

PIUARCH

SNAM HEADQUARTERS, MILAN

Piuarch signs an office building of latest generation, in which the accent is placed on socialization and dialogue between architecture and nature.

The architecture firm Piuarch signs the project of a new corporate headquarters for Snam, the Italian energy infrastructure company, located in Milan, south of Porta Romana. in the new Symbiosis district by Covivio. The 19,000 sq m building, extending over three superimposed and misaligned volumes for a total of 14 floors, is part of an innovative, sustainable, and extensive urban regeneration project involving this area, with net zero emissions and energy mainly obtained from renewable sources. Completion of the work is expected to be early in 2025.

Ever attentive to the values of environmental quality and contextual relations, also in this case Piuarch underlines its commitment to a design approach focused on sustainable energy, socialization, landscape, and innovation.

"In the project for Snam we have contemplated an extended architectural concept to respond to the company's present requirements. We have upscaled the conventional artificial environments to be found in workspaces, landscapes and urban planning, by attempting to spark a sincere dialogue between the natural environment and functional/shared spaces".

People at the centre of the project

The concept of the building underlines the centrality of people and responds to new work requirements, by flanking flexible and efficient offices with various inclusive areas dedicated to socialization, collaboration and creativity and thereby contributing to ensure high levels of personal wellbeing.

As if to emphasize this intent, the central volume of the building (the 7th and 8th floors), which is intentionally out of alignment with the upper and lower volumes, is entirely given over to relaxing activities, with restaurant and coffee bar facilities for breaks and a large outdoor area complete with furnishings, where people can meet and relax during their working day.

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Vegetation as a key element of the architectural project

One of the most characteristic features of the project is the continuity of vegetation between outdoor and indoor spaces, whose function is also to enhance the air quality of the work environment. This aspect of the project, designed in collaboration with landscape designer Antonio Perazzi, contemplates an 8,500 square m garden outside the building whose landscaping project is identifiable, innovative, and ecological, as well as being respectful of the environment. The same meticulous attention has been dedicated to the indoor vegetation, particularly in the cantilevered volume of the 7th and 8th floors. In fact, floor-to-ceiling 'green columns' planted with aromatic herbs will be positioned on three sides of the floor inside the building, to ensure visual continuity with the hanging garden on the terrace, which is accessible from the fourth side. This environment, partly covered by the overhanging volume above, alternates decking with ornamental plants and dialogues ideally with the indoor vegetation.

The highest standards of sustainability

Designed to meet the highest standards of sustainability and comfort, the building fits the bill to obtain all the most important national and international quality certificates in terms of energy efficiency (LEED & WELL as well as Gold, BRAVE, CENED and Casaclima). The project adopts an innovative approach to respond to the most salient environmental challenges of our times, such as reducing CO₂ emissions, improving air quality and making our cities more habitable, in compliance with the sustainability criteria of the European Sharing Cities scheme.

The decision to build a new headquarters is coupled with the desire to create a modern space that is increasingly consistent with new work methods, more flexible and open to social relations, with more services for people and a closer integration with the local community and environment.

ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT

Piuarch architectural project

Building project S.C.E. Project

Systems design Tekser

Landscape design Studio Antonio Perazzi

Sustainability Habitech

Facade project Studio di Ingegneria Rigone

Project management ARTELIA Italia

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Bills of quantities and estimates GAD - Global Assistance Development

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Founded in Milan in 1996, Piuarch is an architecture and urban planning firm, a group of international professionals in which different backgrounds, identities, and skills merge. Piuarch delivers an architectural concept that is contemporary yet deeply rooted in its surroundings, with respect for current and future planetary resources. Activities range from the design of office buildings to retail and hospitality premises, with forays into the development of residential complexes, urban renewal, and regeneration projects. The firm's primary objective is the planning of quality urban contexts and community spaces which, through new concepts of usage and shared functions, may stimulate renewed forms of civil co-existence.

Piuarch Communications

Francesca Zani
francesca.zani@piuarch.it
T +39 347 7591414

Press Office Keywords Design Srl

Monica Tagliabue
m.tagliabue@keywords.design
Tel. +39 02 40701473
Cel. 347 8813382