What is the impact?

Norvento's team is made up of over 160 employees distributed in several workplaces in different countries. Norvento owns over 500MW of installations in operation and promotion that comprise hydro, wind, solar, biomass, biogas and distributed energy installations. Their power ranges from 50kW to 50MW of some of the wind farms. Our assets amount over €175 million and our equity over €90 million. 10% of our turnover is invested in R&D. The incorporation of this building has meant a dream come true: facilities were expanded, staff was increased and it gave a new boost to improve competitiveness. The company's turnover increased, and nowadays Norvento, based in Galicia, has become a leader in the development of renewable energies.

What was the challenge?

The challenge consisted of creating a new space and a new way to work and research. The idea of a wooden cabin was born after a building where some of the team members work with top environmental technology and spend many hours in front of computers - would perform their tasks in a different environment and connected to nature, a special place where comfort is first priority.

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A requirement was that every department had to be independent and could be immediately identified and that facilitated the relationship among the employees.

Besides, the property for the Project is located in the limit between an industrial area and a forest which makes it an ideal space to meet the requirements.

Finally, Norvento is an energy company firmly committed to environment so it was a great challenge to design a building with low energy efficiency, BREEAM zero, a zero-energy building.

How design helped?

The architecture sought had to be simple, silent, attractive and no sophisticated materials would be used.

It was important to escape from the conventional office building. Confidence and comfort were an objective as well as an approach to a real home. And this was the idea of a "wooden cabin" and the project was developed based on a ground floor building.

The idea of a wooden cabin helped to understand and take into account the location and the features of the Galician territory where the roof becomes an important water protection. The decision to use wood was based on the realization of the forest between the mountains and the use of local and sustainable materials, the proximity of the trees and the nature of the geographic area in terms of climate.

Headquarters of Norvento
Company: Norvento
Designed by: Mangado y Asociados SL

Design4Innovation partner: Galician Agency of Innovation
Country: Spain / Galicia