

Urban development competition for the Siemens Campus Erlangen

Facts and figures

History

Siemens invested almost 100 million Deutsche mark at the beginning of the 1960s to build a "research city for power applications" for 1,500 employees on what was at that time the very edge of the city of Erlangen. Even then the urban development process was influenced by a desire to ensure good integration between Siemens and the universities, institutions and other research bodies with which it would be working. And even then, planning was guided in part by the idea of a "campus facility" with the various areas laid out in an "apparently informal but actually very carefully ordered" arrangement. The Erlangen research zone has seen thousands upon thousands of innovations brought into the world, tested and readied for production over the intervening years. Even the original version of what went on to become the Transrapid first saw the light of day in Erlangen.

The site today

Home to around 25,000 employees, the present Erlangen facilities rank as the largest Siemens site in the world and one of the company's key competence centers. Siemens employs approximately 46,000 people in the wider Erlangen area. The research zone in which the new Siemens Campus is to be constructed lies in the Southern part of the city and currently hosts units of almost all Siemens Divisions. Siemens research department Corporate Technology (CT) is another major occupant. The area currently still closed off amounts to approximately 540,000 square meters, which is equivalent to around 75 soccer fields. Bounded to the South by Henri-Dunant Straße, to the North by Paul-Gossen Straße, to the East by Hammerbacher Straße and to the West by the metro line, it is currently home to more than 80 buildings with a total building area of 350,000 square meters, most of them dating from the 1960s and 1970s. Siemens currently employs some 8,300 people at the site.

The urban development competition

Siemens and the City of Erlangen commissioned twelve German firms of architects to produce plans for the redesign of the site as part of the urban development competition. The terms on which the competition is based divide the project into seven phases of construction and define both an urban development competition for concepts covering the entire area and a realization element covering the initial phases of construction first to the West and, subsequently, to the East of Günther-Scharowski-Straße. The project envisages the creation of more than 320,000 square meters of new office space, at least 100,000 square meters of new residential space, a hotel incorporating a business center and temporary residential accommodation for staff (the "boarding house") plus leisure, sports, dining and shopping opportunities on the Campus site over the coming years. The Siemens Group attaches great importance to sustainability and has accordingly specified that the energy efficiency of new buildings at the Siemens Campus Erlangen site should be at least 25 percent better than the levels stipulated in the corresponding legal requirements. Renewable energy and rainwater harvesting systems, watercourses and green spaces are also to be incorporated into the site layout. Siemens anticipates a total investment of approximately 500 million euro.

The schedule

The site refurbishment and redesign is intended to proceed in phases. The main priority for 2015 will be the land use plan process, but it is hoped that demolition work in the sector to the West of Günther-Scharowsky-Straße will be under way by the end of the year. This area and the adjacent Eastern sector will then be redeveloped with new offices and research facilities between 2016 and 2022, after which the remainder of the site will be regenerated in stages with additional office space, a hotel, temporary residential accommodation for staff, a business center, apartments and local stores selling everyday needs.

Additional background information and images for press use can be found at www.siemens.com/press/siemens-campus.

Contact for journalists

Guido Jagusch

Siemens AG

Communications and Government Affairs

Siemens Real Estate

Tel.: +49 89 722 750091; E-mail: guido.jagusch@siemens.com

Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/siemens_press