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Pic: Nicolas Waltefaugle

FRANCHE GLOW

Le Point Lumineux's lighting scheme glows with a hint of modernity through LEC Lyon's illumination of the picturesque rivers and bridges of historical French town Ornan.

Ornan, famous throughout Europe as the birthplace of French Realist painter Gustave Courbet, is a cultural hub with a rich heritage nestled in the French region of Franche-Comté. When night falls, Le Point Lumineux's lighting scheme provided by LED lights manufacturer and urban lighting specialist LEC Lyon highlights the town's riverbanks, footpaths, and bridges, aiming to illuminate the river like a footprint in the town. The designer's concept symbolises the Loue flowing through the town and is based on four lighting effects - deep blues for the corbelled houses, iridescent cyan for the public spaces bordering the river, a generic blue inviting strollers to the river, with white light for steps and edges.

Aiming to create evocative lighting, this project was realised in a close collaboration between Ornan's town council, Le Point Lumineux and LEC Lyon. LEC's technical proposal was a series of 75 strip lights each

consisting of six 3W LEDs, installed along approximately 800-metres of riverbank. The strips were specially adapted by the company, using lenses that gave the Le Point Lumineux total freedom of light output. The solution provides harmonious output with uniform colours and maximum coverage. Each unit installed underneath the houses delivers a randomly changing experience of colours and intensities from cold white to deep blues, symbolising the swells and ebbs of the river. The steady white light gives the bridge a sophisticated glow with shimmering reflections off the water. To ensure the strips were as unobtrusive as possible, a series of hot-white strip lights were attached to the top of each side of the bridge. Further to this, as the Loue floods periodically, the strips had to be suitable for immersion and resistant to mechanical impact.

The curvature of the arches is illuminated

by two sets of two-strip lights attached to a base unit at the top of each arch. The LED strip lights have all the technology to withstand environmental and weather conditions. LEC Lyon also sandblasted the lenses to produce a more uniform light to eliminate harsh reflections off the stone at Le Point Lumineux's request.

Working from the designer's drawings, LEC Lyon developed a tailored crown light that does full justice to the bridge and meets the town's requirements. Fitted with eight 3W LEDs, the crown lights bathe the bridge's footings with a white light that contrasts with the stone of the bridge. LEC Lyon has given Ornan an ethereal glow from below. With its varied and subtle lighting concept, the town's picturesque homes and bridges along the river Loue are highlighted with an air of modernity in a historic cultural centre.

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