The founder of Level Acoustics, Renz van Luxemburg, thought people should be getting more use out of the acoustics laboratory in the Architecture, Building and Planning Department. So, he wrote a business plan to turn the laboratory into a knowledge-sharing center for acoustic science.

Level Acoustics provides knowledge transfer, consultancy and research. “The lab was being used purely for research,” Luxemburg recalls. “I thought that was a waste. So, I wrote a business plan for exploring some commercial pursuits. That didn’t go over too well at first. The response was something like ‘That’s not what TU/e is all about.’ When people took a closer look at the plan, though, they saw that it would benefit both parties and we were able to go ahead. The laboratory is now open to students, architects and other people interested in acoustics.” Level Acoustics also organizes workshops and master classes to more widely disseminate TU/e’s knowledge on acoustics. “As a research institute, we need to be at the forefront of developing knowledge, as well as – one would hope – creating new knowledge. That’s the only way to remain relevant,” asserts Luxemburg.

Five years from now:
“We will have hired four Ph.D. candidates and grown into a company with ten or so employees.”