Roofgarden Cisco Systems >>>

Hewitt

Roofgarden Cisco Systems

project
design roofgarden
headoffice Cisco Systems

location
Amsterdam South-East

designers
Remco Rolvink
Marike Oudijk
Arjan Karssen

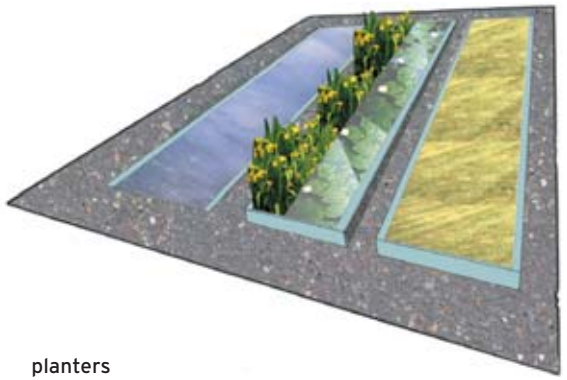
partners
Jacqueline van der Kloet
HOK International limited
SmitsRinsma

client
Cisco Amsterdam

size
12.000 m2

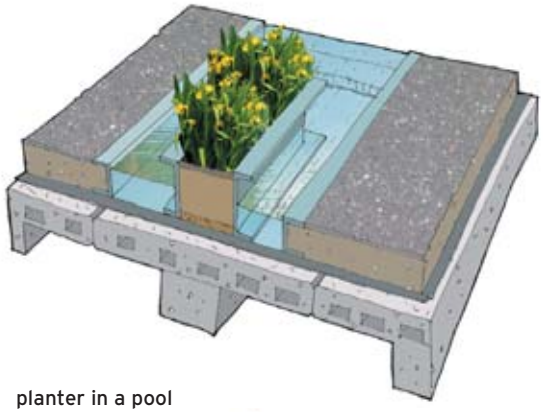
year of design
2000 - 2001

Roof garden is Cisco's business card
Cisco's branch in Amsterdam South-east is the largest outside the USA. An underground car park (designed by HOK architects) extends under the complete campus-like site. HOSPER has designed a roof garden that covers a large part of the car park's roof. The garden, with a public-friendly appearance, is an important social meeting-place for the personnel. The buildings on the campus site will be constructed in phases. The main building, to be constructed in Phase 1, will separate the area into larger roof gardens to the west and will include the main entrance. A number of rooms to the east of the main building will be equipped specifically for smokers. A second main building will be added to the total ensemble in Phase 2. Cisco is not just having a building constructed: the company is laying out an entire region. The outdoor space, about 12,000 m2 in the first phase, is of the size of an average Dutch park. This space constitutes the visitors first contact with the company and, consequently, forms Cisco's business card. Self-evidently, the layout of the garden reflects the company's ambitions. The design took account of the influence of the site in relation to the building's representative function.

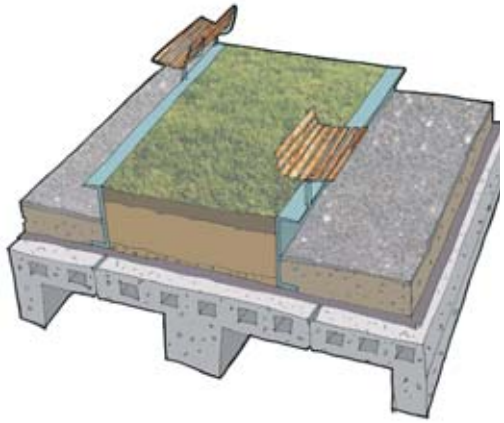


planters

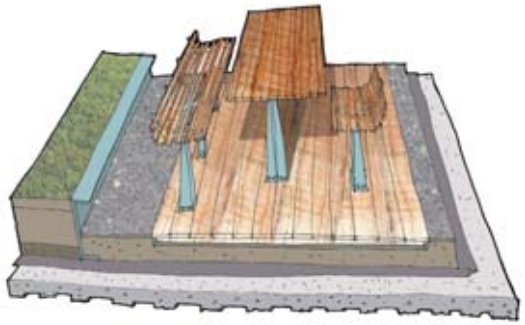
Our perception of the roof garden
The garden needed to serve as more than greenery around a large building: it also needed to express the company's ambitions and philosophy. Cisco shrinks the world. The routers are responsible for the communication of images and data to the other side of the world: the relevance of dictance is continually decreasing. The speed is incredible. The garden is, in part, an expression of the other extreme. Trees grow slowly, and are static. Gardens need time to develop to maturity. The assignment was to visualise and make use of this intriguing contrast in the area around the building.



planter in a pool



gras in a planter - furniture on the edges



wooden picknickfurniture

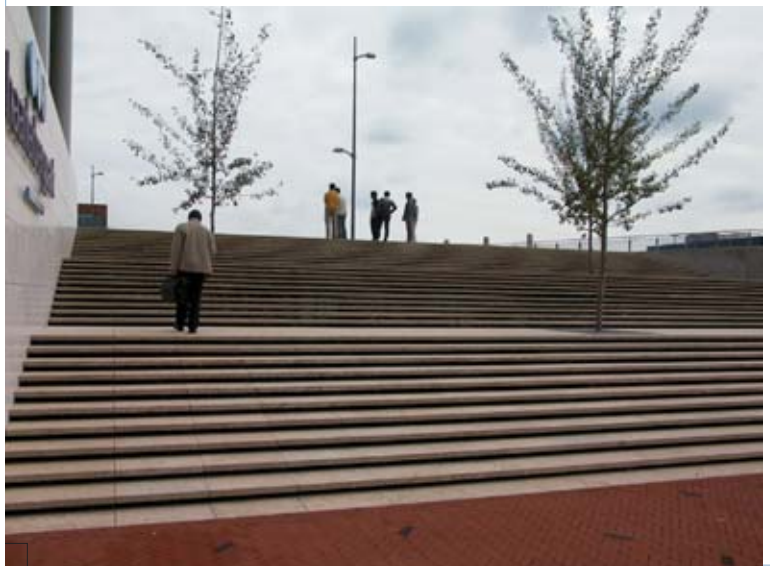
pool with planter

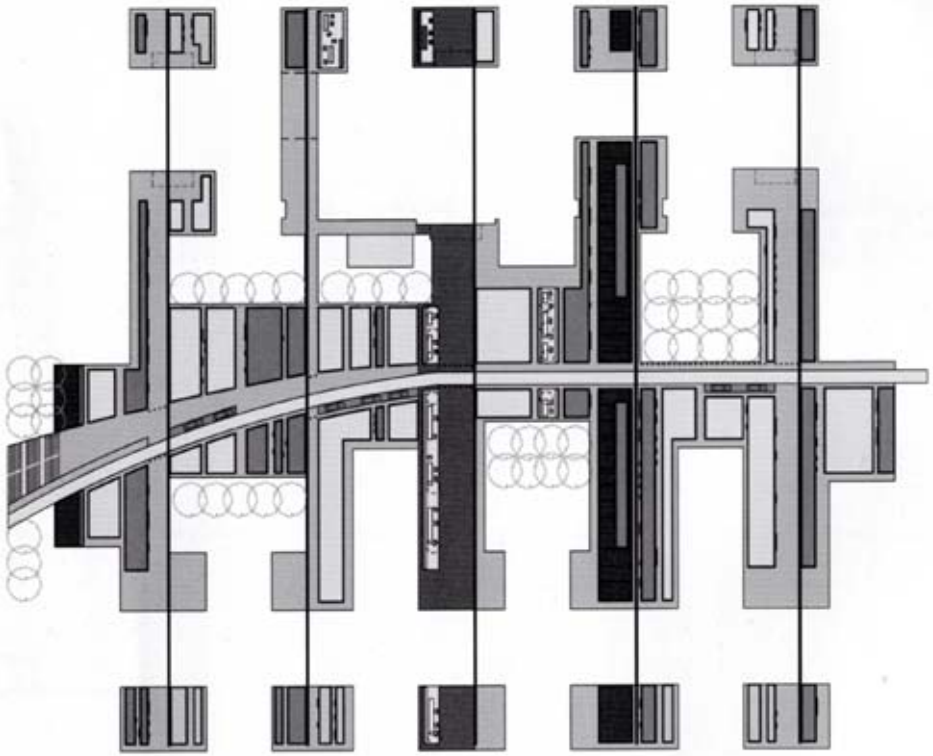
planter with flowers

main entrance building

stairsentry of the garden

gras in a planter - furniture on the edges





layout of the garden