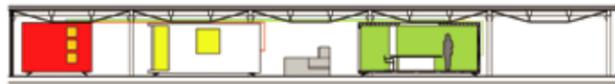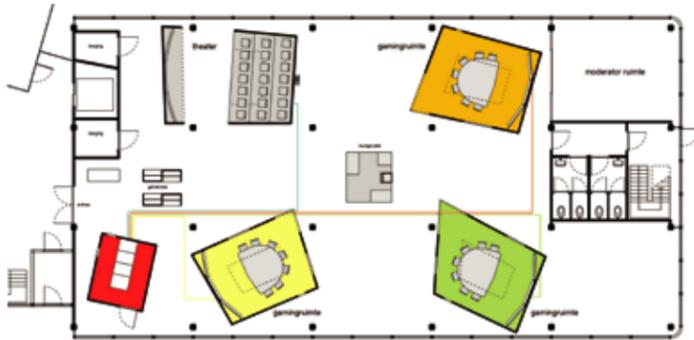# kingma roorda
process data in a lab with a pulsating heart

SECTION.

PLAN.

In the Security Innovation Lab in Delft, answers to complex problems relating to public order and safety are sought, using information technology, simulation and visualization.

The layout mimics a living organism.
Niels van Ham: The red server unit is the pulsating heart of the Lab: the wiring – which runs over open woven cable chutes to and from the gaming units – is the veins where, instead of blood running through, data is processed. And the brain is translated in several gaming units – the core activity here is creative thinking.

Where does the corporal analogy come from?
The brief, by Thales Nederland, was to create a virtual reality lab in a more homely environment. And what is closer to us than our own body?

You call it a computer-controlled pressure cooker.

Dividing the space into individual units, each with its own distinctive interior colour, both creates a feeling of enclosure and takes care of the acoustic problems. Still, since all units 'breathe' with their openings towards the main plaza, participants stay in touch with their immediate environment. Penetrating daylight is diminished to the max – thus avoiding tedious reflections on the LED screens. And it allowed us to maintain the existing climate system.

It looks so simple . . . like a Lego landscape!
The complex technology is only visible on an easy-to-grasp level. Think of the old Star Trek series, with its crappy wooden scenery, red buttons and flickering lights. Visitors can catch a glimpse of the underlying computers and technology that control the gaming spaces through six small orange windows in the prominently situated red 'heart' near the entrance.

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