

Mediavaert, a landmark project in Amsterdam

The media heart of the Netherlands is soon to beat in one of the largest hybrid-timber office buildings in the world. An incredible feat in terms of sustainability and innovation.



Project details

Mediavaert

Location
Amsterdam-Duivendrecht
(The Netherlands)

Client
DPG Media Nederland

Partners
Being, Team V Architectuur,
Drees & Sommer Netherlands,
Arup, DGMR, DELVA Land-
scape Architecture / Urbanism

Architect
Do Janne Vermeulen,
Team V Architecture

Developer
Being

Contract type
Engineering & Build

Construction period
From the end of 2021 to the
start of 2024 (25 months)

1. Installation of glass panels at Mediavaert, Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

The idea

In an innovative media landscape, people, activities, and functions at DPG Media are constantly changing. Flexibility, healthy working environment, and creativity are leading factors for the new accommodation. The answer is a sustainable and iconic building in a green setting where creativity and collaboration thrive.

Ways of creating impact

The 44,500 m² main office of DPG Media in the Netherlands will become one of the largest hybrid-timber buildings in the world. By using hybrid-timber building methods, the new building strongly focuses on the relationship between nature and technology.

Working and spending time in and around the new accommodation of DPG Media will mean becoming inspired by a healthy and welcoming setting. It's a tailored work environment promoting synergy between users, functions, and activities. Besides office spaces, newsrooms and recording studios, the building also features test labs, meeting rooms, sports facilities, restaurants, and an event location at the waterfront. Open spaces, voids, and outdoor areas will enhance spatial perception and encourage user interaction. Greenery in, on and around the building will offer an inspiring work environment and will add to a sense of connection with nature.

Situated next to the existing printing business of DPG Media, the new building connects the past and present. Employees of Het Parool, Volkskrant, Trouw, Qmusic, NU.nl, Tweakers, vtwonon, Libelle, HR and Marketing, among others, will be able to take full advantage of these state-of-the-art facilities in Mediavaert.

6,500 m³
of wood

1,800 tonnes
of structural steel

44,500 m²
total area

Aquifer thermal
energy storage

BREEAM Excellent
certification

Sustainability

Flexibility, healthy working environment, innovation, and creativity are at the forefront of Mediavaert. The creative wooden structure and the office's green landscape add to the design's characteristics. A wood-hybrid office of this size has never been built in Europe. BESIX Nederland started building the upper timber structure in mid-August 2022. The construction required 6,500 m³ of timber.

While this was challenging, it will add many benefits. Compared to traditional construction methods such as concrete construction, wood production produces significantly less CO₂ and nitrogen. Trees also absorb CO₂ during their growth, which remains stored in the material. This means Mediavaert's wood construction limits additional emissions and potentially has a positive carbon balance.

The building will also be very energy efficient and use aquifer thermal energy storage, including underground heat and cold storage with a heat pump, as well as solar panels on the roof. The building has been designed to reach the BREEAM Excellent certification.

Next to its unparalleled ambitions in sustainability and greenery, Mediavaert also features an impressive mosaic of glass panels. The first of the 1,530 panels were installed at the beginning of December 2022.

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Our client DPG connects people in the fictional, virtual, and real world. The office we are building will connect all those images, sounds and newsprint in one central place. The successful combination of steel, concrete, and wood in the construction has been the work of various teams who worked together very well from start to finish. This would never have been possible without the effort and teamwork by the client, consultants, subcontractors, and suppliers, and I would like to thank everyone on behalf of BESIX.

Nic De Roeck, General Manager at BESIX Nederland