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Press Release: Snøhetta wins competition for Cable Car in Bolzano, Italy

The steep Virgolo/Virgl mountain in Bolzano, Italy has been practically inaccessible to visitors for almost forty years, following the close of the city's historic funicular in 1976. This is about to change - The SIGNA Group hosted an international design competition for a new cable car transit system, allowing visitors to experience the beauty of the surrounding landscape and city below with only a minute ride on a cable car. Snøhetta was awarded first prize in the competition and the commission.

A JOURNEY OUT OF TOWN

Two rings - one as the base station, the other as a top station - form the framework of the cable car that connects the rings tangentially. Travel time will be a mere 1 minute and 11 seconds, making the Virgolo/Virgl just 5 minutes from the historic centre of Bolzano, the Piazza Walther/Walterplatz.

The landscape design at the base station will bring a piece of nature to the city, thanks to the green topography that marks the end of the Südtirolerstraße. The top station will serve as an urban interface with nature, housing a restaurant, café, infinity pool and meeting rooms. The development will provide a new view of the city from above, along with and possibilities for exploration, recreation and relaxation. The new 'Mountain Square' atop the Virgolo/Virgl will offer a flexible space for events - from open-air markets to concerts.

The project is currently displayed in the showroom of department store Bozen Bolzano in the Palais Menz in Bolzano Mustergasse. The showroom is open on weekdays daily from 16-20 clock, and Saturdays 10-14.

Contact press@snohetta.com for high resolution images.





About Snøhetta

Snøhetta values human interaction. All of our work strives to enhance our sense of place, identity and relationship to others and the physical spaces we inhabit, whether natural or human-made. Art museums, reindeer observatories, urban places and dollhouses receive the same care and attention to purpose. Essence, rather than trends, drive our thoughts.

For over 25 years, Snøhetta has been designing civic and cultural projects internationally. Snøhetta began its career in 1989 with the competition-winning entry for the new library of Alexandria, Egypt. This was later followed by the commission for the Norwegian National Opera in Oslo and the National September 11 Memorial Museum Pavilion in New York. The office is currently working on the Lascaux Caves Museum in France, the Redesign of Times Square, in New York City, the Le Monde Headquarters in Paris, and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Expansion in California.

Among its many recognitions, Snøhetta received the World Architecture Award for the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and the Norwegian National Opera and Ballet, and the Aga Kahn Prize for Architecture for Alexandria Library. Since its completion in 2008, the Norwegian National Opera and Ballet has also garnered the Mies van der Rohe European Union Prize for Architecture, the European Prize for Urban Public Space, and The Global Award for Sustainable Architecture, among many others.