

Press Release dated January 22, 2014: Metall Zug AG / V-ZUG AG

V-ZUG committed to technology and innovation

The findings of the study on the development of the industrial site are available

Zug, January 22, 2014 – V-ZUG AG, Metall Zug AG and the city of Zug are preparing the way for an industrial site of the future. The V-ZUG site is to be secured and developed long-term as a production location. Relying on a strong and closely networked cluster accommodating a variety of different uses, a framework is to be created that will crucially strengthen V-ZUG and the city of Zug as a business hub in the canton of Zug and as a sustainable living environment. From January 23, 2014, the results of the jointly conducted urban planning study are to be presented to the public at the Zugorama.

V-ZUG and the city of Zug are presenting the findings of their urban planning study on January 22, 2014. The study represents a shared vision of significant momentum in terms of business, economic and urban development: The Zug site is to become a center of technology and innovation. V-ZUG's main site is gradually transforming into a place where industrial production, research and development interlink with urban utilization. The city and the canton of Zug are supporting these plans.

While elsewhere industrial sites are being repurposed and valuable jobs are disappearing in the name of economic necessity, V-ZUG and the city of Zug are operating from a position of foresightedness. The industrial activities of V-ZUG and Metall Zug are to be strengthened by establishing additional technological competencies on site. In the middle of an attractive conurbation, in a delightful living environment that has evolved naturally, added potential for future development is to be created.

Stage one: joint study planning process

The city of Zug and V-ZUG laid the foundation stone for the development of a technology and innovation center combined with industrial production by commissioning an urban planning study, the findings of which are to be presented at the Zugorama from January 23 to 31, 2014. Four national and one international planning team (see box) were invited to identify business and urban development options for turning the industrial site into an industrial and technology cluster. The consolidation concept that the teams were required to

examine as per the stipulations of the cantonal structure plan opens up new opportunities. The key aspects to be factored in by the planners included opening up the site for a wider range of uses, the flexibility offered by a slow, phased implementation process – as well as integrating the site into the cityscape with minimum ecological impact. The competition was won by the team from Zurich-based Hosoya Schaefer Architects. The study findings will be fed into the next process stage comprising drawing up a master plan for the V-ZUG site and the adjacent parcels of land along Baarerstrasse. In turn, the master plan will form the basis for revising the current zoning plan, which lays down the legal foundations for phased development.

Public areas are to be created in the southern sector of the roughly 80,000 square meter V-ZUG site, offering space for new industrial enterprises, innovative start-ups, service providers, workshops, studios, laboratories and schools alongside the industrial infrastructure of V-ZUG and Metall Zug. The integration of urban facilities to round off the site marks an organic transition toward the living space of the city of Zug. The economic focus of the planned development is the technology and innovation cluster – as a historically firmly rooted counterpoint to the growing significance of the region of Zug as the home of international finance and commodity companies.

Continuous development

V-ZUG has a tradition of innovation, spanning from the very first household appliance to today's cutting edge high-tech products. The sustainable development of the production site is part of this tradition. In 1988, V-ZUG gave the work location Zug a distinctive architectural landmark in the shape of the Zugorama on Baarerstrasse. An ultra-modern high-bay warehouse was built in 2011. Work on the planned extension along Oberallmendstrasse begins in 2014, centralizing and optimizing operational logistics and production processes. This functional streamlining of the site provides the ideal framework for a continuous development in the direction of a wide range of attractive workplaces at the heart of a living urban environment.

((Box))

Study participants

Hosoya Schaefer Architects, Zurich

Keoto AG, Zurich
Müller Illien Landschaftsarchitekten, Zurich
IBV Hüsler AG, Zurich

BIG, Copenhagen

Amstein + Walthert, Zurich
Westpol LandschaftsArchitektur, Basel

EM2N Matthias Müller / Daniel Niggli Architekten AG, Zurich

CSD Ingenieure, Zurich
Balliana Schubert, Landschaftsarchitekten AG, Zurich
stadt raum verkehr, Birchler + Wicki, Zurich

Graber & Steiger Architekten Lucerne

Ragonesi Strobel Partner, Lucerne + Hans Abicht AG, Zug
Koepfli Partner, Landschaftsarchitekten, Lucerne
AKP Verkehrsingenieure, Lucerne
Prof. Christina Schumacher, Zurich

Group8, Geneva

BG Ingenieurs Conseils, Lausanne
Hager Partner AG, Zurich
mrs partner ag, Zurich

About V-ZUG

V-ZUG AG celebrated its centenary at the Zug site in 2013. The Swiss market leader for household appliances develops, manufactures and sells high-quality, resource-efficient kitchen and laundry appliances. V-ZUG products offer an impressively high level of functionality and economy of consumption as well as sparing use of resources. V-ZUG consistently succeeds in setting itself apart as a technology leader in its sector with its forward-looking innovations.

In Switzerland, V-ZUG has a workforce of over 1,300, 850 of whom are based in Zug. In the 2012 financial year, the household appliances business unit (V-ZUG AG, V-ZUG Kühltechnik AG, SIBIRGroup AG and Gehrig Group AG) reported sales of CHF 557 million. This is the largest of the Metall Zug Group business units.

About the Metall Zug Group

The Metall Zug Group focuses on its three core businesses and is managed as an industrial group. It is headquartered in Zug and has a staff of around 3,500 employees. The Household Appliances business unit includes the Swiss market leader V-ZUG AG, SIBIRGroup AG and Gehrig Group AG. The Infection Control business unit is represented by the Belimed Group, and the Schleuniger Group makes up the Wire Processing business unit. The holding company Metall Zug AG is listed in the Domestic Standard of SIX Swiss Exchange, Zurich (registered shares of type B: securities number 3982108, ticker symbol METN).

Disclaimer

This press release contains forward-looking estimates and statements that were made on the basis of the information available at the current time. The forward-looking statements reflect the status at the time at which they were made. Metall Zug would like to point out that, owing to a wide variety of factors, the actual circumstances and results may deviate from the expectations presented in this press release. This press release is published in German and English. The German version takes precedence.

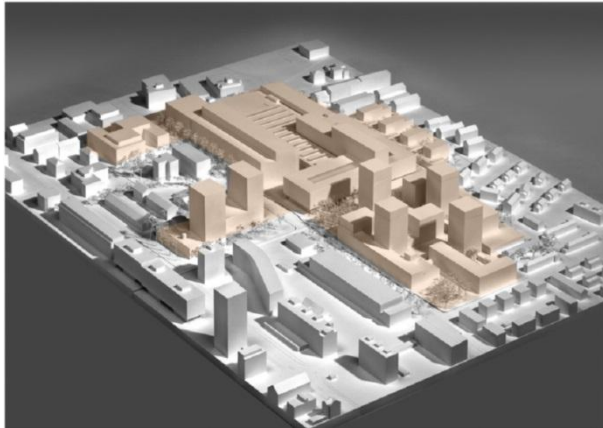
Exhibition of study findings

The competition entries of the five planning teams can be viewed at the Zugorama, Baarerstrasse 124, Zug, from January 23 to 31, 2014.

Opening hours: Workdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday/Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Website: www.technologycluster-zug.ch.

The following illustrations are stored on the enclosed CD or can be downloaded from www.technologycluster-zug.ch/medien for free use and in print-ready resolution:



((Photo caption)) Following the vision of a technology cluster, the V-ZUG site is opening up to become a multifunctional urban space. The space requirements for industrial production have top priority for the future development of the site. (Model: Hosoya Schaefer Architects)



((Photo caption)) The newly designed public space comprises a mix of industrial production, offices, laboratories, workshops, schools and training centers, as well as urban life and culture. (Visualization Hosoya Schaefer Architects)

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