Twelve architecture firms draft ideas for the Siemens Campus in Erlangen

Siemens and the City of Erlangen are inviting twelve German architecture firms to take part in an architectural design competition to redesign the Siemens Campus in Erlangen. By the end of the year, they have to submit an urban development design for the site as a whole, together with detailed plans and building designs for the initial construction stage. The following twelve firms are taking part:

1. Astoc GmbH & Co. KG, Cologne
ASTOC Architects and Planners is a firm which has been based in Cologne for around 20 years. It has 40 employees and deals with urban design and architectural projects in Germany and neighboring countries. Many of its urban design projects have already aroused considerable interest, both in Germany and abroad, for example the development of a residential, commercial and office district in Hamburg’s HafenCity. The firm states that its “working philosophy […] is firmly based on a combination of professional experience, research, education and training”.
www.astoc.de

2. Auer Weber Assozierte GmbH, Munich
Founded in 1980 by Fritz Auer and Carlo Weber, Auer Weber now employs 120 staff in Stuttgart and Munich. Besides numerous projects in Germany – such as the development of a new university campus in Garching, near Munich – the firm is implementing an increasing number of projects abroad, chiefly in China, France and Luxembourg. Auer Weber cites “openness and accessibility for the mind and senses” as the common denominator for all its projects.
www.auer-weber.de

3. djb-Architekten GmbH, Erlangen
Local candidate djb-Architekten was established in 1991, arising from a friendly collaboration between three architects in a Munich office. djb now employs a staff of 16 in Erlangen and says of itself: “We break with convention, question everything and seek out untrodden paths. We are always on the lookout for new ideas and prepared to create space for them.” In addition to numerous buildings for educational institutions, in recent years this architectural practice has built up a specialty in office and administration buildings, and the projects it has designed include the master plan for a technology park for an international corporation.

www.djb-architekten.de

4. h4a Gessert + Randecker Generalplaner GmbH, Stuttgart

“The motivation behind our work lies in the fascination of the challenge of coming up with an individual solution for each construction project,” is how this firm, established in Stuttgart in 1988 by Martin Gessert and Albrecht Randecker, describes its work. With around 50 employees and now with further offices in Düsseldorf and Munich, h4a has for some years been increasingly involved in supraregional and national projects. For example, h4a designed the M-Campus Technology Park for Stadtwerke München, which was completed in 2013.

www.h4a-architekten.de

5. Ferdinand Heide Architekt BDA, Frankfurt

The Frankfurt architect Ferdinand Heide, with 15 employees, has specialized in building planning and urban development since 1991. Its most well-known urban development projects include the master plan for the Westend Campus in Frankfurt, completed in 2009. In recent years, the firm has also created numerous office buildings, as well as bridges and buildings for educational institutions, always with the following in mind: “Our aim is to use the existing conditions of a location to create new spatial experiences.”

www.ferdinand-heide.de
6. HPP Architekten, Düsseldorf
The Düsseldorf architectural partnership Hentrich-Petschnigg & Partner GmbH + Co. KG, founded by Professor Hentrich in 1933, is now in its fourth generation and is represented nationally and internationally, with eleven office sites and 250 employees. The element linking all partners is, according to the firm, “striving to ensure the validity of our work and the integrity of detail and material”. The firm has received worldwide recognition for the Swan Office Park in Bucharest, the EXPO Village in Shanghai and the Europe Tower in Sofia.

www.hpp.com

7. Ingenhoven architects, Düsseldorf
Founded in 1985 by Christoph Ingenhoven, this Düsseldorf firm, with around 100 employees, has won numerous international competitions and received awards for projects it has implemented in recent years. It is one of the highest-profile German architecture firms, due in part to prominent projects like the Google Headquarters in California, the main railway station in Stuttgart and the Neue Messe in Hamburg. Christoph Ingenhoven sees “sustainability as an important, self-evident and noticeable part of the company’s identity.”

www.ingenhovenarchitects.com

8. JSWD Architekten, Cologne
The Cologne office of JSWD Architekten has been in operation since 2000 and now has over 70 employees. In the last few years, JSWD has implemented many projects in Germany and, increasingly, elsewhere in Europe – the large majority as the result of competitions it has won, including the urban development project for the Thyssen Krupp Quarter in Essen. As the firm says of itself: “The pursuit of conceptual and formal clarity is a recurring theme that runs through all our construction projects.”

www.jswd-architekten.de
9. KSP Jürgen Engel Architekten GmbH, Frankfurt
With four national offices and sites in China and Vietnam, KSP and its 200 or so employees manage a wide range of planning and construction projects. Its most well-known urban development projects include the design of the “Science and Technology City” for 100,000 inhabitants close to the Chinese port of Qingdao, and the Maintor quarter in Frankfurt. In their own words, their work is characterized by “the three factors of functionality, cost-effectiveness and longevity which represent a factual counterweight to the process of designing”.
www.ksp-architekten.de

10. Meixner Schlüter Wendt GmbH, Frankfurt
This partnership, which was founded in 1997 by Claudia Meixner, Florian Schlüter and Martin Wendt, has won numerous urban development and design competitions. In 2013 it was awarded third prize for the implementation section of the Kulturcampus Bockenheim. With just under 40 employees, the three architects develop “specific associations with the particular features of a location and a task, which often emerge from observing and analyzing existing everyday objects and layouts“.
www.meixner-schlueter-wendt.de

11. NPS Tchoban Voss GmbH & Co. KG, Hamburg
Since the firm was founded in 1931, NPS has devoted itself in its architecture “to striving for value in use, solidity and intrinsic value”. Its offices in Hamburg, Berlin and Dresden currently employ around 120 employees and manage projects throughout Germany, as well as in Russia, Turkey and the Arab states. In the urban development field, competitions which NPS has won include those for designing the center of the Überseequartier at HafenCity in Hamburg and the southern section of the Riem Arcades in Munich.
www.nps-tchoban-voss.de
12. RohdeCan Architekten GmbH, Dresden
Since founding their firm in Dresden in 1998, Eckart Rohde and Canan Rohde-Can, who now employ over 60 employees, have made a name for themselves with their contemporary yet restrained style of architecture. They received acclaim in 2011 for their urban planning design for the Baakenhafen in Hamburg. The prominent architect Prof. Ernst Kasper said of them: “Their buildings and projects are almost all characterized by a surprising naturalness and are bold and resolute.”

[www.rohdecan.de](http://www.rohdecan.de)

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