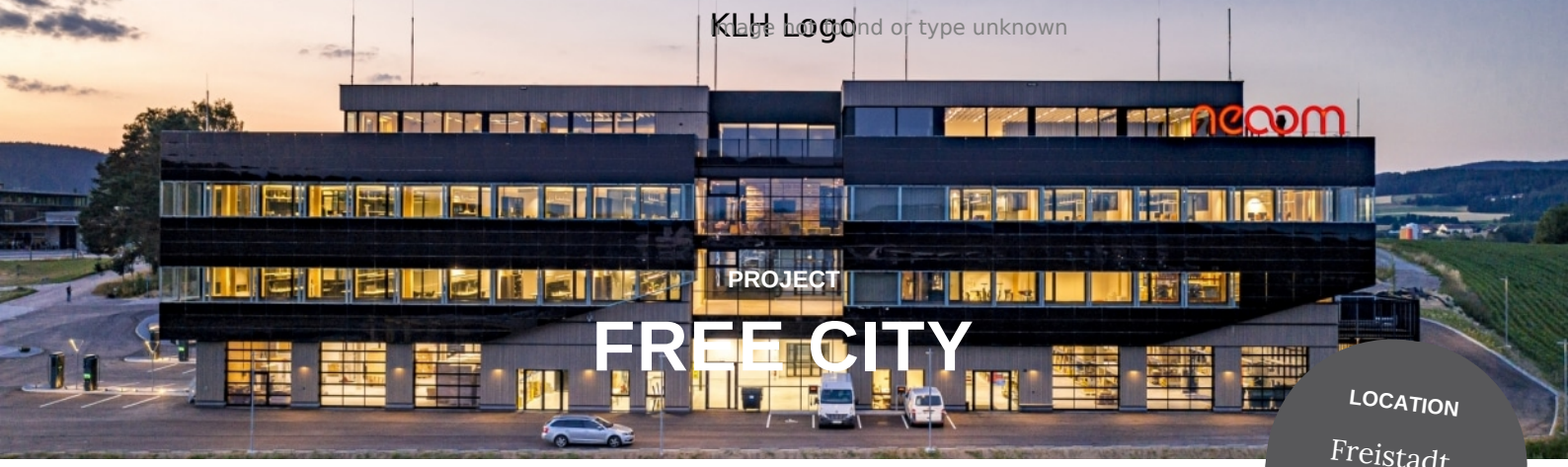
KLH Logo



PROJECT

FREE CITY

LOCATION

Freistadt, Austria

The picturesque town of Freistadt is home to an architectural landmark that is more than just a building: the “Free City” project. The name reflects its location and embodies the vision of an energy self-sufficient and independent future.

FUTURE-ORIENTED ARCHITECTURE

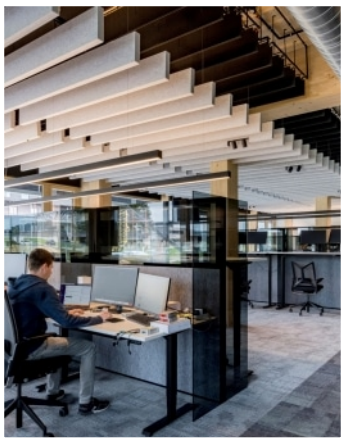
The “Free City” project aimed to construct the new neoom headquarters with platinum certification according to the standards of the Austrian Quality Seal for Sustainable Construction (ÖGNI) in just ten months. As an expression of neoom’s sustainability vision, the building should not only be functional, but also embody transparency and innovation. New standards were already set during the tendering phase by taking into account environmental aspects such as the carbon footprint and ecological values. “Free City” stands for environmentally conscious, future-orientated construction and sets new standards in architecture and sustainable practices.

“Innovative projects of this magnitude require leadership that not only accepts challenges, but also sees them as opportunities for further development. The approach is aimed at proactively mastering challenges and understanding innovation as an integral part of the process.”

This dynamic project management model enables a rapid response to unexpected challenges and the development of innovative solutions that meet both the time and quality requirements of the project.

The integration of structural analysis and building information modelling (BIM) was driven forward as early as the design phase in order to ensure precise and efficient planning. Supporting structures and concepts were integrated into the BIM model at an early stage, resulting in high precision and excellent coordination in the planning and construction process. Robust reinforced concrete structures were used in areas subject to heavy loads, while cross-laminated timber (KLH® – CLT) and timber beams were used in other areas. Particularly noteworthy is the decision to leave the KLH® – CLT elements untreated in order to emphasise the natural aesthetics and sustainability of the material.

Another innovative element of the project was the design of the building envelope. It was developed in such a way that it allows excellent light to flood the offices and at the same time supports the integration of a surrounding photovoltaic system. This well thought-out planning made it possible to make the building almost energy self-sufficient by utilising both the roof and the walls to generate energy.



REVOLUTIONARY
DESIGN CONCEPT

"Free City" was developed with the aim of creating an innovative, economical and environmentally friendly building that stands out from traditional office buildings. The façade is equipped with high-performance photovoltaic systems that ensure sustainable energy generation. Inside, lighting and acoustic elements combine to create versatile components that improve both the acoustic quality and the aesthetic design. The flexible room layout allows adaptations for future uses and emphasises the longevity and sustainability of the building.

A central element of the technical planning was the implementation of concrete core activation in the basement and ground floor, an advanced method of improving energy efficiency. From the outset, great importance was attached to the selection of high-quality products and technologies in order to optimise both comfort and energy efficiency. These include particularly powerful heat pumps and modules with outstanding efficiency, which are environmentally friendly and leave a minimal ecological footprint.

CLIENT

Walter Kreisel

PLANNING AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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DESIGN

Benedikt Elmecker
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TOTAL CONTRACTOR

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TIMBER CONSTRUCTION

Weissenseer Holz-System-Bau GmbH
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PHOTOGRAPHY

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