

NATURE OF INNOVATION

NOI TECHPARK - HARD FACTS

BOILERPLATE

700 people, 40 science laboratories, 120,000 m² campus, workshops, open spaces, room for new ideas. All this is NOI, Nature of Innovation. Here, in the growing innovation district in Bolzano, companies, research institutions and the University work hand in hand on forward-looking and sustainable solutions for significant issues on a regional and international level. With a focus on the technology fields Green, Food, Digital, Automotive & Automation.

TECHNOLOGY FIELDS

In NOI Techpark South Tyrol, companies, the university and research institutes have at their disposal an optimal environment for innovation and cutting-edge research in the **four technology fields**:

GREEN – FOOD – DIGITAL – AUTOMOTIVE/AUTOMATION

SERVICE AREAS

In order to establish South Tyrol as a significant regional research location, South Tyrol companies are offered **seven service areas** with a comprehensive portfolio of benefits in NOI Techpark:

LABS

TECH TRANSFER

START-UP INCUBATOR

INNOVATION MANAGEMENT

AREA & SPACES

EU OPPORTUNITIES

OPEN DATA HUB

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

A CONSTANTLY DEVELOPING BUILDING SITE

Area: **12 hectares**, of which currently only **about 30%** have been built on

Above-ground cubature of the buildings already constructed: **215,000 cubic meters**, another 125,000 under development

Gross floor space already constructed: **57,000 square meters**, another 52,000 under development

Public green spaces: **15,000 square meters** (in final development)

PEOPLE

700 employees, of which:

+ **70%** with an academic title;

+ **60%** aged under 40 years

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RESEARCH INSTITUTES, LABORATORIES AND COMPANIES

3 Research Institutes:

Eurac Research

Laimburg Research Centre

Fraunhofer Italia

4 institutions

CasaClima-KlimaHaus Agency

Ivh.apa - Provincial association of artisans and service providers

SBB - Farmers' Association of South Tyrol

EEN – Enterprise Europe Network

3 Faculties of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano:

Computer Science

Economics and Management

Science and Technology

37 scientific laboratories and 3 prototyping labs

30 start-ups

51 companies:

The companies in NOI Techpark are chosen for admission by a selection committee. The decisive factor for their admission is that they conduct research and development and work on innovative projects. After three years, the activities of the companies will be re-assessed.

Leitner Ropeways was the first company to be based here. The world market leader in the field of cable-drawn mobility solutions has its research department based here with around 90 employees.

SUSTAINABILITY IS THE BUZZ WORD

Certification: the whole of NOI Techpark is **LEED Gold certified**, which guarantees the sustainability of the project from an environmental point of view. The façade of Building D1 (building module for companies) reaches “**CasaClima-Klimahaus Gold**” level, the whole building level A, which means that the energy consumption is below **30 kWh/m²/year**.

Green energy: in 2018, the photovoltaic system of the “Black Monolith” produced almost 200,000 kWh of electricity, as much as a family of 4 requires for a period of more than 70 years.

Links to local public transport: bus stops; cycle tracks; charging stations for electric cars

A MEETING POINT FOR THE POPULACE

NOI Techpark is open to the public six days a week: an area on the ground floor, the Noise, gives everyone the opportunity to use free workspaces and to hold meetings, as well as to access the high-speed Internet connection. On specified weekends, miniNOI events take place in NOI Techpark; these are a series of events for 6- to 12-year-olds and their families, that provide an interesting insight into the world of research. In the first four months since the launch of miniNOI, 500 children have participated. In the basement of NOI there is a congress centre with modular rooms that can accommodate up to **400 people at any one time**. And thanks to a covered platform reminiscent of an amphitheatre which is located below the “Black Monolith”, meetings and performances can take place in the open air.

THE ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT

It was a record-breaking building site: construction was completed in just two years, between 2015 and 2017 – based on a well-thought-out project set up by the Autonomous Province of Bozen-Bolzano intended with the intention of increasing public and private investment in innovation. The founding of NOI Techpark dates back to 2007, when an international ideas competition was launched, opening up the way for reclaiming the former “Alumix” site. The first tangible result of this project followed one year later, when Polish artist Mariusz Waras (aka M-City) transformed the iconic water tower on the entrance plaza into a work of art on the occasion of the seventh edition of the European art biennale “Manifesta”, which

was held at various venues in the South Tyrol capital. The project, developed by Chapman Taylor Italia (Milan) and Studio CLEAA (Claudio Lucchin & Architetti Associati, Bozen-Bolzano) with Andrea Cattacin (Trient-Trento), underscores the rationalist architecture of the two factories for producing aluminium, built in the 1930s. Constructed alongside these buildings – directly in front of the water tower – is the “Black Monolith”, a sloping cuboid building clad in black oxidised aluminium foam panels. The cuboid rises obliquely out of the ground, reminiscent of the mysterious totem in Stanley Kubrick’s film “2001: A Space Odyssey”.

TIMELINE

- **2007-2008:** Autonomous Province of Bozen-Bolzano invites bids in an International Ideas-Competition
- **2008:** Polish artist Mariusz Waras transforms the water tower into a work of art to celebrate the 7th “Manifesta”
- **2008-2012:** Architectural planning by Chapman Taylor Italia (Milan) and Studio CLEAA (Claudio Lucchin & Architetti Associati, Bozen-Bolzano) with Andrea Cattacin (Trient-Trento)
- **2015-2017:** Two years of construction completed on time and within budget
- **20 October 2017:** Opening of NOI Techpark
- **28 March 2019:** Opening of Building Module D1, the first building for private companies
- **30 September 2019:** Opening of Building Module A3 with nursery and kindergarten
- **2021:** Completion of Building Module A6 with the Eurac Research Institute for Biomedicine and office premises
- **2022:** Completion of NOI Techpark Bruneck-Brunico, the branch office for companies in the automotive sector
- **2023:** Completion of the Faculty of Engineering of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano in Building Module B2
- **2023/2024:** Completion of Building Modules D2 and D3 with office premises for private companies and new laboratories

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