

## Coloured Compositions

Co-founded by architects Satyen Bhayani and Girish Patil, the young architectural firm of Core Group displays their strength in corporate design through an evocative synthesis of composition and colour

Text : Suparna Rajguru  
Images : Courtesy the architects

Just about five years into its establishment, 'Core Group' was co-founded by architects Satyen Bhayani and Girish Patil, both of whom have been well versed with the vocabulary of corporate design, through the course of their prior works. Needless to say, it was this genre of design that defined their first few projects and reflected their signature style of combining spatial configuration with innovative aesthetic treatment. The most noticeable characteristic has been a rendering of spaces with a strong, yet malleable, sense of colour that allows the projects to evolve out their usual conventional formats. Having handled corporate design projects of different scales, Core Group has also forayed into the gamut of institutional and residential designs in their endeavour to offer personalised and exceptional quality service to the clients in architecture and interior design.



## SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE FOR PATNI COMPUTERS, PUNE

### FACT FILE

Project: Software Development Centre  
Bhayani, Sandeep Patil  
Costing: 612 lakhs

Gross/built up area: 70,000 sq ft  
Client: Patni Computers/Bhandari Associates  
Consultants: EMS Electricals, Harmony Aircon

Location: Kaserwadi, Pune

Design team: Satyen Bhayani, Girish Patil, Nikunj  
Year of completion: January, 2005

Duration of project: 3 months



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Their largest project till date, the Software Development Centre for Patni Computers in Pune, elucidates Core Group's efforts at comprehending and effectively translating client's requirements within tight restrictions. As the building tiers from 12,000 to 6,000 sq. ft., deliberate thought procedures backtracked the accommodation of non-existent features like service areas besides the requisites, given the budgetary allowances. Working within the constraints of unchangeable floor plates and heights in the existing structure, the applied concepts diminished insufficiencies by visually expanding the space through open plan forms and materials that allowed abundant ingress of natural light. To facilitate that, two large courtyards were created of previously enclosed spaces, thus opening up the reception and work areas and also creating inner and outer views incorporating greenery. An extensive use of glass sanctions fluidity in spatial progression. The transparency is offset with an anchor of primary colour renditions and design elements that suffuse cheer in an ambience of long working hours.



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1. Since the existing building steps up from 12,000 to 6,000 sq.ft., meticulous thought governed the accommodation of non-existent features like service areas.
2. A liberal use of red in the reception anchors the fluidity of the designed space.
3. An interesting amalgam of primary colours & design elements rents the 'long-working hours' ambience with cheer.
- 4 & 5. The walls around two 14' by 14' shafts were broken down to create glass-lined courtyards to allow natural light and create views for the reception and work areas.
6. Given the available floor heights, open plan forms and an abundant use of glass visually expands the concept of space.
7. Used for auxiliary functions, the basement houses the recreation room, gymnasium and labs etc.
8. Vibrant colours mark the open-air cafeteria.



## DIAMOND GRADATION OFFICE FOR R. KANTILAL, MUMBAI

### FACT FILE

Project unit: Diamond Polishing & Assorting Unit  
Design team: Satyen Bhayani, Girish Patil, Nikunj Bhayani  
Duration of the project: 1 month

Gross/ built up area: 1680 sq ft  
Client: R.Kantilal & Sons  
Costing: 12.5 lakhs

Location: Laxmi Ind. estate, Andheri, Mumbai  
Year of completion: March, 2005  
Consultant: EMS, Swastik Aircon