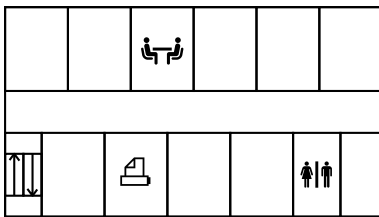


# SoOs [Self-organizing Office-system]

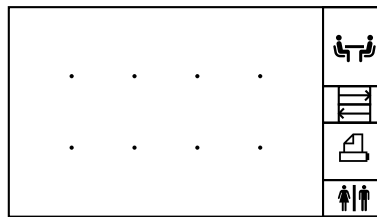
**Development project. UiD/Henrik Valeur, Fredrik Fritzson and Søren Chr Madsen in collaboration with consulting engineers Ole Vanggaard and Jeppe Steen Andersen, 2003.**

## New requirements: flexibility and dynamics

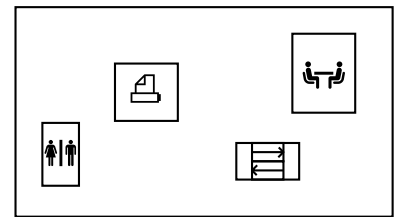
Companies are downsizing, expanding, merging ... The constant flux of the market-economy makes flexibility a key requirement for modern office space. Tele-workers occasionally bypassing the company they work for, free agents employed for a brief period of time and employees working in project groups – all increase the need for new dynamic modes of spatial organization. But the modern office space should not only be flexible and adaptable to new forms of organization, it should actively provoke change.



cell office structure



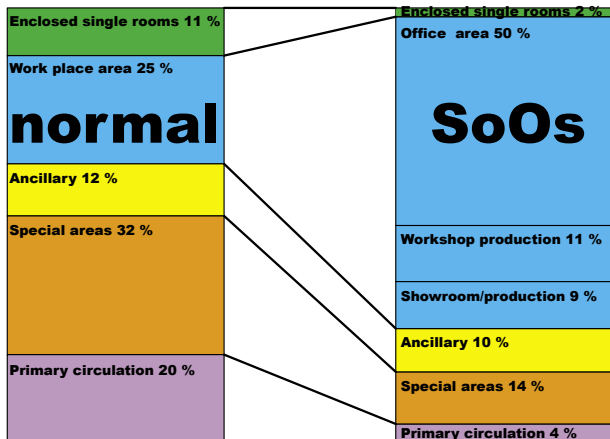
open office landscape



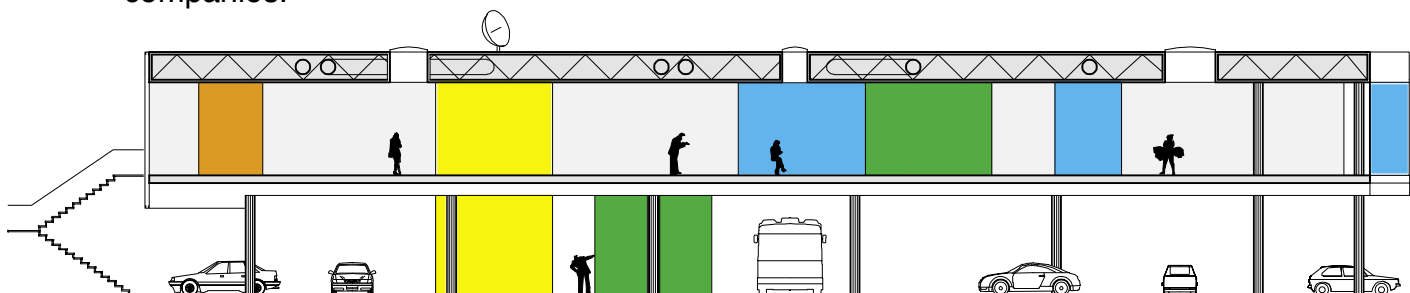
self-organizing office system

## New solutions: SoOs [Self-organizing Office-system]

The SoOs consists of freestanding elements in a large open space. The elements contain secondary office functions, such as meeting rooms, kitchens and toilets. Some are fixed structural elements while others are displaceable. These randomly placed elements create a wide range of diverse primary office spaces between and around them.



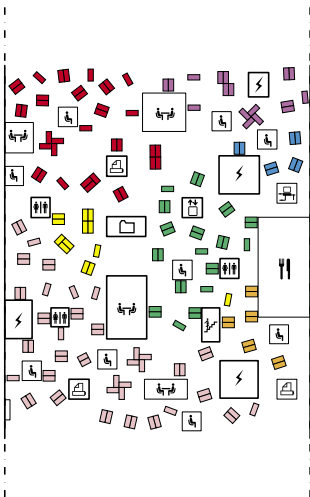
The SoOs is designed for companies who see change and diversity as assets, if not downright necessities. The system can be implemented either by a single large company with many individual project groups or by many small and individual, but business related, companies.



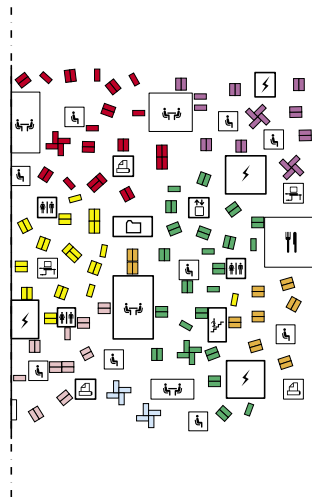
## New advantages: connectivity and changeability

The primary office spaces, which are at the same time both separated and connected, provide a certain degree of privacy to each group, while at the same time provoking casual encounters, as people move from one place to another. In addition, and in combination with new wireless technology, SoOs enables your company to grow or to re-group, instantaneously and within the same building.

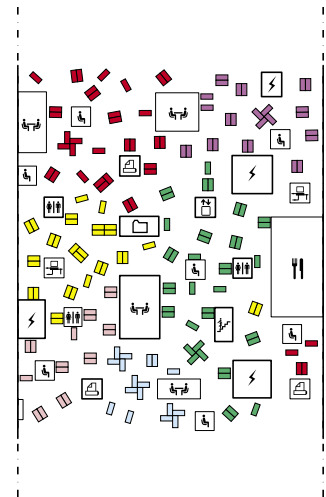
The day-to-day operation of the SoOs is managed by a number of “receptionists”, strategically positioned throughout the building. They keep track of people, appointments, reservations of meeting rooms and other common facilities.



Phase 5



Phase 6



Phase 7

*“Such (self-organizing) systems have several advantages over more traditional systems: robustness, flexibility, capability to function autonomously while demanding a minimum of supervision, and the spontaneous development of complex adaptations without need for detailed planning. Disadvantages are limited predictability and difficulty of control. (...) Perhaps the most challenging application would be to design a complex socio-economic system that relies on self-organization rather than centralized planning and control.”*

Francis Heylighen

