

Gensler

The London Stock Exchange
London, U.K.



Over three centuries old, the London Stock Exchange looks and behaves like a much younger enterprise after relocating from the City of London, London's financial district, to a new building at Paternoster Square, next to St Paul's Cathedral. Why? The Exchange traded a heavily compartmented and inward-looking 1960s facility for a 95 percent open and highly flexible modern environment, designed by Gensler, where 140,000 square feet of facilities on floors 1, 2, 3 and 7 plus ground floor and lower ground floor help 500 employees perform their tasks, inspire people to do business with the Exchange, and increase collaboration

among business units. Its Media Centre, for example, functions as the Exchange's public face with multimedia facilities, radio booths, broadcasting studios, 120-seat auditorium, presentation suites and syndicate rooms. On typical office floors, open-plan workstations arrayed like trading desks encircle a central elliptical Hub for formal and ad hoc meetings overlooking the building's atrium. The Foundation café, the 70-seat main dining area, is a popular rendezvous for staff and clients. Praising the new facility, Exchange chairman Christopher Gibson-Smith points out, "Its design allows us to work in new ways and gives us the

flexibility to continue our development as a commercial enterprise."

Clockwise from top left: Broadcast control room, conference room, workplace rows, Foundation café, dining room, theater.

Opposite: Interior view from atrium.

Photography: Marcus Peel, Timothy Soar.

