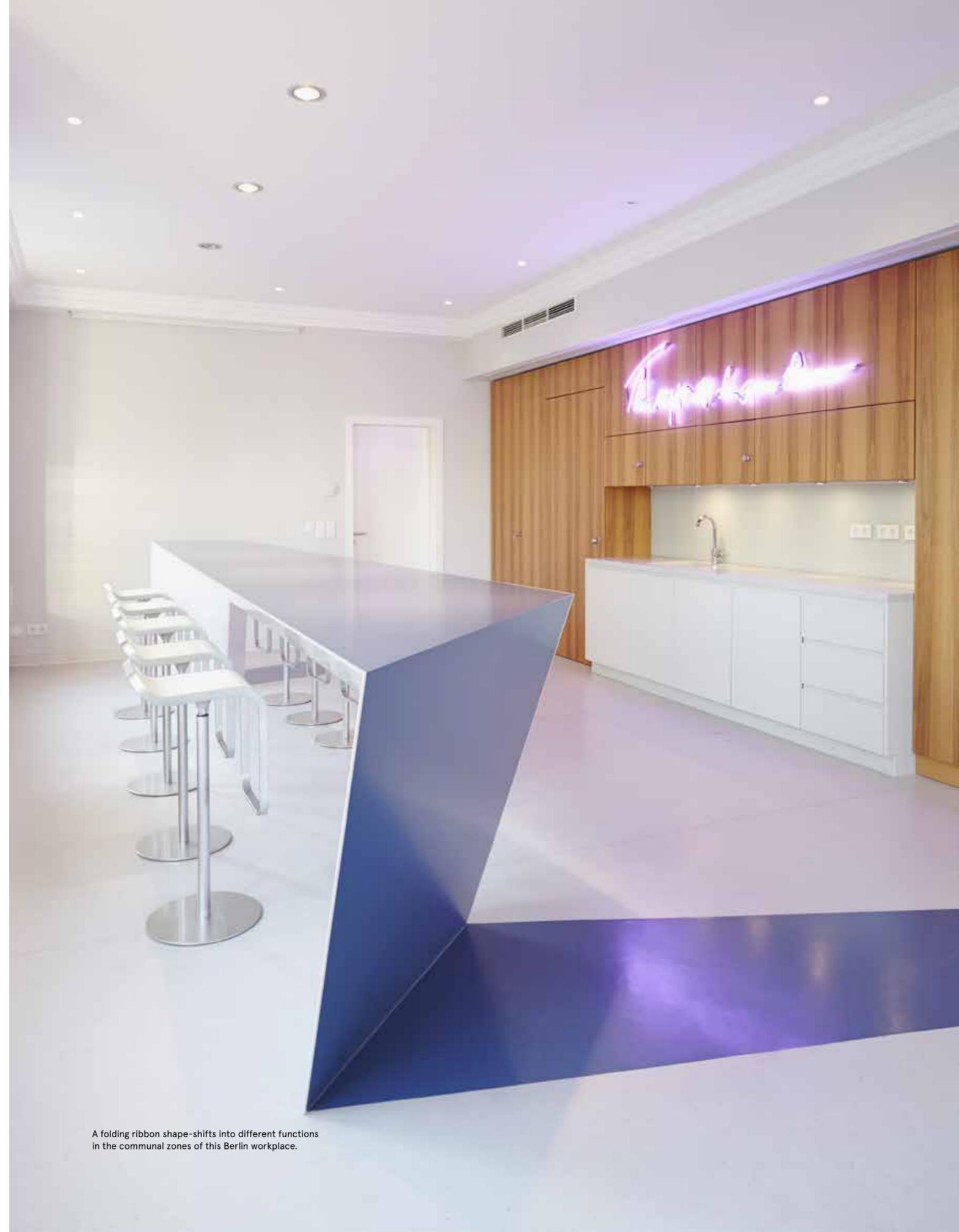


# VALTEQ

002

The designers at **box** cleverly utilised the client's logo to extend into a subtle design feature to unite three companies and two offices.



A folding ribbon shape-shifts into different functions in the communal zones of this Berlin workplace.

LOCATION **BERLIN, GERMANY**  
 TYPE **REAL-ESTATE CONSULTANCY** FLOOR AREA **500 M<sup>2</sup>**  
 ACCOMMODATES **45 EMPLOYEES** COMPLETION **2014**  
 CLIENT **VALTEQ** PHOTOS **THORSTEN KLAPSCH**  
 DESIGNER **BOX PLANUNGSGESELLSCHAFT (P.000)**

Valteq's short company history is filled with numbers. Once upon a time, three real-estate companies combined to form one new force: Valteq. The firm's workplace is set over one floor that used to house two separate (and completely unrelated) companies. This formed quite the creative conundrum for the Berlin-based architects Daniel Buchheit and Alexander Moers asked to reinvigorate the space for the newly-formed company.

There were two challenges to work around. Firstly: a place had to be found for a lot of existing white office furniture, plus a large wooden bookcase. Secondly: the designers had to work out a way to connect the two formerly separate offices. A suitably high-class solution was unravelled: a *cordon bleu*, inspired by Valteq's logo, that travels throughout the office

space. The key ribbon element structures the space into different zones; it acts as an orientation and design system, linking the office's communal spaces. As it traverses the space, with its shifting size and shape, it can also act as a deterrent – discouraging employees from using the public stairwell as a shortcut between the two workspaces.

After leaving reception, visitors are led to the lounge, the place where the wooden bookcase now calls home, an informal meeting place for meetings and small parties. When it's not in use, employees can use the lounge for brainstorming and individual work. Finally, it is here the ribbon slips back into the ground and turns into a room divider, separating the communal areas from the workspaces, where the aforementioned white furniture system seats two to four people at a desk.



The furniture and fittings are custom-designed, with the reception desk being the starting point for the ribbon element.



The design feature snakes through the space to link two formerly independent rental units.

**The blue ribbon travels through the office space to act as an orientation and design system**



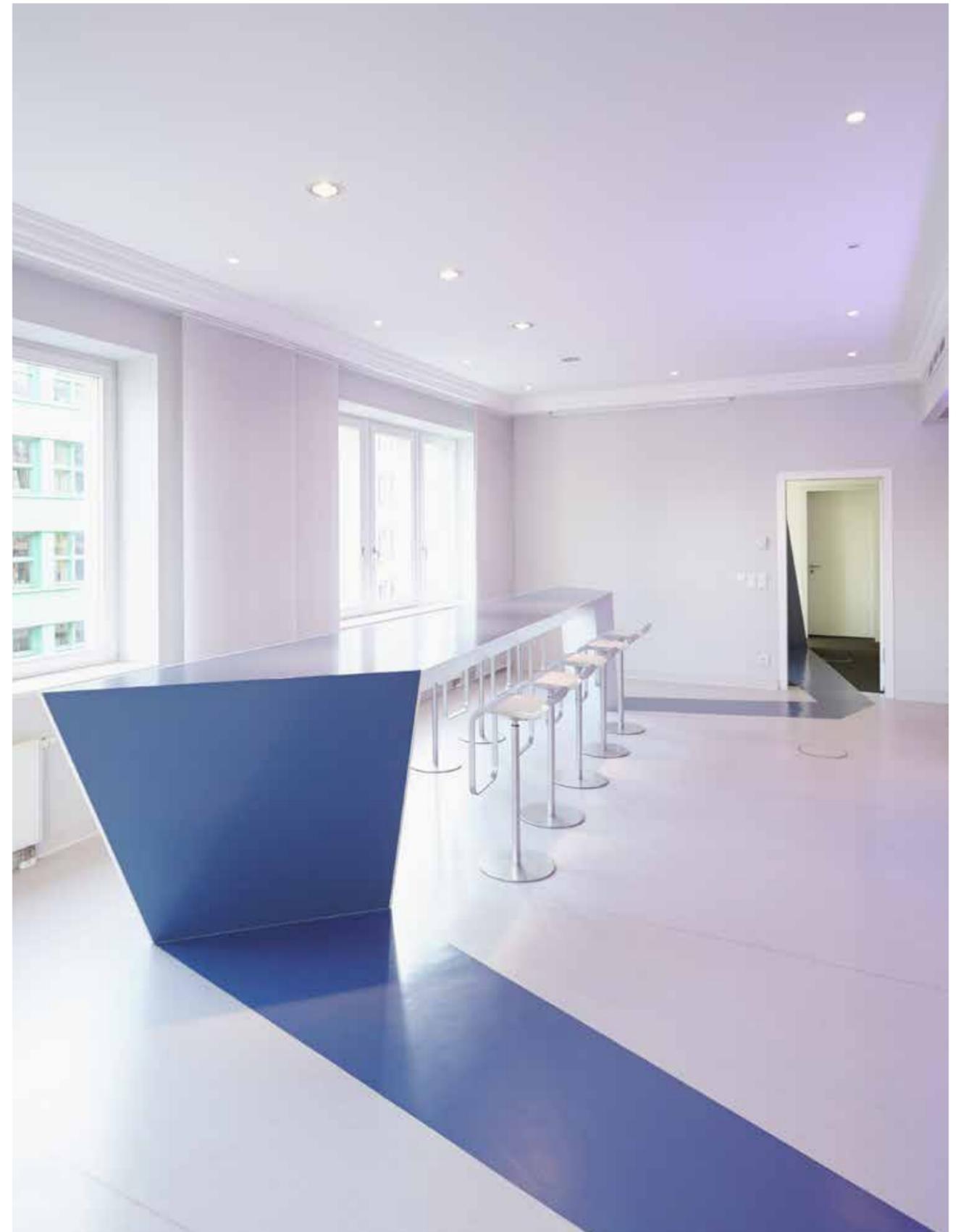
Inspired by Valteq's logo, this quirky aspect links corporate design with daily work.



The material palette includes rubber Dalsouple (the ribbon) and Corian (the fittings).



The concept concentrated on one significant design element, mixed with the use of pre-existing fixtures and furniture.



The ribbon travels from the floor to desk and out into the next space where it morphs into a room division element.