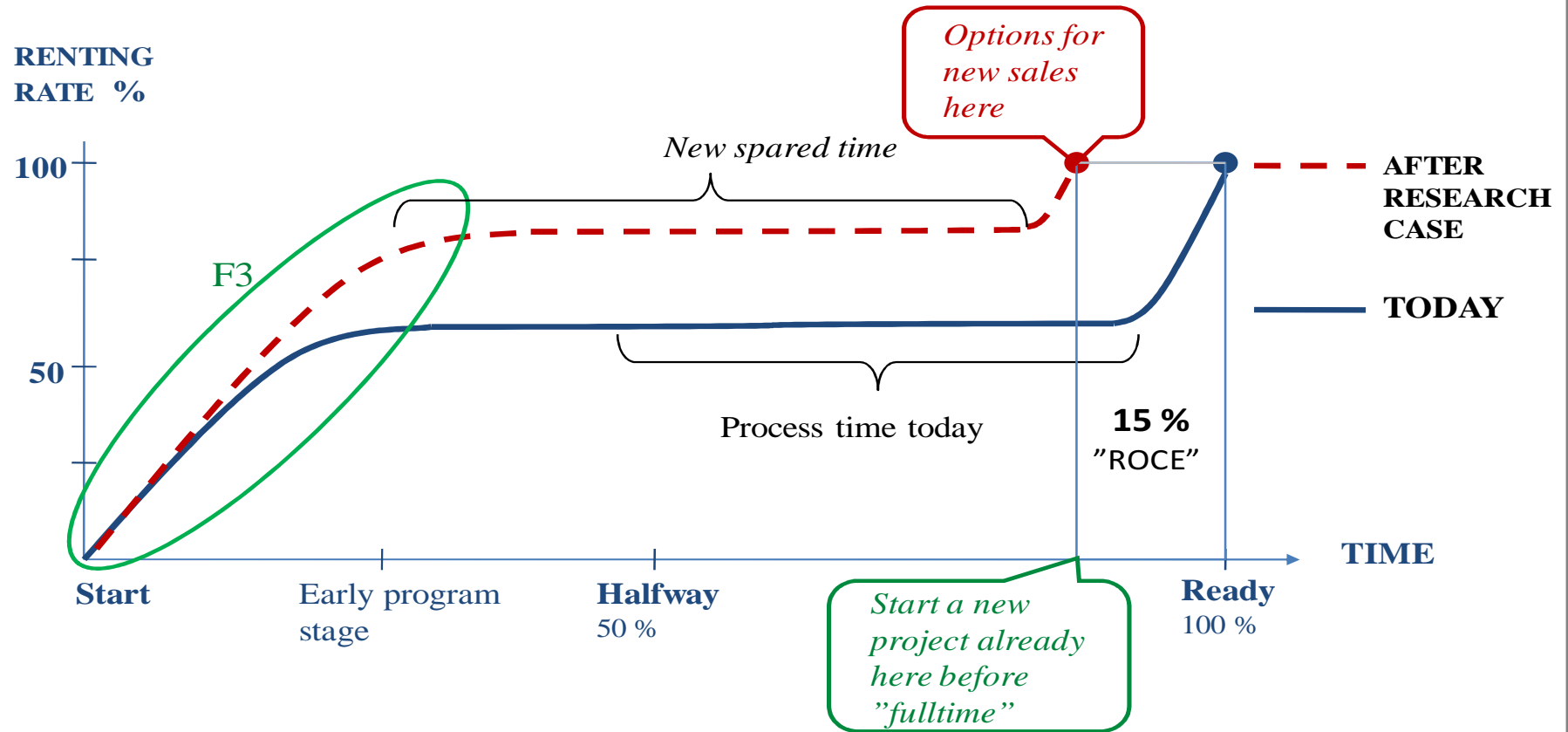


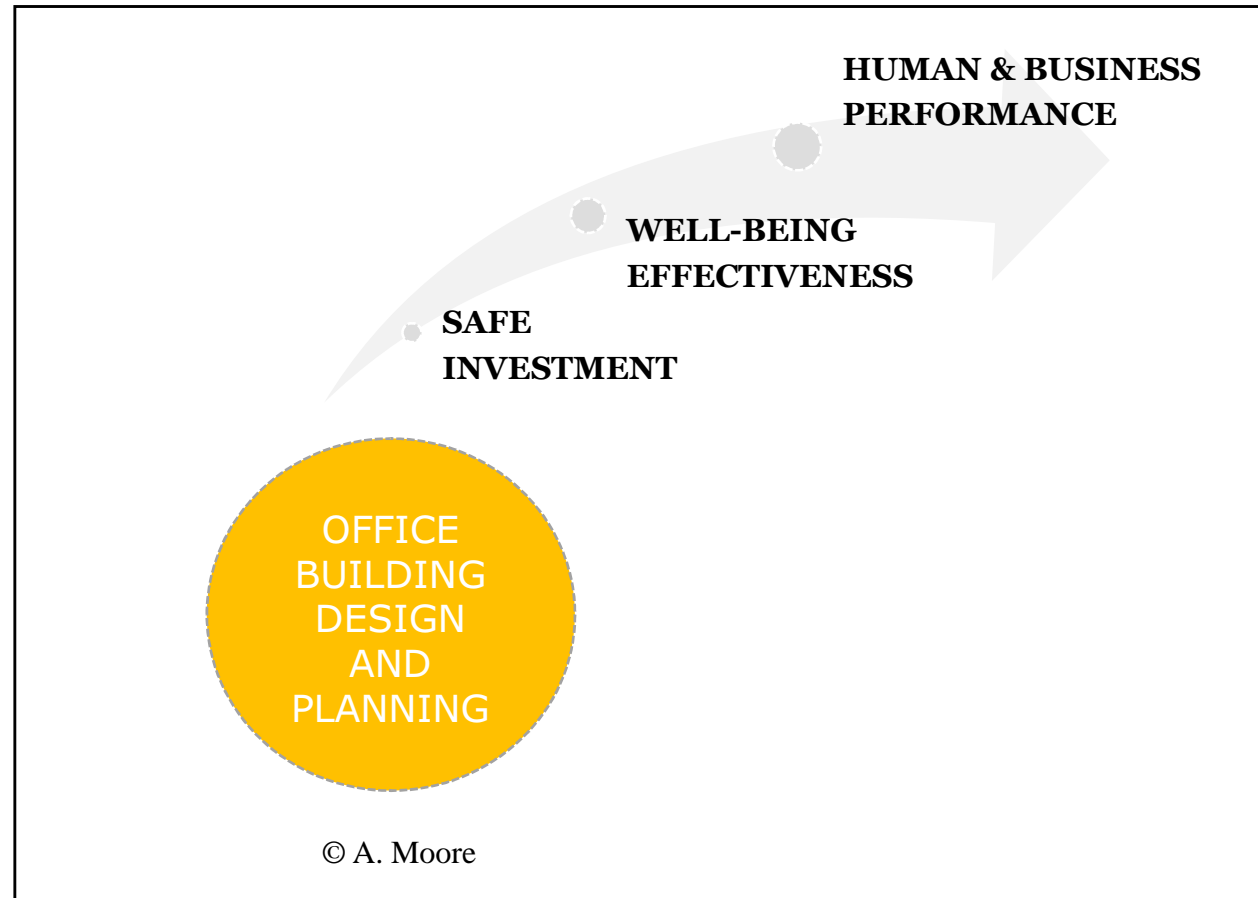
Figure 1: Spatial planning process for tenant adaptation of office buildings

Design elements and performance



© AM, 2007

Outlook



© AM, 2007

Next step

Working smarter – support HC by SC

Create a common framework for W.E.

New design philosophy
- new methods & toolkits

Spatial planning for spatial relations

Spatial relations for creativity

Changing mindset regarding office premises
- high importance for positive outcome

Tomorrow 's already here ?



14



15

- Reduced space for individual workstations
- Space over for meeting zones, eating zones, joy zones etc
- 90% job satisfaction



16



17



18



1. What does it cost if we ignore?
2. Who can afford waiting?
3. Who will start?

Picture sources from internet:

1. http://www.beachhouse.nu/img/press_lounge.jpg
2. <http://www.designverb.com/2006/04/24/isle-lounge/>
3. http://www.google.se/imgres?imgurl=http://static.dezeen.com/uploads/2008/01/squarearchitonic-lounge-2.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.dezeen.com/2008/01/29/architonic-lounge-by-tobias-walliser-and-chris-bosse/&usq=__y3xROMYwVv2OH_H66oSgdcyvHNC=&h=450&w=450&sz=74&hl=sv&start=30&um=1&itbs=1&tbnid=51mf-mYQkUqO-M:&tbnh=127&tbnw=127&prev=/images%3Fq%3Dlounge%26start%3D20%26um%3D1%26hl%3Dsv%26sa%3DN%26rlz%3D1T4SKPB_svSE357SE357%26n dsp%3D20%26tbs%3Disch:1
4. Picture 11119548 from Google
5. Pictures from Inno Avarte and Temagruppen
6. Pictures from Inno Avarte and Temagruppen
7. via retailer Lindelöfs from Herman Miller
8. via retailer Lindelöfs from Herman Miller
9. via retailer Lindelöfs from Herman Miller
10. <http://blogs.suntimes.com/scanners/apt4.jpg>
11. http://www.google.se/imgres?imgurl=http://www.officemuseum.com/IMagesWWW/Interior_of_Hollister__Dans_Ins_Office_E_Bowie_Corry_PA_active_1860s-70s_OM.JPG&imgrefurl=http://www.officemuseum.com/photo_gallery_1860s-1880s.htm&usq=__CgXoxq8FeWWbEyhd2nD3qgAoB-w=&h=300&w=318&sz=31&hl=sv&start=10&um=1&itbs=1&tbnid=hqxpjEYPmTQxGM:&tbnh=111&tbnw=118&prev=/images%3Fq%3Doffice%2B1860%26um%3D1%26hl%3Dsv%26sa%3DN%26rlz%3D1T4SKPB_svSE357SE357%26tbs%3Disch:1http://www.google.se/imgres?imgurl=http://www.lankalibrary.com/images/Medirigiriya.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.lankalibrary.com/phpBB/viewtopic.php%3Ff%3D43%26t%3D1254&usq=__EX2PCuPas8PZJeTaVLCh05mkF9M=&h=438&w=600&sz=180&hl=sv&start=1&um=1&itbs=1&tbnid=dvkW-0hidO9djM:&tbnh=99&tbnw=135&prev=/images%3Fq%3Dmedirigiriya%26um%3D1%26hl%3Dsv%26rlz%3D1T4SKPB_svSE357SE357%26tbs%3Disch:1
12. http://www.google.se/imgres?imgurl=http://www.neogallery.nu/exhibitionsandevents/bodagar/08/bilder2/stolpahusen1_skiss_av_hus.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.neogallery.nu/exhibitionsandevents/bodagar/08/index2.htm&usq=__EKx21QigiyBk2GTvwQpHU6L7cnM=&h=1772&w=2406&sz=2065&hl=sv&start=1&um=1&itbs=1&tbnid=BFAbSCoeZ2NTZM:&tbnh=110&tbnw=150&prev=/images%3Fq%3Dstolpahus%2B1%26um%3D1%26hl%3Dsv%26sa%3DN%26rlz%3D1T4SKPB_svSE357SE357%26tbs%3Disch:1
13. <http://www.archdaily.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/1269899493-01-332x500.jpg>
14. <http://www.archdaily.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/1269899523-07-528x352.jpg>
15. <http://aedesign.files.wordpress.com/2010/02/macquarie-bank-1.jpg>
16. <http://images.smh.com.au/2009/11/30/934777/office-420x0.jpg>
17. <http://www.google.se/imgres?imgurl=http://www.foretagarna.se/Global/Medlemsformaner/Juridisk%2520r%C3%A5dgivning/tjej-i-h%C3%A4ngmatta.jpg&imgrefurl>

All other pictures and figures - except clipart - of origin Alexandra Moore.



Thanks!