

A photograph of a modern office interior. In the foreground, there is a long, light-colored modular sofa. To its right, several small, round white tables are arranged, each surrounded by four black stools with red tops. The background shows a mezzanine level with a glass railing and a wooden bench. A large screen on the wall displays a presentation. The overall atmosphere is bright and collaborative.

# ARUP

## Cool, calm, collaborative space meets agile working needs

<b>Location</b>	80 Charlotte Street, London
<b>Partners</b>	Perkins&Will
<b>Suppliers</b>	Arper, Boss Design, Brunner, Connection, Fritz Hansen, Knoll, Kusch, Naughtone, Orangebox, Senator, Spacestor, Vitra, Wilkhan, Your Workspace

Arup is a global engineering company that manages infrastructure, building, digital planning and consultancy projects. Having worked with the company for over 15 years, Hunters was commissioned to fulfil the complete furniture package for its new offices at 80 Charlotte Street W1, where we've previously worked with another client.

The office was designed to be fully accessible, inclusive and landmark in sustainability. We were engaged by designers Perkins&Will to help Arup test out agile working solutions within this mixed-use urban block.

### The Project

Arup was in the process of getting employees back to the office after the initial lockdowns, so our team worked on two consecutive pilots to help the company adapt to changing workforce needs. We filled lounge spaces with furniture solutions that employees could test and score, which then informed the specification of the project. This enabled staff to work in spaces that encouraged more online conferencing, group exercises and team collaboration.

To facilitate this, we used a mixture of enclosed two and four-person booths, video conference phone booths, stand-

up desk space, open plan furniture and single workspaces. We used the Spacestor Residence Connect booths, with integrated height adjustable table and screen with back lighting to ensure every user looks their best. All booths worked with the building's management system and integrated fire alarms.

This area included moveable video conferencing screens and presentation screens integrating Barco wireless screen sharing. We carefully placed classic furniture pieces like Swan chairs from Fritz Hansen and Vitra Alcove sofas for a design-led approach.



# Hunters

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We also trialed fully agile locker systems from Your Workspace. And the whole lounge ran on a booking system, which employees could access on their mobiles.

COVID-19 related supply chain delays, lack of materials and price changes proved to be a big challenge. Maintaining high standards of project management to deliver, install and pick-up snags was tough – but our team worked tirelessly and met the completion deadline.

### **The Outcome**

The success of this project was largely

down to full engagement with the team across Arup. The client has strict processes in terms of paperwork, sign-off and access to the building. Hunters matched Arup's highly methodical way of working to ensure excellent stakeholder management. The entire team took time to listen to user-group feedback and implement a furniture package to meet staff needs. The scheme echoes the stripped-back engineering roots of the business. Employees can now clearly see the different zones for activity-based working. The result is a cool, calm, monochrome space with flashes of mustard, blue, orange and pale grey.

