



ENABLED BY ENOCEAN



## SAP MOVES INTO FLEXIBLE WORKPLACE COMFORT

*In the first half of 2007 SAP will occupy a new building complex in Walldorf. More than 1,500 battery-less EnOcean wireless switches have very much simplified the cabling, showing the way to a whole new flexibility in the control of workplace lights and sunshades.*

By Peter Pernsteiner, freelance journalist

In the weeks to come, the entire personnel of SAP Germany based in Walldorf and Bensheim will move into their long awaited, new domicile. Until now the business units sales, consulting, training and marketing were distributed among a host of office blocks in the Walldorf industrial estate and in Bensheim. The new complex with some 45,000 sqm floor space consists of two imposing five-storey, star-shaped arrangements joined by an equally impressive restaurant and conference building.

### **SPEEDING UP INSTALLATION - SIMPLIFYING MODIFICATIONS**

The two star-shaped office blocks branch out in six directions with about 32 x 15 m floor space on each storey. These branches are initially intended as open-plan offices and feature single controlled sunshades and standup luminaires, supplied from floor tanks, each to evenly illuminate a group of two to four workplaces. Sunshades and luminaires are controlled through a flexibly programmed EIB/KNX building automation system with wireless EnOcean gateways implemented in gesis RC components from Wieland Electric. A major advantage of the super-flat gesis components is that they are

pluggable, which automatically excludes cabling errors, speeds up installation, and simplifies any later modifications in purpose. The central control through EIB/KNX will automatically lower all sunshades at the weekend depending on the degree of sunshine, for instance, so that the inside of a building does not heat up excessively. Upwards of a certain wind force, on the other hand, all sunshades are automatically drawn up and locked in place so that they cannot be operated manually.

Integrated into the hollow ceiling on each storey of a branch of the buildings are two wireless receivers about 15 m apart, in a redundant configuration and able to receive the signals from all wireless switches in an open-plan office. The redundancy means that all conceivable office configurations are possible, for example single offices with metal dividing walls, without causing what is called signal shadowing. This range margin was impressively demonstrated upon installation of the wireless receivers using special-purpose EnOcean level meters.

ENABLED BY ENOCEAN



Wieland gesis RC EIB/KNX gateway with external antenna beneath a ceiling.



EnOcean easyfit is a seamless match for the Gira E2 range of switches chosen for the application.

### NEW FLEXIBILITY

"Batteryless wireless technology from EnOcean enables us to position light and sunshade switches wherever it suits us", says Thomas Kopf of the project team from SAP facility management, "on the side of a cabinet or even on a desk." Such freedom would not have been possible with conventional wireless switches, because then maintenance personnel would have had to root out every switch for a routine battery check or replacement. "When we were preparing to move in, we saw that part of an open-plan office would have to be split into a conference room or a separate office for a department manager to optimize procedures in that particular section of a building", continues Kopf. Given the new wireless technology and a flexible system of dividing walls, this turned

out to be no problem at all. One of the walls can be put up in a few hours, causing very little dust and noise. And if a room is to have its own light switch, the switch is just teached into the wireless receiver under the ceiling and stuck to a convenient surface next to the door.