



The challenge was to design a distribution center in Schaerbeek, a city in the northwest of the district of Brussels. Since traffic is a big issue, a distribution center in the periphery of the city would be a good solution to minimize traffic in the centre of Brussels. The distribution center consists two buildings: on one hand a tower in which offices and administration are located and on the other hand a bigger concrete structure for the distribution of goods. We immediately decided that the tower and the bigger structure should be two separate buildings, with different programs. We placed the big structure next to the water, because it can be reached by all sorts of transportation. The tower is located more to the road, one of the reasons is for it to be a landmark for visitors.

Our intention was to create two buildings that are simple and elegant in one way and give a huge variety in sensation of space on the other hand. The big structure speaks for itself: it's clear how the structure works but it's still very intriguing. The tower is something completely different, based on a variety of structural mechanisms. The structure is at first invisible for the visitors, so you have to enter the building and become aware of the way the light and the gradation of the structure form this intense awareness of space. Two different buildings with the same intention: making sure that the structure of the building determines the way to experience space.