

GCA Architects completes the construction of the Office Tower in Plaza Europa 34, a new architectural landmark in Barcelona

The building, owned by Colonial and Inmo, features a surface area of 21,000 square meters spread over 21 above-ground floors and 140 parking spaces.



Photography: Rafael Vargas

GCA Architects has just finished the construction of **Office Tower in Plaza Europa 34**, the latest office building project in Plaza Europa on the border between the cities of Barcelona and L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, and one of the fastest-growing business areas in the Barcelona metropolitan area and a true gateway to the city. The Plaza Europa project, designed by Albert Viaplana between 2007 and 2008, rises halfway between El Prat Airport and Barcelona, creating a new centrality through the urbanization of roads, green spaces, and mixed-use buildings. Today, it is defined by its ensemble of towers that are architectural landmarks, and now it is joined by the latest work of GCA Architects.

The **Office Tower in Plaza Europa 34** stands as a glazed volume of 21 floors that escapes the stereotypes of high-rise buildings by breaking into four staggered cubes. This brings dynamism to the building while generating a series of terraces to enjoy the unparalleled views of this unique area. The façades embracing the terraces contrast with the main façade through darker glass which, together with the horizontal metallic bands, emphasizes the equilibrium of the volumes.

The project consolidates the business park of Plaza Europa as it constitutes the last office tower of the urban plan. It is linked to the urban complex through a compositional dialogue with another tower in the complex, Torre Puig, designed by GCA Architects in collaboration with Rafael Moneo and Lucho Marcial in 2014.

According to Josep Riu, architect and partner at GCA Architects, "Both towers achieve dynamism through a rotational design: Torre Puig via a spiral ribbon and **Office Tower in Plaza Europa 34** via a displacement of volumes which gives it movement and lightness."



The building consists of 3 basement floors for parking, a first floor that serves as the main entrance to the building and incorporates a multipurpose room, and 20 floors of office space. The rear façade is a slender aluminum volume which incorporates the vertical communication core and the shared services so that the area corresponding to the glazed zone is entirely open-plan and diaphanous. Both facade typologies are integrated through the arrangement of vertical aluminum slats that give continuity to the overall design.

The **Office Tower in Plaza Europa 34** project prioritized the use of low-consumption and ease of maintenance technologies, resulting in a more efficient building that has received the LEED Gold certification, which recognizes the most sustainable and environmentally-friendly buildings.

ABOUT GCA ARCHITECTS

GCA Architects is an international architecture firm founded in 1986 by architects Josep Juanpere and Antonio Puig. It has seven partners, six associates, and a large multidisciplinary team of more than 100 people, with offices in Barcelona and Madrid. In its more than 36 years of experience, it has participated in projects of diverse typologies, from offices to residential and hotel projects. It stands out as the studio that designed the international headquarters of Cuatrecasas and Puig, and the SeaTowers and Smart 22@ office buildings in Barcelona's innovation district, among others.

The firm is firmly committed to integrating sustainability, technological innovation, off-site construction, and local craftsmanship in its projects, aiming for the highest certifications. These values, along with quality, rigor, and an attitude of constant learning and exploration, have marked the studio's work since its beginning.

For more information:

GCA communication manager

Gaia Pellegrini

press@gcaarq.com



CREDITS

Project Name: Torre Plaza Europa 34

Architecture Studio: GCA Architects

Website: www.gcaarchitects.com

Headquarters: Barcelona y Madrid

Partner: Josep Riu de Martín

Associate: Juan Velasco de Sierra

Project Leader: Marta Longo García del Río

Start Date: 2020

End Date: 2022

Area: 21.000 m²

Location: Plaza Europa, 34, 08902, L'Hospitalet de Llobregat

Photography: Rafael Vargas

Website: <https://rafaelvargas.com/>

Client: Inmocol Torre Europa S.A.

Contractor: Sacyr Ingeniería e infraestructura

Project Management: IDP

Building Surveyor: Pedro José Franco Franco, Manel Alcázar Brumós (GCA Architects)

Structural Engineer: BAC Engineering

MEP Engineer: PGI Engineering

Façade consultants: Building Legends SL

Achievements: LEED Gold

Consultor LEED: PGI Engineering

Health and Safety: Moisés Regalón

Vertical transportation consultant: Resuelve Management