

Tech campus in the centre of the Euregion

'Corda Campus' is the metamorphosis of the Philips site in Hasselt, where the curtain fell in 2002 after almost a quarter century of innovation and production. The provincial development company POM Limburg, the city of Hasselt and the Limburg-based investment company LRM decided to bring the Philips site back to life. Today LRM is the principal shareholder of Corda Campus.

Currently 50,000m² are already in use, and this will quickly grow to 70,000 m². Where earlier it was a site with a single factory (Philips Hasselt), there are now over 200 different companies working in one and the same environment. Around 100 'start-ups' are expanding there into 'scale-ups'. Corda Campus has now become the professional home for 3000 employees whose average age is under 30. It's a magnet for companies of very different kinds, so that the number of professionals will continue to rise steadily to an expected 5000!

Campus atmosphere

In addition to renovating existing buildings, new ones are also being erected. 'Corda 1', designed by the Antwerp architectural firm ELD, offers 14,000m² of surface area and stands out with its sloping green roof. The layout offers many units with smaller surface areas because there was, and is, high demand for precisely that. One also finds there the 'Corda INCubator', where around 100 'start-ups' are busy becoming 'scale-ups'. There are important links with Silicon Valley and New York: for some, this is the ideal springboard to the technology Mecca.

The campus offers an auditorium, the modern and elegant 'Corda Bar' which is accessible for external visitors and the hip 'Corda Plaza' meeting zone with self-service restaurant, soup and sandwich bar, a hairdresser, break-out zone for parties, physical therapist and a KBC bank office.

"The campus feeling results in a unique atmosphere and working environment, entirely different from what the real estate sector typically provides for offices, while each company has the necessary space for the development of its own identity" emphasises Kristof Vanvelk, Operations Manager Corda Campus. *"The users of the entire Corda Campus site enjoy general and technical services in the broadest sense of the term, with a centralised helpdesk that deals with workplace management and parking policy, mobility on and around the site, communication with the occupants... Those who work here might possibly consider changing employer, but never the working environment"*. High praise for the Corda Campus!

New developments

More new construction projects that are in the pipeline include Corda 2 (2018) and Corda 3 (2019). This fall will see the commissioning of halls A and B, former production halls with 6m-high ceilings and each offering a surface area of 3000m². For this Procos, company specialised in office design & build, developed an extremely creative 'loft atmosphere' with modular office entities (35m² of floor space, 2 levels) which can be joined together to match the needs of the tenants.

In front of the fully renovated halls (energy-optimised, solar panels) comes a steel and glass entrance hall, so that the Corda Campus receives an attractive front for those visiting the site from the 'Hasselt Kiewit' train station.

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