THE PARK
IN BRIEF

Innovation runway

A new platform for research, development and innovation is being created on the former site of the Dübendorf airfield. It will act as a bridge between the knowledge originating from Zurich’s renowned universities and the practical and market experience of leading corporations.

Stiftung Innovationspark Zürich, a foundation established in 2015 by the Canton of Zurich, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETHZ), and the Zürcher Kantonalbank (ZKB), is responsible for the park’s establishment and operation. The innovation park should be self-financing and independently organized in the medium to long term.

Key strengths at a glance

- Highly advanced technology and sector clusters as well as corporate leaders on the global stage
- Close proximity to internationally renowned universities
- Value chains are already in place in various attractive clusters
- Access to a highly qualified talent pool
- Considerable space available for development (up to 38 hectares/90 acres)
- Excellent infrastructure and international transportation network
- Stable political and regulatory environment, business-friendly
- High quality of life in the region
- Backed by a reliable organization

The Innovation Park Zurich is part of the national Switzerland Innovation organization. It offers domestic and foreign companies five innovation parks with scalable infrastructure that are easily accessible in attractive locations close to universities where innovative ideas can be turned into marketable products. The other locations are: Park Basel Area, Park Innovaare, Park Network West EPFL, Park Biel/Bienne.

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AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Creating space for new ideas

The Innovation Park Zurich aims to expedite the transfer of research into marketable products and services. The park is focused on thematic areas that address current megatrends and that offer substantial potential for development. There are plans to set up a hub for robotics and mobility in collaboration with the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETHZ), a space hub in collaboration with the University of Zurich and a blockchain hub called “Trust Square” in partnership with Nexussquared.

START-UP STAGE

Watching it grow

A pavilion will mark the park’s first tangible presence on the site as of summer 2017. It will house an exhibition, meeting rooms and the administrative offices of the Stiftung Innovationspark Zürich. Three landmarked former hangers, Hall 3 to the north of the pavilion and Halls 4 and 5 to the south, will be remodeled and readied to suit the concepts of their new residents. Offices, laboratories and workshops will be set up in the hangers with open, transparent floor plans and shared testing facilities and meeting points. There are plans to offer additional space in new buildings on lots A and B from approximately 2020 on that will meet the specific needs of the residents.

Robotics technology of the future could be engineered in Hall 3.

The establishment of a center for advanced manufacturing technology in the medium term is being explored in collaboration with Empa. The park will act as a magnet for new research projects and thereby support the local economy, create new jobs and further enhance the already strong appeal of the Zurich region and the high quality of life it offers.