



The reception at the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs is now bullet resistant

Howeni Project has in cooperation with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs made the reception area at the ministry bullet resistant and access controlled. It is now a high security reception.

Assignment

As part of the general security prevention in the Ministry, it was decided to make a total rebuild of the reception area at Asiatic Plads 2 in Copenhagen. The new reception is made with focus on bullet protection and physical access control which, among other things, had personal detection as a feature.

The reception at the Ministry is a busy place. Hundreds of people pass through on a daily basis with different purpose – and the reception is the place where they arrive and meet. For Howeni Project this meant that there was a lot of specific demands and wishes that should be met, all described in the tender material. Howeni Project was in competition against three contractors in a EU tender.

The Ministry chose Howeni Project as overall contractor, which Howeni Project accepted with great respect as it is an important and exiting security project.

We have been responsible for the whole design process from start to execution, a complete rebuild with everything, from demolition of the old interior to the installation of the new airlocks with individual detection, to painting and installation of the new counter with intercom system and document exchange units.

The old reception was dismantled and the area was sealed off during the building process.



Solution

The new reception is designed with focus on bullet resistance and access control. The conditions to solve this task demanded that Howeni Project had to find the right suppliers and subcontractors. The solution is based largely on products from Kaba Gallenschutz GmbH and Walter Wurster GmbH. The Ministry has over the years used these products from both suppliers and has through several years worked closely together with Howeni Project on security solutions for the Danish embassies around the globe. So it came naturally to use these products again for the reception in the Ministry.

The reception was designed in close cooperation with the builder, advisors, architects and engineers as there are no standard solutions for a project like this. The reception consists of three security components:

- The installation of the reception with security glass with build-in document exchange drawers and intercom.
- The installation of airlocks with corresponding glass-walls to separate the reception area.
- Installation of an airlock for disabled people including security upgrade of existing surrounding walls.

The complete solution meets the standards of EN 1627-1630 (shell security), EN 356 (glass), EN 1522/1523 (bulletproof elements) and EN 1063 (bulletproof glass).

Conclusion

"It is not a straight forward assignment to design and install security solutions and access control solutions with the high demands for security that the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs have in a listed building on Asiatisk Plads. We have been in charge of everything from demolition, installation of walls, floors and ceilings to painting and, of course, the installation of security components. Due to the buildings listing and architectural status, we had to custom build an airlock for disabled persons with sliding doors that weigh 400 kg. When the doors are open, they are concealed in the wall", says Steen Brahe Bonke, Chief Executive Officer, Strategic Security Advisor & Chief Executive Partner Howeni Eurosafe A/S.

And he continues: "It has been fantastic for Howeni Project to be part of this task. We have had an excellent dialog with the Ministry about the architectural challenges, when design meets security. This project, like many others, is controlled by design demands and architectural regulations and it is always very exiting to make it work. We believe that we have succeeded and it will continue to be a priority for us to make design and security go hand in hand."

"This project has been one of our first bigger projects, where we were main-contractor after we started our cooperation with Kaba Group. It has been wonderful to be a part of 'the Kaba Team' in this project with specialists and colleagues from Denmark, Sweden and Germany."

"The assignment with the reception at the Ministry was very successful. It has been one of the bigger projects that Howeni Project has done. Everybody has to be satisfied, all standards have to be met and all specifications have to be followed – and they were! Howeni Project made all details to specifications and demands from various specialists and converted it to security solutions."

"It was paramount that the reception not only was a safe place to work, but also an effective workplace for the staff in the reception. The reception is a key-function in the ministry and is always manned 24/7. The security has to work – with no down-time. That is Howeni Projects force. We can think security, design and humans in to our solutions and make it work."

Contact

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