

Schmidt hammer lassen architects have just won the competition for a new zero-energy administration building of the Municipality of Aarhus. The competition, involving six architecture firms, was won in collaboration with the contractor E. Pihl & Son, Engineers Grontmij / Carl Bro and GHB Landscape Architects.



Schmidt hammer lassen architects has taken the environmental ambitions of the municipality of Aarhus as a key driver for the project and created a zero-energy office building, the first of its kind in Denmark. The building has 1,100 m² of solar cells for the production of electricity, 420 m² of solar thermal panels for absorption cooling and heating water, and rainwater harvesting for reuse in lavatories and for watering.

“This is a genuine sustainable design. For instance, we use recycled glass for the facades and reuse 96 % of the materials from the demolished building on site. Moreover, it has been crucial to us to keep the design on a human scale to offer the best possible physical conditions to the users,” said architect John Lassen, partner of schmidt hammer lassen architects.

A zero-energy office building in Aarhus by schmidt hammer lassen

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Existing building for 240 seats for high level offices with the public space situated on the hillside of the municipality's

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Architect: Schmidt Hammer Lassen, Aarhus, Denmark. Building: Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark. Photo: Schmidt Hammer Lassen.

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