

Press information

HOCHTIEF Construction to realize Union Investment quarter Emporio in Hamburg

Former Unilever high-rise will be sustainably revitalized and expanded - EUR 138 million contract volume

HOCHTIEF Construction was commissioned by Union Investment Real Estate to realize the inner-city urban quarter Emporio in Hamburg as general contractor. The HOCHTIEF subsidiary was already involved in the planning phase and optimized the project around the former Unilever high-rise together with the client in line with the partnership-based business model PreFair. The contract volume totals EUR 138 million. Construction works will start in early summer 2008 and are scheduled for completion by 2011.

The Emporio urban quarter in Hamburg's city center comprises the former Unilever building which is to be revitalized and of a new complex which will feature office and commercial space as well as apartments and a 325-room hotel. The existing 90-meter-high property is heritage listed. HOCHTIEF Construction will gut the building and add two floors. Works on the new building will be carried out in parallel. Upon completion of the construction works, the two building sections combined will have an above-ground effective floor area of approximately 60,000 square meters.

"At Emporio, we place particular importance on sustainability and energy efficiency," explains Dr. Frank Billand, member of the Executive Board of Union Investment Real Estate. Billand aims to cut operating costs for heating and air-conditioning in the new urban quarter by more than 64 percent as compared with the old Unilever building. Another goal is to reduce carbon emissions by almost 1,700 tons to protect the environment. "Such savings can be achieved by early cooperation of all parties involved," says Henner Mahlstedt, Chairman of the Executive Board of HOCHTIEF Construction, and refers to the PreFair model. This, he adds, "gives all partners the possibility to optimize planning right from the start together." The model also enables wide-ranging cost control by the partners. Emporio is seeking LEED Gold certification.

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