

razorfish

RAZORFISH

**BATEK ARCHITEKTEN
and ESTER BRUZKUS
ARCHITEKTEN** turn
a storage building into
an exciting workspace
through a sensible use
of materials

- 1 An adaptable and comfortable seating area with a tea-house atmosphere contains a variety of soft furnishings as a casual alternative to the standard office environment.
- 2 Beneath the bright yellow staircase, an OSB shelving unit houses a substantial book collection to encourage employees to take a moment's rest for reading in a comfortable and homely environment.

1

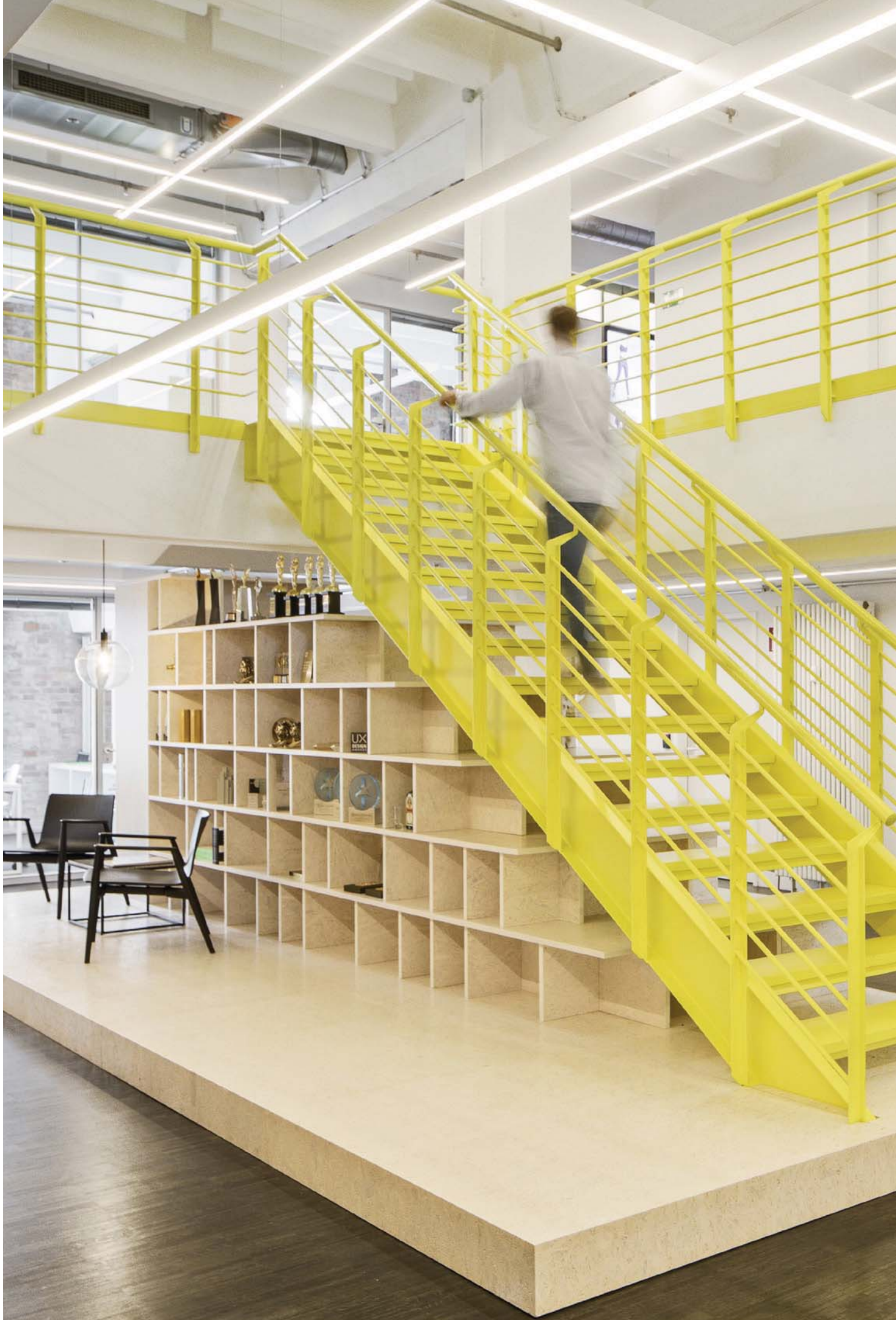


BERLIN – A former storage building is now a unique and creative office for digital media company Razorfish. Located on the north bank of the river Spree, the historic building provides a cultural backdrop that oozes industrial inspiration. Berlin-based architects Patrick batek and ester Bruzkus used sensible and minimalist materials and surface treatments to add warmth to the 2500 m² office space, which occupies two floors.

A number of interventions clad in OSB surfaces inhabit the existing building without disturbing it, ultimately creating a low-key but effective design solution. The flexibility of the material makes it fit for a variety of purposes, from partitions, shelving, raised floors, work desks and informal seating areas.

On the ground floor, a central counter provides a focal point for the main lobby without announcing itself as a public reception. This subtlety of function is continued through the rest of the lower level, comprising white-washed walls, a shelving unit and private meeting rooms pushed to the perimeter. The formal office environment is housed on the upper floor, accessible by either of two pre-existing staircases that have been jazzed up to match the modern rework: one in the centre of the space coated with a bright yellow finish; the other clad in OSB and transformed into podium-style seating that can facilitate company-wide presentations for Razorfish's 80 employees.

2





The communal kitchen on the upper floor features a large, freestanding counter, inviting communication between staff as they enjoy their food.

Podium-style seating facilitates company-wide presentations

