

## **Switzerland: Modern work environment replaces industrial landscape**

**By the end of 2019, the former printing works of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung newspaper in Schlieren will be turned into a center for education, research and culture. Zühlke is one of the anchor tenants. The service provider for innovation projects will establish its future headquarters in an area of 8,300 square meters. RBSGROUP, a Drees & Sommer subsidiary, is supporting Zühlke with planning of its future headquarters, and is developing a new work environment for some 600 employees.**

The roar of printing presses, the smell of ink and freshly printed newspapers: These are all things of the past in the industrial complex near Schlieren railway station in the canton of Zurich. The building complex – parts of which are 30 years old and in which the Neue Zürcher Zeitung, one of the country's leading newspapers, went to press – is being remodeled and renovated. Startups, research facilities and a cultural program are set to transform the former industrial complex into an innovative, flexible work environment. One of the contributors will be innovation service provider Zühlke, which will be moving its headquarters to the former printing center to accommodate the growing number of employees. The move will also bring together all staff – currently at working at two different sites – in one building. The company plans to build new offices, meeting rooms, lounge areas, labs and a staff restaurant in the 18-meter high press hall. Four intermediate floors will be constructed in the hall to make efficient use of the space. These new floors will accommodate all employees formerly working at two locations in Schlieren.

RBSGROUP, a member of the Drees & Sommer Group, is supporting Zühlke with the project. The workplace experts are assisting the principal with the planning of the future headquarters and working on the development of the new office space jointly with the principal. "Transforming the former industrial hall into an attractive office environment is an exciting challenge. Our aim is to retain the loft appeal of the industrial halls, while at the same time creating a modern, flexible work environment," says Constanze Weihs, Director at RBSGROUP.

The company developed a location strategy jointly with Zühlke, which led to the choice of the future headquarters. During the course of the project, the RBSGROUP experts will also analyze user requirements and the design of space by running a series of workshops. In addition to the concept for the new work environment, the workshops also focus on workplace design and examine what types of workplace are required in future – whether one-person offices, team islands or multizones.

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The experts will also look at the interior design aspect. Remodeling is scheduled to start next year, with Zühlke employees expected to be moving to their new workplaces from the end of 2019.

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