

RELAXATION BY THE RIVER

Formerly an industrial port, Frankfurt's Hafeninsel district is undergoing rehabilitation, including the new and functional illumination of a road bridge, footbridge, riverbanks and an esplanade designed for relaxation, using LEC Lyon's luminaires.

Just ten kilometres from the centre of Frankfurt, on the banks of the River Main, the city's former industrial port is undergoing thorough rehabilitation. Dubbed 'Hafeninsel' (German for 'Harbour Island'), this new district sited on an actual island, is slated to become a modern living district. LEC Lyon has been a major contributor to defining the lighting of the new district Offenbach-am-Mein. Functional and aesthetic, the new lights illuminate a road bridge, a footbridge, the riverbanks, and an esplanade designed for relaxation. The LEC devices, specially customised for this project, fit discreetly into their environment and meet both the city's and the lighting architect's requirements. A Lyon-based company, LEC has worked on many illumination and marker-lighting projects in Germany in the past. LEC's 40 years' experience of LEDs offers designers innovative and adaptable solutions. Positioned 500-metres apart, the handrail-lit road bridge and footbridge, connect the new district to the 'historic' city. LEC LED striplights (5630 Beval, hot white 3,000K, with custom-made lenses) are incorporated every three metres in the handrails. These linear LEDs follow the curves of the architecture and cast a uniform light along the path without dazzling users. The system complies with the German S3 standard and, as the contracting authority wanted, discreetly replaces the old lampposts that were obtrusive during the day. Altogether, it contributes to highlighting the architectural lines of the two bridges while adding user comfort and technical efficiency. Set up at the end of the marina, illuminated relaxation areas dot the new esplanade, which has been imagined as a wave, featuring curved benches. A novel and

daring urban concept that makes sense next to the river. As the only furniture in the esplanade, the benches stand out by their red colour and their contours highlighted by curved LEC LED light strips (5620 Brunei with 20° raked lenses) embedded in their sides. Set into the concrete, the lights have been tailor-made to match the curves and lengths. This concealment provides timely lighting when night falls while discreetly preserving the aesthetics of the benches during the day. The banks on the Hafen side are illuminated by surface-mounted LEC LED spotlights (5633 Arches, neutral white) along the sloping sides of the path. Surface mounted under frosted glass, they cast a uniform light without dazzling strollers ambling along its banks. The many stairs offering easy access to the banks enjoy discreet uniform lighting thanks to LEC striplights (5620 Brunei) incorporated into their wooden handrails. For its new district, the city of Offenbach wanted modern lighting that met the latest technical criteria. LEDs are efficient, suit a variety of uses, and turn any space into a unique place. The city councillors and planners, and the landscape architects, also specified LED lighting. Harald Hofmann, Communications Director, EVO - the power supplier for Offenbach am-Main and its region, and is in charge of lighting for the Hafeninsel project - added: "We have been working with LEC on the Hafeninsel project for three years now and we are very satisfied. LEC's specialists are highly flexible. They have won us over with their exceptional commitment, expertise and know-how. LEC is also one of the few manufacturers that offer super-watertight products. This aspect was very important." www.lec-lyon.com

