

## CASE STUDY

### Seco Tools: An award winning state of the art workplace



An eco-friendly and adaptable lighting scheme that breaks the mould

## THE BRIEF

Re:light was commissioned by Wyldeia (interior architects) as part of a design team to transform 2 newly acquired buildings into a state of the art UK HQ for Seco, a Swedish precision engineering firm with global manufacturing units.

As a team we were asked to work not only on their interiors, but on the Seco branding as a whole, and segue the building with their corporate identity which was to be used as a template for their property portfolio world-wide.

As manufacturers of precision engineering the design brief was to reflect this precision and yet provide a welcoming and flexible workplace whilst retaining much of the 'industrial' feel of this innovative showcase facility.

“Dom, the team at Re:light and their lighting solution were an integral part of transforming our new open plan workspace into the incredible environment we have today. What impressed me the most was the after care service I received, which was prompt, understanding and decisive. It was always a pleasure working with Re:light and I will be doing so in the future.”

Paul Hipkin, Project Manager, Seco Tools (UK)



...making light work

## THE SITE

Originally two drab 1960s industrial units sited in a business park in the pretty Warwickshire countryside, the units were extended to form 37,000 sq ft of space.

This newly transformed building was remodelled to provide a production and warehouse facility on the ground floor and open plan offices, auditorium, exhibition area and meeting and break-out areas to the first floor.



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# THE SOLUTION

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Low environmental impact was key to this brief and this was achieved by employing a more European approach by using lower ambient, energy efficient lighting throughout the building. Furthermore the vast majority of light sources utilise long life lamps also reducing maintenance costs. We also used 'intelligent' control systems such as occupancy detection and daylight linking thereby further reducing energy wastage. Most of the fixed lighting was made in the UK (60% of all product types) with the balance of the more decorative lighting from overseas. All the work is compliant with professional guides and current legislation.

## FLEXIBILITY

In the reception and public spaces many of the fittings are moveable track systems, enabling later re-working of layouts to support the 'agile' working ethos of the company. The double-height office spaces were lit with profile lighting supported by task and local lighting. Individually controlled desk lamps shed downlight onto the desking but also provide upward light that forms part of the ambient light.

## CREATIVITY

Break-out, meeting, rest and dining areas sport funky light shades which create soft pools of light and even the recycling area is signposted by wavy shades which mirror folded paper. The bespoke desk lamps were engineered in a 'fin-shape' as a reference to the aeronautical work the company carries out and are made in materials to match the Vitra desking. Suspended profile lights cross each other 'Jenga' style to mirror bars of colour which hatch the flooring – precise and yet creative. A bespoke spiral staircase in the reception area has step-lights which echo the illuminated routeways in much of the building.

## EXTERNAL

The existing car park was transformed into a wildflower meadow and to enhance this environment trees were under-lit creating a striking night time landscape.

The central wood façade was lit from the floor giving a strong focus to the front elevation and low level side-emitting bollards were set into the resin pathways to wash light across the ground whilst avoiding unnecessary light pollution.

Re:light was part of the winning design team for the: BCO Best Corporate Workplace Award 2014 - Midland Region, Best Commercial Workplace 2013 for Insider Magazine Property Awards and Mix Interiors Mixology North Award



# THE RESULTS

