

SOCIETY

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INTERIORS

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Design visions of KR Jaisim,
Shimul Jhaveri Kadri, Ajay
Kataria, Sinora Penkar and
Hiren Patel

Innovative styles of Paul
Coudamy and Tjep.

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Working Smart

Designed by Amit Maitra & Kallol Baroi,
the SGS office in Kolkata is smart and modern.





SGS, a Switzerland-based company with a network of over 1,000 offices and laboratories around the world with more than 50,000 employees, is headquartered in Geneva and provides verification, testing and monitoring services for international trade in agricultural, mineral, industrial, petroleum and consumer products. SGS's eastern India regional office is headquartered in Kolkata and occupies the third and fourth floor of LMJ Chambers at Dalhousie Square, in the heart of the city.

The office encompasses an area of 12,000 sq. ft. across both the floors, accommodating 200 people in 20 departments. Amit Maitra and Kallol Barol of AK Enterprises, responsible for the interiors, explain, "It is a turnkey project and we had to handle everything from concept to completion. We had to finish the project at a breakneck speed in 90 days! Knowing the company profile, we realized that not only the design and execution ought to comply with international QHSE (Quality, Health, Safety and Environment) standards but also to meet the aesthetic expectations of their global directors. The challenge truly was to blend both functional and aesthetic attributes in the right proportion."

AK Enterprises is owned and managed by Amit Maitra, a trained interior designer, and Kallol Barol, a civil engineer. The duo have many prestigious interiors projects to their credit like offices of SGS India Pvt. Ltd., Inspectorate Griffith India Pvt. Ltd., Family Credit Ltd., ICICI, HSBC, Tata AIG Life Insurance, Wipro and Magma Shraci Finance among others.

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The overall look of the office is smart and modern, where minimalism is the key undertone. The office has two reception areas – one on the third and another on the fourth floor. In the reception areas, the company logo with its colour combination of grey and orange arrests your attention. The sleek yet warm look of the reception is achieved by a judicious mix of diffused and direct lighting through fittings and fixtures in trays and coves of the ceiling, furniture and the backdrop. On the fourth floor, there is also a big waiting area for people coming to submit and collect



samples. The overall design creates the look and feel of an open office with defined, enclosed chambers wherever necessary. The office finds the use of glass and bright lights, offset by primary colours and varied textures, to lend vibrancy to the ambience.

The modular workstations are spread along the viewing windows and the intermittent circulation space gives a feel of vastness to the area.

