

Super Neon BV  
Pekstraat 7  
Lelystad

Mr. C. J. van Nes

*Mr. Siebrandt.*

10 July 1978

Dear Mr. van Nes,

Following our meeting in April, I am now writing to give you the preliminary specifications for the 'Wave Neon Sign' that is intended for installation at Koopvaardersplantsoen in Amsterdam Noord.

The basic configuration is a series of intersecting parabolic curves made from 'writing neon' - that system you described where electrodes are attached every 10cm. to the neon tube so that the light can be made to run along the tube (as in a 'chase circuit'). The neon tubing is 22cm. diameter throughout, and possibly made up of a number of different colours in the blue-green-white spectrum (i.e. argon filled).

At each intersecting where the tubes overlap there would be a junction box where the tube ends are connected and powered, so that the whole sign is made up of standard lengths of curved tube. There are two basic tube ~~maddies~~, and two basic types of junction box that constitute the whole sign (see diagrams).

The electronic control of the sign is such that the light travelling along one tube, when it reaches a junction box, can be switched to any one of the other three tubes that connect at that junction. Thus various shaped wave patterns can be generated on the sign. See enclosed diagrams for these different wave patterns,

The choice of which wave pattern is being generated, as well as the speed of the chase circuit, will be controlled by a microprocessor which will be connected to a wind speed sensor (anemometer). Thus the wind speed will determine which pattern the light makes as it travels across the sign - on a scale of low to high wind making low to high light waves.

As I understood from our conversation, your company would install the whole electrical system, while the electronic controls (of the shape of the waves and the speed of the chase circuit) should be undertaken by an outside contractor. The company I intend to approach for this will need complete details from you regarding the electrical system, such as power supply, transformer specifications, method of switching for the chase circuit, and method for switching at the tube junctions. I suggest that a meeting should also be arranged between yourselves and the electronics contractor to go into this side of the project in more detail.

continued..

It is our intention that two of these signs be made (each being approx. 11m. long and 2m. high), to be attached to the end wall surface (brick) of two of the building that face onto the Koopvaardersplantsoen.

With these specifications in mind I would appreciate receiving from you at your earliest convenience some indications on price for this sign. I would like to have the following items separately shown in your quotation:

1. The neon sign itself - the particular tubing configuration that we want, the junction boxes and all electrics.
2. The installation onto the brick wall surfaces -
  - (a) just with the junction boxes, and pins to hold the tubing to the wall, and exposed wiring fixed to the wall.
  - (b) with your standard type of metal casing behind the tubing to hold all the wiring and other electrical controls.
  - (c) with a Perspex (or Lexan) sheet in front of the whole sign to protect it from weather and external damage.

Furthermore I would like to have an indication of what the yearly cost would be for complete servicing, maintenance and insurance of the signs on site, on the understanding that it will be expected to function daily for an indefinitely long period of time.

Should you need any further information regarding the design of this sign please ring me, and I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

  
Jeffrey Shaw for E.R.G.

ERG