

Drees & Sommer to manage construction of Ziraat Bank's new building in Istanbul

The construction of the office high-rise for the Turkish Ziraat Bank in Istanbul will be coordinated by Drees & Sommer. The company won the tender for project management services against international competition. The contract was signed in Ankara at the beginning of November. Drees & Sommer will collaborate with the Turkish project management company IMS as Joint Venture Partner, with the experts supporting the project from planner selection through to commissioning of the building in 2014.

Following a comprehensive qualification process, Drees & Sommer and IMS (Mühendislik Danışmanlık ve Ticaret Ltd. Şti.), together with six other companies, were asked to submit tenders. In the competition for project management services, the two companies asserted themselves against international competition, scoring 99 out of 100 possible points. Key factors here were above all Drees & Sommer's international project experience, reference projects in Turkey, as well as experience with major projects and bank buildings. Ziraat Bank is investing US\$250 million in the new headquarters. The building is located in the Atasehir district, the new financial center of Istanbul. Various banks will relocate to this area following a government decision. The new Ziraat Bank is the first bank building in this new location. Ziraat Bankasi A.S. was founded in 1863 as Turkey's state bank. In 2000, the company became a stock corporation. The bank has 1,279 branches in Turkey, and 20,000 employees. It also has subsidiaries in other countries including Russia and Germany.

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As an international service provider for Project Management, Real Estate Consulting and Engineering, Drees & Sommer has been supporting public- and private-sector owners and investors in all aspects of real estate since 1970. With some 1050 employees at 17 international offices and ten German regional offices, the company achieved sales of EUR 136.9 million in 2008.