



Whether in terms of form or content, SVR-ARCHITECTS aims for a modern balance between creative aesthetics, technical performance, cultural personality and economic performance.

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Qualified in 1984 as an architect (honors degree) from the St. Lukas Institute in Brussels, Philippe Van Goethem (*1960) was a CAD/CAM independent architect at the ITH engineering office in Brussels and an independent architect and project manager at SVR-ARCHITECTS before becoming Managing Director & Partner in 1998. This Antwerp based multidisciplinary office, founded in 1972 by P. Storme and J. Van Ranst, is managed by Philippe Van Goethem and Jean-Pierre Van Liefferinge. Working in this office is a strong team of motivated and talented architects, interior designers, engineers, urban planners and graphic designers. This multidisciplinary background allows the office to carry out design work for a broad range of national and international companies.

SVR-ARCHITECTS is specialized and expert in: Architecture (New buildings, Renovation, Restoration, Conversion), Feasibility studies, Space planning, Visualization, Sustainable Building and Research. The team is designing health & care institutions, laboratories (+ programming), accommodations (social & residential), offices, industry & logistics, leisure & retail, mixed-use, airport-related projects & hotels. With a vision to help the customers think in multiple dimensions about tomorrow's realities and to accompany them into the future by creating optimal configurations for all users. In doing so we look beyond the initial task.

The office has an impressive portfolio of completed projects, among others the new Zaventem airport's arrival terminal at ground level with a commercial area (concept development), the new headquarters for Eternit (under construction) in co-operation with the Portuguese architect Souto de Moura, the extension, renovation and restoration of the BNP Paribas Fortis headquarters in Brussels, various projects for UZA in Antwerp since 2005, the renovation and extension of Flagey, an

iconic former broadcasting building in Brussels. All projects are particularly customer-focused and the result demonstrates a special commitment to people, society and the sustainability, in terms of materials and relationships. The result of the experience, creativity and skills of the architects is expressed in a building which forms a recurring link in the company's integral process of value creation.

1 UZA Queen Mathilde Mother- and Child Centre, Edegem (Antwerp)

In Antwerp SVR-ARCHITECTS designed a new Mother and Child Centre for the University Hospital of Antwerp (UZA). Three previously separate departments were brought together: pediatrics, maternity and neonatology were combined to offer mother and child smooth and comfortable support. At the same time the architects thought of the whole project within a 'healing environment' concept. From the start the architects distanced themselves from the 'grown-ups' hospital feeling and opted for a separate new building which through a unique architectural language, colour and material choice would project its own identity. Only a new monumental glazed bridge is the umbilical cord which connects it with the other departments of the UZA. Inside much attention was given to creating an 'at-home' feeling. Room-high and wide windows offer a panoramic view of the greenery outdoors. With a new approach to light, space, colours, images, materials and programming such as a little school and a playground on the roof the architects endeavored to overcome the clinical feeling as an aid to the healing process. Finally, much attention was given to reducing energy consumption and to the rational organization of services.



1 | Photo © Steven Massart



2 | Photo © Steven Massart

2 Office building Befimmo, *Brussels*

In 2014 SVR-ARCHITECTS won a competition to thoroughly renovate an existing office building in Brussels. The challenge was to realize a contemporary, passive office building with a BREEAM 'Excellent' certificate. To attain this certificate and to optimize the usable office area, it was decided to make a new structure of slender concrete columns and beams. The existing load-bearing façade elements were replaced by a light, high-tech façade. Using opaque elements and printing the façade gives alternating transparent and semi-transparent effects. At each level the façade line is shifted to create a fascinating play of volumes. The flexible office plans were created by moving the rear façade. These can be sub-divided for rent. In two places on the ground floor, part of the volume is removed. Two quality courts, which create a pleasant work environment, came in their place. By maximizing the transparent façade, the application of a very compact cool ceiling and the centralization of the services on the façade side, light and very flexible office spaces were made. At the main entrance an atrium was designed to emphasize the openness of the building.