

OSKAR VON MILLER FORUM

Press release

Timber reaches towering heights

A lecture by Rüdiger Lainer / RLP Rüdiger Lainer + Partner / Vienna on 28 January 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Oskar von Miller Forum

Towering 24 storeys high, the timber high-rise HoHo Vienna is currently the world's tallest building of its kind. What is more important, however, is its future practical value for cities. The tower is an integral element of Vienna's new quarter Seestadt Aspern. It will accommodate offices, serviced apartments, a hotel and well-being areas. The approach for implementing these mixed uses around the clock is an innovative design system that provides maximum flexibility of floor space use. HoHo Vienna demonstrates the advantages of hybrid timber design over pure timber: the ability to create flexible floor plans suitable for multiple uses. The design approach was developed into a system that significantly helps deliver synergies between economy and ecology, architectural design and practical value.

Seestadt Aspern is one of Europe's largest urban development projects. It involves the design of a new district to be built by 2028 for around 20,000 people on an area of 240 hectares located on the shore of a five-hectare lake. The plan includes the creation of 20,000 jobs in manufacturing and service companies, in scientific institutes, research and educational institutions.

About Rüdiger Lainer

Rüdiger Lainer, **born** in 1949 in Kaprun, Salzburg (Austria), has been a freelance architect in Vienna since 1985. In 1997, he was appointed Professor of Architecture at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, where he taught until 2006. From 1999 to 2002, he was member of the Land Advisory Board in Vienna and chairman of the development advisory boards in Salzburg, Linz and Krems. From 1991 to 2009, he served as vice president of the Central Association of Austrian Architects and has been a board member of EUROPAN Austria since 2001 and the chairman of the Advisory Board for Urban Development and Urban Design in Vienna since 2006, as well as in Graz since 2012.

Established in 1985, the architectural firm RLP Rüdiger Lainer + Partner has implemented more than 30 construction projects in Vienna, ranging from old building retrofits to the construction of office buildings and high-rises. Given their open structure and distinctive design, most of the buildings have very quickly become part of the city's life.