PROJECT SUMMARY. The Paul-Löbe-Haus is located close to the Reichstag building. Together with the new chancellery building (Kanzleramt) and the Marie-Elisabeth-Lüders-Haus, it forms the so-called “Federal Belt” connecting the two Berlin districts on the banks of the river Spree formerly separated by the Berlin Wall. The new building is mainly used for parliamentary committees, public relation purposes and for visitor services. The spacious foyer with its glazed grid roof forms the East-West axis of the building and provides access via galleries, staircases and elevators to the approx. 1,000 offices of members of parliament, to the parliamentary committees’ offices as well as to the many conference and meeting rooms.

FOCUS OF CONSULTING SERVICES. In the numerous conference and meeting rooms as well as the rooms for parliamentary committees and offices, the acoustical consultancy focused on ensuring confidentiality, concentration and speech intelligibility. In addition to designing the elements for structural separation with respect to their sound-absorbing quality, room acoustical measures for achieving a high level of speech intelligibility were implemented. Not only did the Federal Government as the client attach great importance to a representative and highly functional building, but also to its cost effectiveness, very little pollutant emission and a high degree of energy saving, which was achieved with values far below the applicable thermal insulation requirements.

CLIENT
Federal Republic of Germany represented by the Bundesbaugesellschaft Berlin mbH

ARCHITECT
Stephan Braunfels Architekten, Munich / Berlin

PROJECT DATA
Planning and construction period 1994 - 2001
Gross floor area / gross volume 81,000 m² / 425,000 m³
Cost of construction approx. 322 million euros

SERVICES RENDERED
Room acoustics, building acoustics, thermal building physics, fire protection
Consulting, measurements, simulations

1 Exterior view
2 Conference hall
3 Foyer
Pictures: Ulrich Schwarz