

If a building becomes architecture, then it is art. Clearly, if a building is not functionally and technically in order, then it isn't architecture either - it's just a building.
Arne Jacobsen

Mechanical Engineering
Lighting Design
Sustainable Design
Electrical Engineering

Copenhagen
Sydney
Hong Kong
New York

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COMPANY PROFILE

STEENSEN VARMING



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COMPANY PROFILE

STEENSEN VARMING

Firm Foundations

We strive for technical perfection. We are driven to enable the best building design where functionality and wellbeing are paramount. We demand at least as much from ourselves as our clients and collaborators have come to expect.

We grew up with the Danish design approach to refinement and longevity in our formative years. Since our foundation, in 1933, we have attracted and employed gifted people with a shared ethos and commitment to optimal design solutions. We focus on offering a portfolio of specialist services and high levels of expertise, deliberately maintaining a scale of operation that does not outgrow our talent pool.

We continue to innovate to meet and exceed the needs of the most challenging projects, to consistently deliver positive outcomes. But it's not all about us. Our reputation, as one of the most respected and awarded building services consultancies, is built on the foundations of inspirational architects, brave clients - and our way of thinking.

Enabling Architecture

Working in close cooperation with architects, engineers, scientists and designers, we have developed the knowledge to seamlessly assimilate form and function, art and technology. We are practitioners in mechanical and electrical engineering, lighting and sustainable designs that enhance spatial design. In addition to the Vitruvian principles of solidity, utility and beauty, we have put in place our own guiding triad to produce intelligent, valuable and elegant solutions.

These encompass architectural and urban design, the private, corporate and public sectors, modest upgrades and World Heritage Sites. Our integrated design innovations are often examples of quiet achievement with a profound effect on the success of a project, creating exceptional environments from combinations of active and passive measures. Its populace should not notice our legacy; when the efficient, seamless operation merges elegantly into the whole, we achieve our objective - total architecture.

Thinking Without Borders

Steensen Varming was founded by Niels Steensen and Jørgen Varming in Copenhagen - but the seeds of a global outlook were already sown when Jørgen and his architect father before him, studied in the U.K. Not long after the war ended, the Dublin office opened followed by Edinburgh and London - all preceded by prestigious commissions with competition-winning architects. The Sydney Opera House commission with Jørn Utzon continued this pattern and the Sydney practice opened in 1973. Hong Kong and New York followed in our eightieth year.

We developed through working with Arne Jacobsen, Basil Spence, James Stirling, and other masters of twentieth century architecture, none of whom let geographies restrict their horizons. We remain inspired by our Danish heritage while working with visionary architects and clients, wherever their location. Being global means more than expansion or having a physical presence in different countries - it is a way of thinking.

Expertise

Services Masterplanning
Specialist Environments
Natural, Hybrid & Mixed Mode Ventilation
Air Conditioning, Heating & Cooling
Medical & Specialist Gases
Industrial Ventilation
Smoke Control & Life Safety Systems
Dynamic Thermal Modelling
Building Load Analysis
Interior & Exterior Lighting
Lighting Masterplanning
Daylight Analysis & Design
Exhibition Lighting
Solar Shading & Access
ESD & Energy Masterplanning
Passive & Low Energy Design
Building Envelope Design
Climate Control & Thermal Comfort
Indoor Air Quality
Thermal Storage
Renewable Energy
Energy Recovery
Material Reuse and Recycling
Vertical Transportation
Information & Communications Technology
Building Management & Controls
Security & Surveillance
Audio Visual Services
Power Generation & Standby
High & Low Voltage Power
Co-generation & District Energy
Lightning Protection

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MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

STEENSEN VARMING



Creating Comfort



Related Expertise:

- Natural & Mixed Mode Ventilation
- Air Conditioning
- Heating & Cooling
- Medical & Specialist Gases
- Industrial Ventilation
- Smoke Control & Life Safety Systems
- Dynamic Thermal Modelling
- Building Load Analysis
- Specialist Environments
- Services Masterplanning
- Close Control Applications

Mechanical engineering design is more than componentry, it is the knowledge of the fundamental principles of physics and the ability to apply these imaginatively. Mechanical services are literally integral to the success of the internal environment of a building and essential for its people.

Through active and passive means, we adjust the perceived temperature and humidity. We ensure optimum levels of clean, fresh air. We keep data centres cool, operating theatres clean and recital halls quiet. In an emergency, our smoke extraction and life safety systems support safe evacuation. We deal with medical and industrial gases, developing bespoke, often award-winning, systems. We put as much into the design of our invisible plant rooms as we do the visible components of our integrated systems.

Technological advancement and statutory development make it critical to stay ahead, to use the best, or the next, available means. Sound engineering involves buildability, space, operation, aesthetics, acoustics, capital and recurring cost, energy efficiency and environmental quality. We consider the holistic requirements and priorities, applying mechanical engineering solutions that create comfortable buildings.

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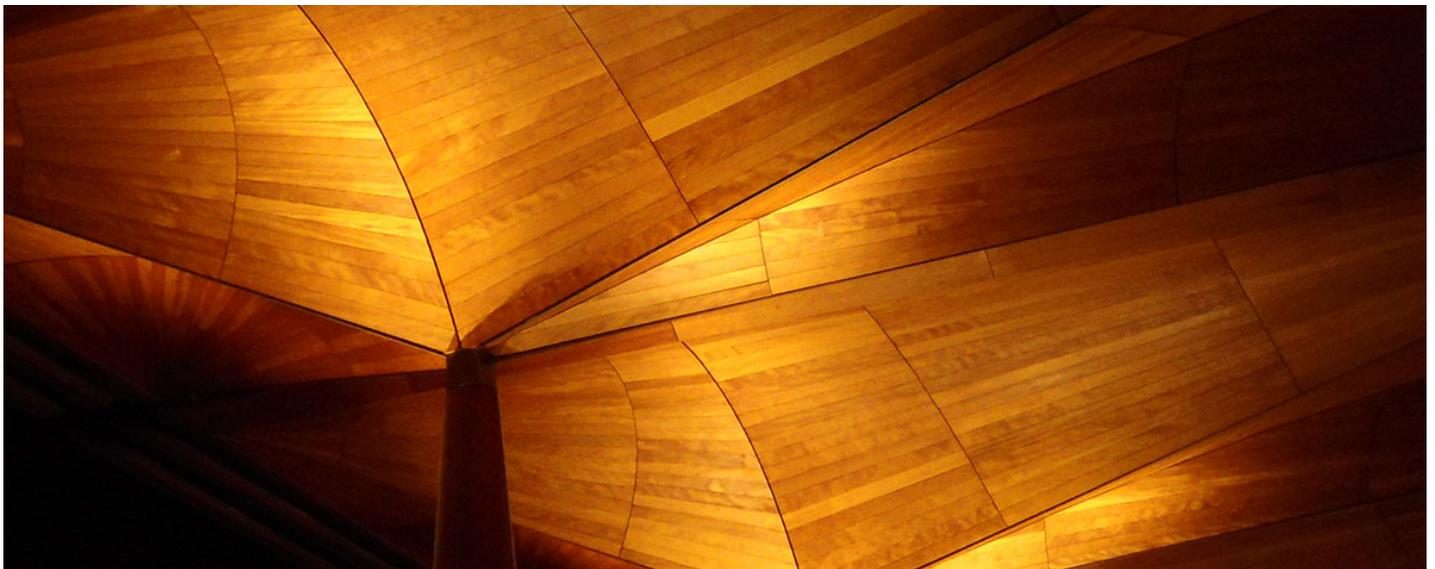
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LIGHTING DESIGN

STEENSEN VARMING



Casting Light



Related Expertise:

Internal & External Lighting
Lighting Masterplanning
Daylight Analysis & Design
Exhibition Lighting
Specialist Environments

Light is a fundamental part of life and a powerful means of communication. We intuitively perceive and experience our world through light. It influences our wellbeing, it reaches our emotions, it inspires us. Our passion for light comes from the understanding of its deep connection to being. To realise and share a vision in any context, whether in landscape, in the built environment or in art, the role of light is essential.

For total communication, lighting design needs to embrace not only light sources but also their interaction with volumes and surfaces; to reveal forms, textures and colours. Balancing inspiration and expertise, we are dedicated to improving the understanding, appreciation and design of our visual and built environment.

Our lighting design philosophy is driven by creativity and collaboration, and backed by experience and learning. We are actively involved in the industry and research, expanding our knowledge, teaching, speaking and participating. Our progressive and dynamic methodology is constantly evolving, enabling progressive design solutions across a wide spectrum of lighting services.

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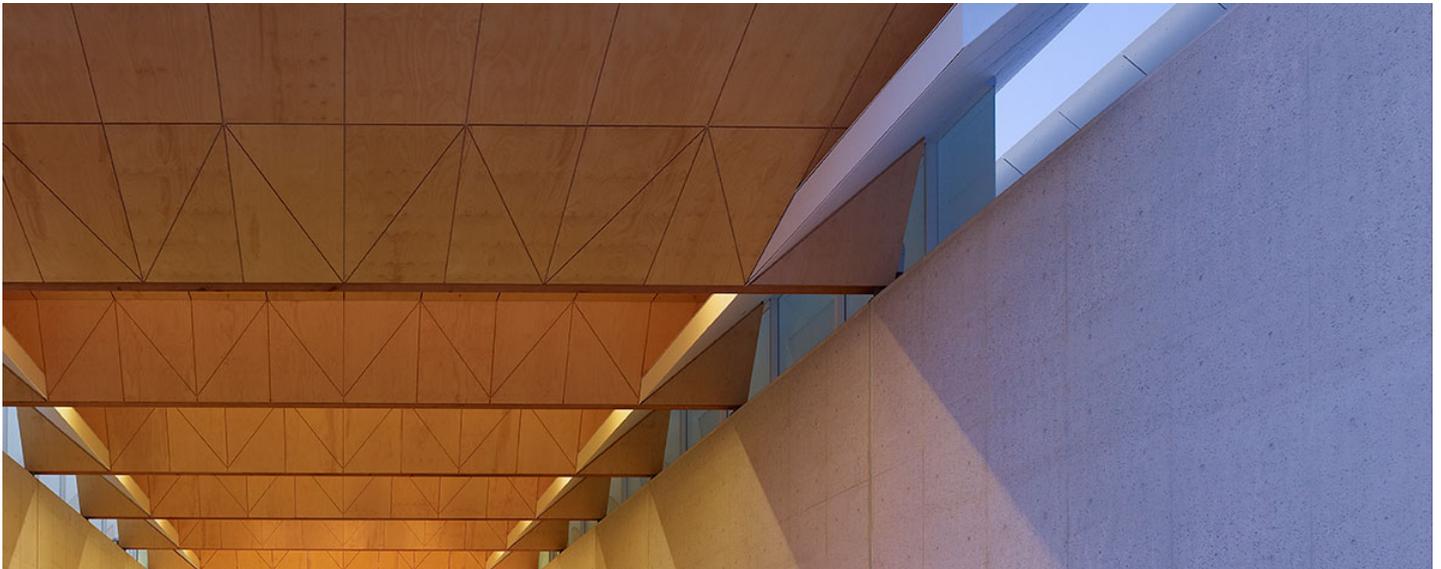
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SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

STEENSEN VARMING



Sustaining Wellbeing



Related Expertise:

Solar Shading & Access
ESD & Energy Masterplanning
Passive & Low Energy Design
Building Envelope Design
Climate Control & Thermal Comfort
Indoor Air Quality
Thermal Storage
Climate Control
Renewable Energy
Energy Recovery
Material Reuse & Recycling

Sustainable design focuses on creating comfortable environments without increasing environmental deficit. It is a way of thinking that embraces simple, appropriate solutions to complex problems. It is about efficient design, not over-design, specifying systems that complement one another, using less material but in the right place, utilising the waste of one process to fuel another.

We can optimise air quality, day lighting, heat gain and heat loss to reduce energy consumption and create more natural, sustainable, comfortable internal environments. If it's appropriate to include renewable energy sources, we design secure supplies. Durability and longevity are the fundamental principles of environmentally responsible design.

Our expertise spans design and engineering with our integrated solutions supported by a long tradition of in-house collaboration across all building services. We participate in creative dialogue in concept stages and have the technical acuity to support our work with prudent analysis throughout design development. Continuous exchange within the design team yields integrated solutions, both active and passive, that are fit for purpose, low maintenance and low energy.

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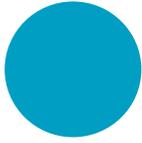
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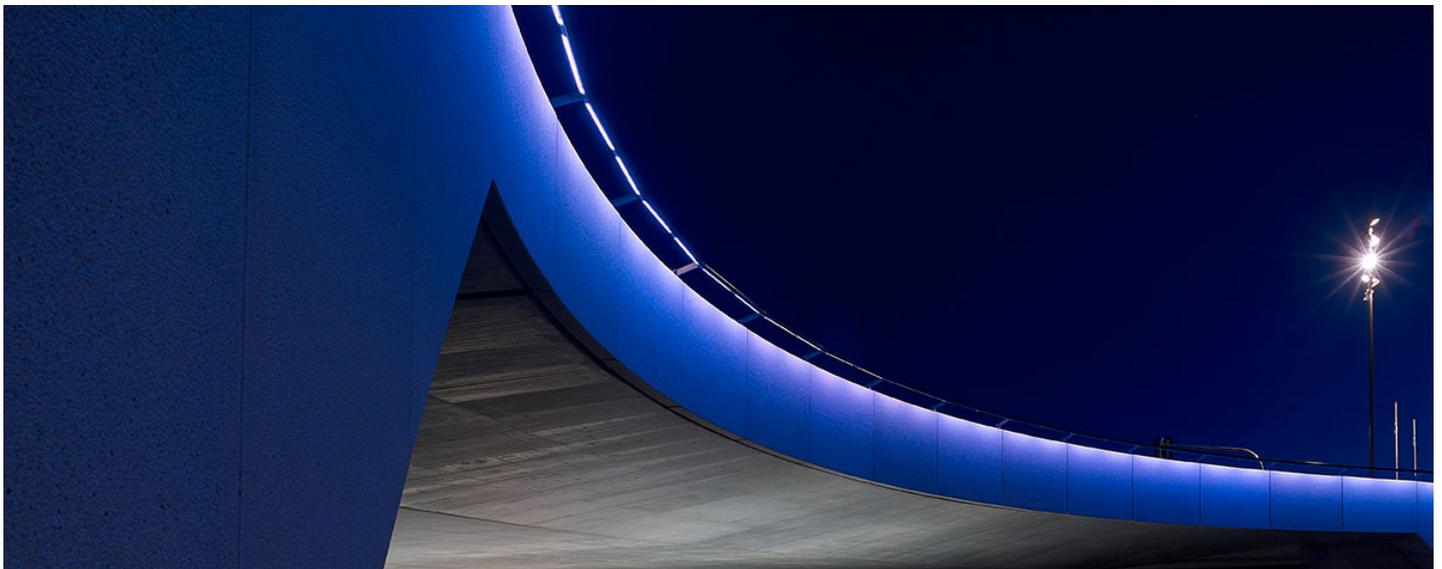
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ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

STEENSEN VARMING



Making Connections



Related Expertise:

ICT
Building Management & Controls
Security & Surveillance
Audio Visual Services
Power Generation & Standby
High & Low Voltage Power Systems
Tri/Co-generation & District Energy
Lightning Protection
Vertical Transportation
Fire Detection & Alarm Systems
Specialist Environments
Services Masterplanning

Modern society could not exist without the control and distribution of electrical power and communications. Electrical services are its arteries and veins - critical to the smooth operation of a contemporary building and its business. They are taken for granted, as long as they function properly, but their complexity is increasing at the same startling rate as technology is developing.

Electrical lifelines range from power generation, supply and infrastructure reticulation to communication networks, security systems, fire safety and vertical transportation. Their design and delivery requires patience and perseverance; liaison with supply authorities, strategic advice on cost and space planning, clear and concise briefings and precise documentation detailing every system powering the building, running the air conditioning, controlling the lighting.

Day-to-day operational provision converges with our long-term outlook where life-cycle cost, energy saving initiatives, efficiency, security and sustainability are key, including planning for interaction with embedded generation and smart grids. We are experienced in complex and challenging projects with a portfolio covering the health, education, defence, residential, commercial, cultural, public, civic and urban design sectors.

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Global Projects and Studios

Steensen Varming is a dynamic company growing both locally and globally. Our growth strategy is based on employing and retaining the best talent in the industry. Rather than profit centres, our locations are seen as skill centres leveraging our global knowledge and talent pool.

With studios in Copenhagen, London, Sydney, Hong Kong and New York, Steensen Varming operates globally based around a one-studio approach driven by collaboration and knowledge sharing across five countries on four continents, enabled by global technology and a commitment to optimal design solutions.

The exchange of global expertise provides each studio with skill and inspiration, which combined with local knowledge provide a higher level of competence and capacity than an individual practice could master alone.

