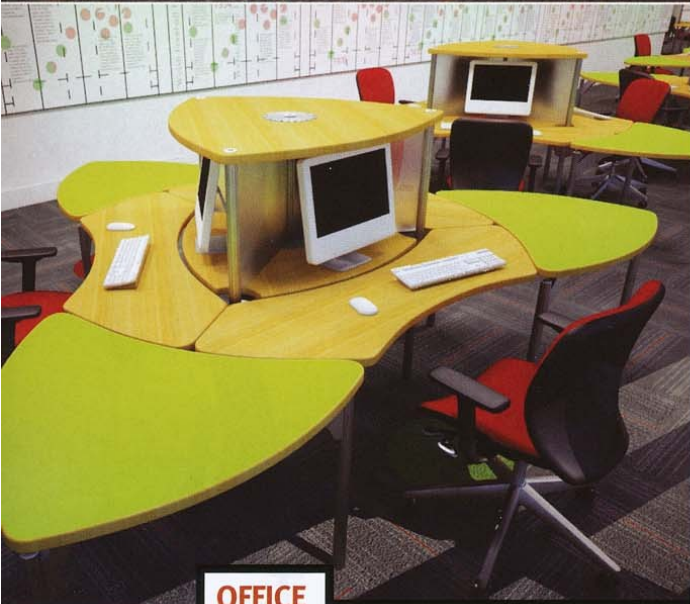


CITY FOCUS



OFFICE

WELSH RUGBY UNION HQ, MILLENNIUM STADIUM

INTERIOR DESIGN: BEACONS BUSINESS INTERIORS

Covering 634sq m (6,842sq ft), the Welsh Rugby Union's new offices are prominently located at the entrance to the stadium and are open plan, creating an image of accessibility and transparency.

BBI chose interiors influenced by Wales and Welsh rugby, including furniture in the national flag's colours of red, white and green, carpet details imitating rugby player formations and rugby ball-shaped worktops. Behind the reception desk, which was made by Irish furniture firm Farrell, are images of rugby balls and a fragment of the red dragon flag, cut-outs digitally printed on laminate. The Eye chairs in the foyer are by Boss and the flooring is made of ribbon slate from North Wales. In the offices, the carpeting is by Interface, the custom-made desking is by Farrell and the scarlet and lime green chairs are from Orangebox.
www.bbi-uk.com

HOSPITALITY

SLEEPERZ, CARDIFF CITY CENTRE

ARCHITECT: CLASH ASSOCIATES

A new 76 bedroom-hotel over six floors is being created by Clash Associates on a prominent triangular site between listed buildings on Penarth and Saunders Roads, and sharing a frontage with Cardiff's main railway station. The dramatic corner building will create a landmark, its high-quality contemporary design responding sympathetically to its urban context by keeping to a similar height in relation to its immediate neighbours. The setback at ground floor along Saunders Road continues the horizontal emphasis of the wall that connects the hotel site to Cardiff station buildings, the facades in a smooth pale Jura limestone with a natural honed finish echoing the tonal character of the station buildings. Ribbed Jura stone is used vertically around the (curved) nose of the building. The ground and lower ground floors are enclosed with a mix of full height glazing and solid walls faced with dark blue and black tiling. A landscaped courtyard is being created to the south, between the hotel and the viaduct of the railway.

This is the first of a number of budget hotels for city centre station locations being designed by Clash in conjunction with Network Rail for Sleeperz, a new value-for-money chain. A Manchester Sleeperz designed by Clash Associates will go on site in November, followed by one in Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
www.clasharchitects.co.uk



WELSH RUGBY UNION HQ: BBI. SLEEPERZ: CLASH ARCHITECTS