



Solutions for Building Technology

## Our automatic Warehouse

Rothoblaas HQ Builds a new warehouse – out of Mass Timber

#### INTRODUCTION





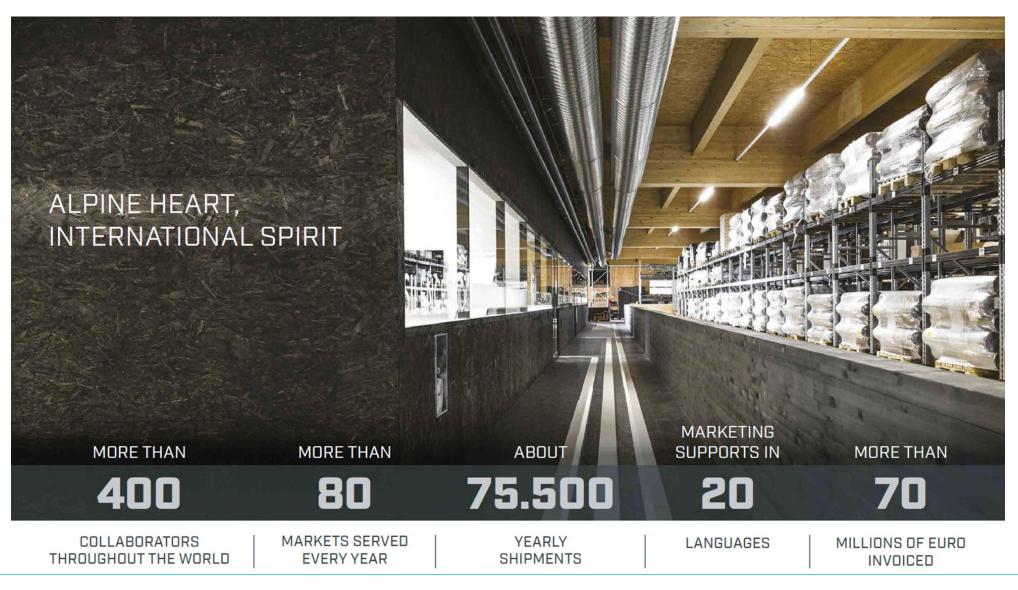




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#### **INTRODUCTION**







#### **PRACTISE WHAT YOU PREACH**





- Spring 2020: Rothoblaas began a large warehouse expansion project at our headquarters in Northern Italy
- This expansion will double the existing warehouse space
- Structure completely built out of mass timber



#### **PRACTISE WHAT YOU PREACH**





Rothoblaas is a company centered on the idea that **innovation never stops**.

Even thought period of construction of the new warehouse was not positive, linked to Covid-19 and the consequence of half of turnover, we release new products every year, and our constantly improving our existing offerings.

We also support and push for further growth and **development of the timber building industry**.

To prove that we stand behind what we sell, and the industry we are involved in, CEO Robert Blass decided that **timber** and **sustainability** would be key in any future expansions.



#### **USE OF WOOD**



The construction industry is targeted as a big polluter – in forms of resource extraction, processing and landfill waste.

However, building with timber, especially when it's locally sourced, immediately **lowers the carbon footprint** of the building and actually **captures carbon** in the processed wood materials – which in turn results in positive forestry practices to grow more material.

#### A truly renewable resource.







STEEL

12200 KG CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>3</sup>

CONCRETE



 $385 \text{ KG CO}_2/\text{m}^3$ 



**TIMBER** -800 KG CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>3</sup>



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BRICK

 $375 \text{ KG CO}_2/\text{m}^3$ 

#### **USE OF WOOD**



#### PROJECT TEAM

**Client:** Rotho Blaas Srl

**Engineering:** Studio Merz Kley Partner Armalam Baucon

Architecture: Arch. Lukas Burgauner

Automatic warehouse Authoma

Foundations: Geofondazioni Unionbau

**Timber builders:** Several specialised companies in the sector TECHNICAL DATA

**3200 m<sup>2</sup>** of new storage area

2000 m<sup>2</sup> for goods handling

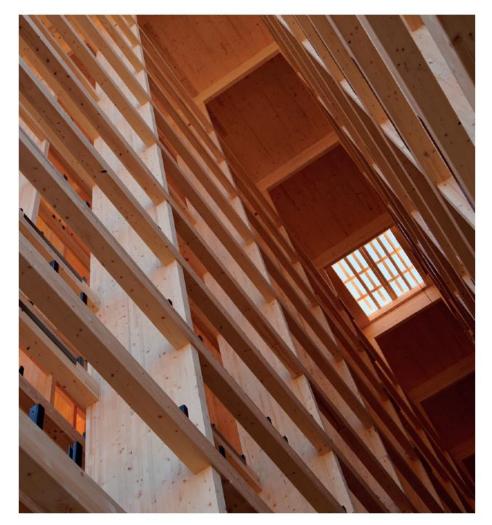
**1200 m<sup>2</sup>** for new offices

**40x80x20 m** total dimensions of the construction

200 Kw/P Photovoltaic system

**20 glulam GL24** and **LVL** combined towers form the bracing system

Class R30 structure fire resistance



Over 34,400 square feet total, over 60 feet tall. **Local** trades and suppliers used throughout.

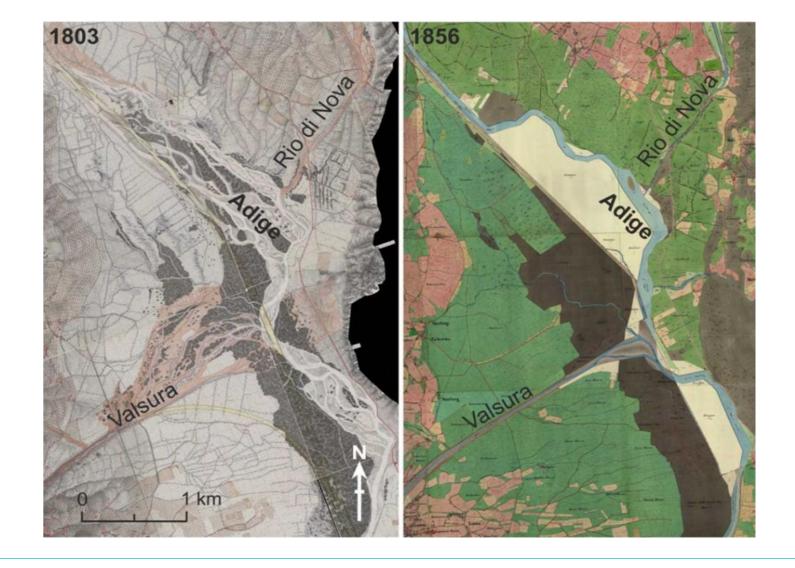


#### **CHANGE OF THE RIVER ADIGE BEND**



The South Tyrol region where Rothoblaas is situated is a region **full of history** both ancient and recent, and the Adige/Etsch river is central to much of it.

This portion near the city of Bolzano was diverted and channeled in the mid 1800's to prevent flooding, ease transportation and reclaim portions of this fertile valley.



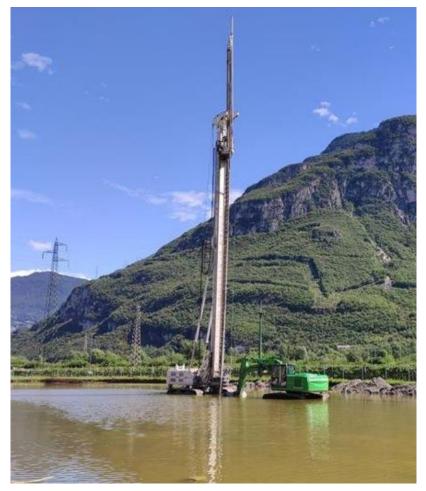


#### CHANGE OF THE RIVER ADIGE BEND



Although this reclamation serves the local wineries and orchards very well, it is not the most suitable ground to build on. With this fact in mind the site work commenced by driving large pilings deep into the earth to support a **raft type concrete foundation**. Of course, last year's spring brough on many difficulties, not to mention record rainfall.







#### **FOUNDATION PROCESS**





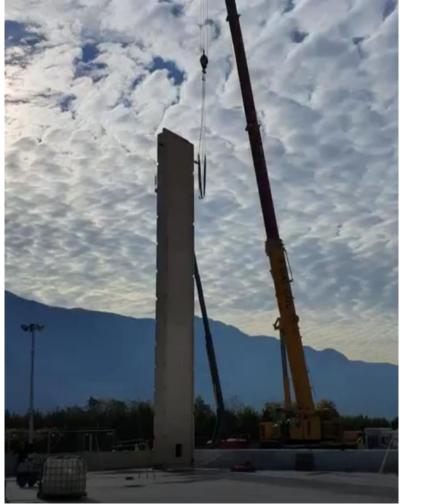
The massive slab was tied to the pilings, a structural rebar grid added, and concrete poured.



#### FOUNDATION CONSTRUCTION

The building uses timber for not only the main structure, support and roof, but also the **warehouse shelving** itself. All the CLT, LVL and GluLam was sourced **within 50 miles** of the site itself. As this region has a rich timber building tradition it was not difficult to source quality material and a trained workforce for such a project. However, building out of almost completely timber did not simplify the project and took many hours of **design and pre-fabrication effort**.











#### **GLULAM TOWERS**





**20 glulam towers** measuring roughly 2,4 m wide, 1 m thick and 20 m high are the main backbone to this structure.

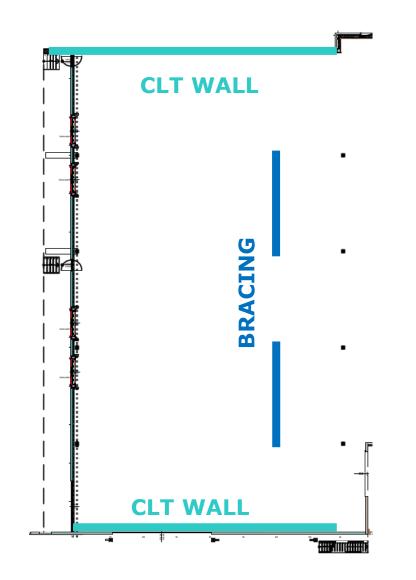


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STANDARD APPROACH:

- -2 WALLS IN NORTH-SOUTH DIRECTION
- -2 BRACES ALIGNED EAST-WEST

DIAPHRAGM ROOF SLAB TO DISTRIBUTE ECCENTRICITIES

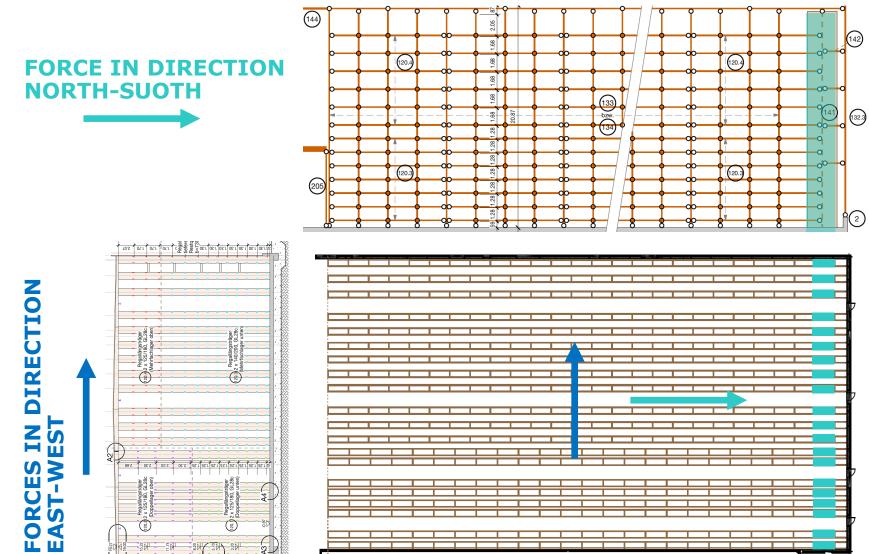




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#### **SEISMIC DESIGN - WAREHOUSE**

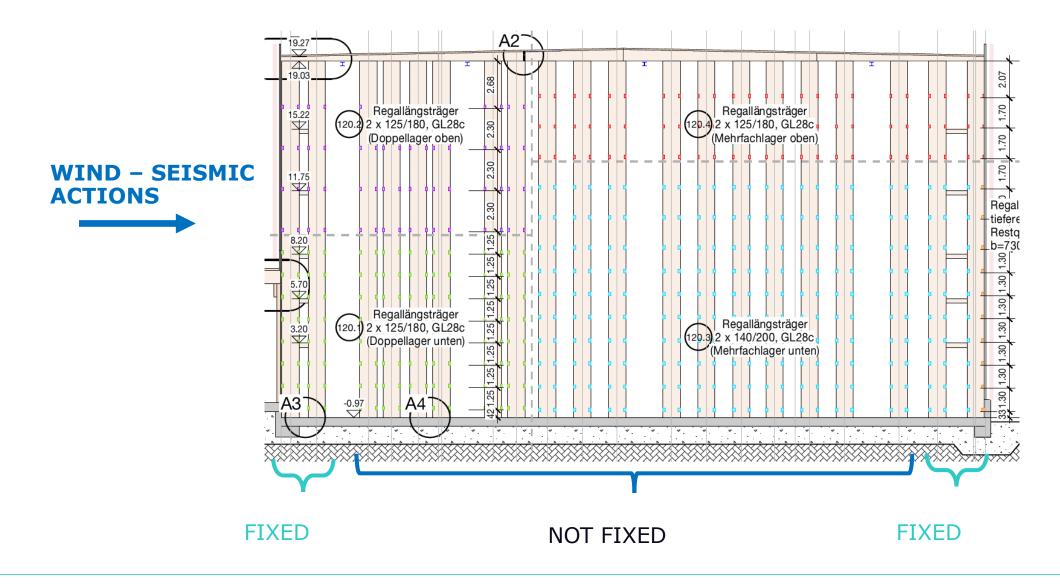






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#### **EAST-WEST FORCES - WAREHOUSE**

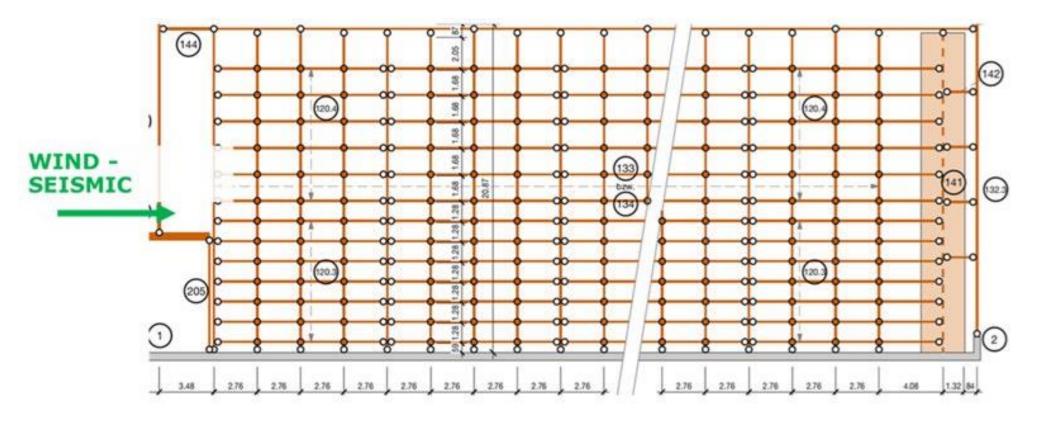




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#### **NORTH – SOUTH LOADS**



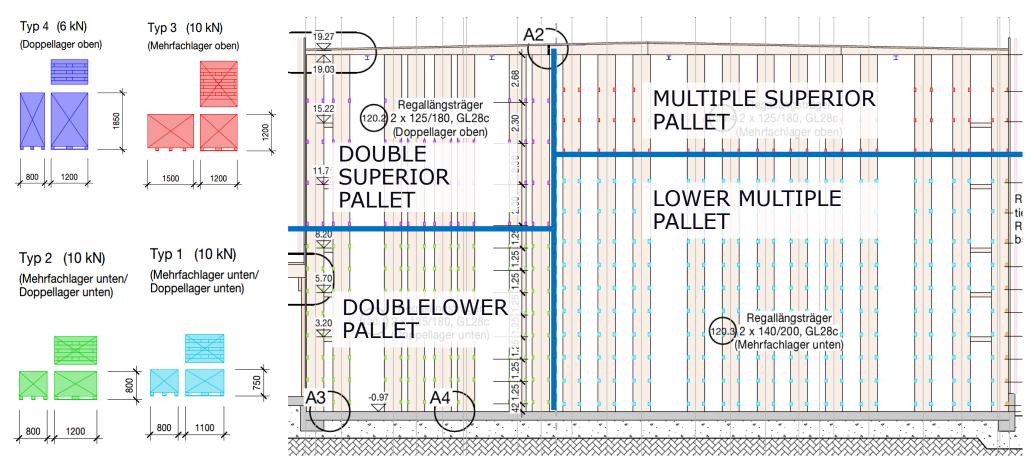


Wind and Seismic loading had to be considered on this structure

- The pillars are extremely slender (section 100x960mm).
- The beams carry the horizontal actions to the 20 bracing towers
  - The towers are isostatic structures, connected at the base







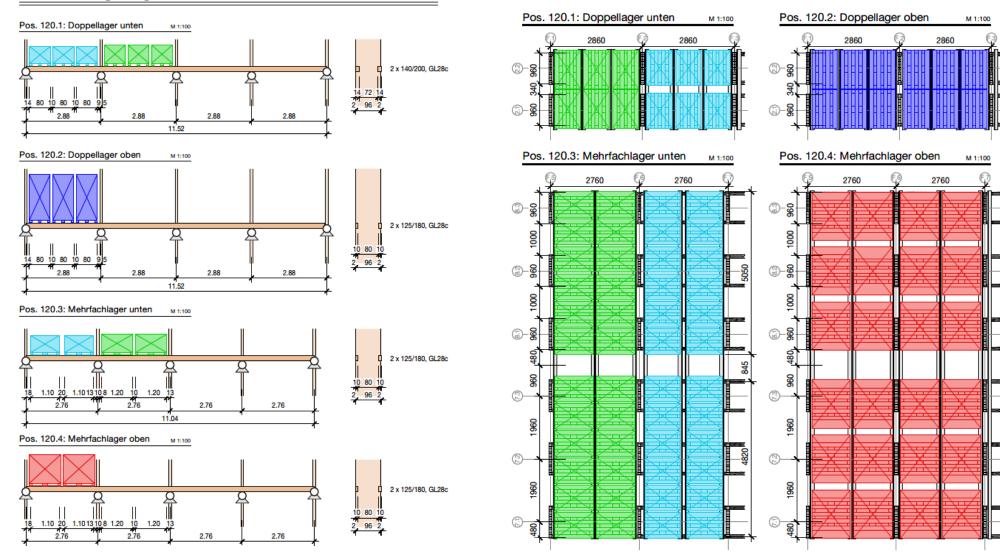
#### THE WAREHOUSE IS DIVIDED IN 4 ZONES



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#### **VERTICAL LOADS - WAREHOUSE**

#### Palettenauflagerträger





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#### SEISMIC ACTION: NOT CONSIDERED.

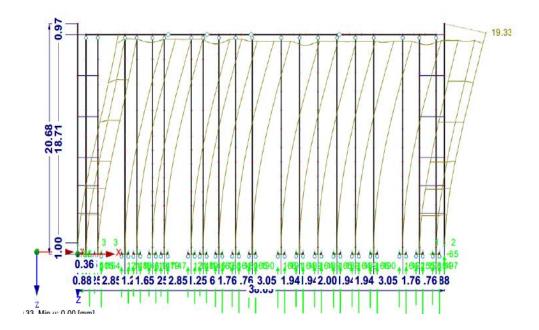
#### WIND ACTION:

REDUCED FROM CHARACTERISTIC VALUE (TR=50 years): 50% Fk in north-south direction; 25% Fk in east-west direction.

MAXIMUM EAST-WEST SHIFT (pillars): 19mm < 20mm

MAXIMUM NORTH-SOUTH SHIFT (TOWERS): 12mm < 16 mm

MAXIMUM SHIFT OF THE PILARS: 4mm < 15mm





### CONNECTIONS



## PLATES FOR SHEAR LOADS

#### TIMBER-TO-TIMBER

These plates are ideal for the flat connection of the timber platform beams to load-bearing timber panels.

#### SHEAR PLATES

Shear strengths calculated with both partial and total fastening for solid Umber, glularn and CLT.

#### CALCULATED AND CERTIFIED

CE marking according to European standard EN 14545. Available in 2 versions. TTP300 version ideal for CLT.





This type of metal shear plate was used throughout the structure.







### CONNECTIONS



Various **timber building methods** were used, including these ALU knife plate connections over the office portion of the building.







### STRUCTURE



These photos show the internal grid of the building that not only acts as **structure** but as well as the **warehouse shelving support**.

You can also see the large CLT panels used to brace the building.





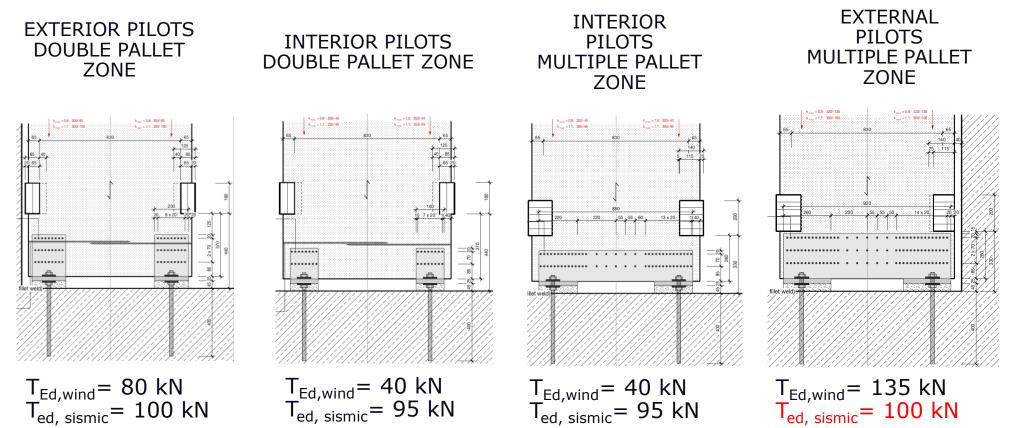




### **CONSTRUCTION DETAILS - GROUNDING OF COLUMNS**





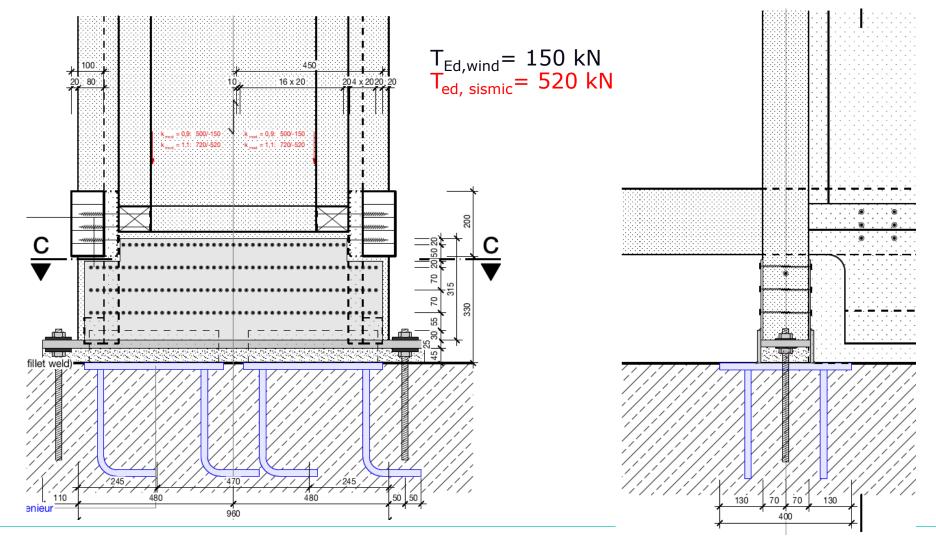




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#### **CONSTRUCTION DETAILS - GROUND CONNECTION OF BRACING TOWERS**



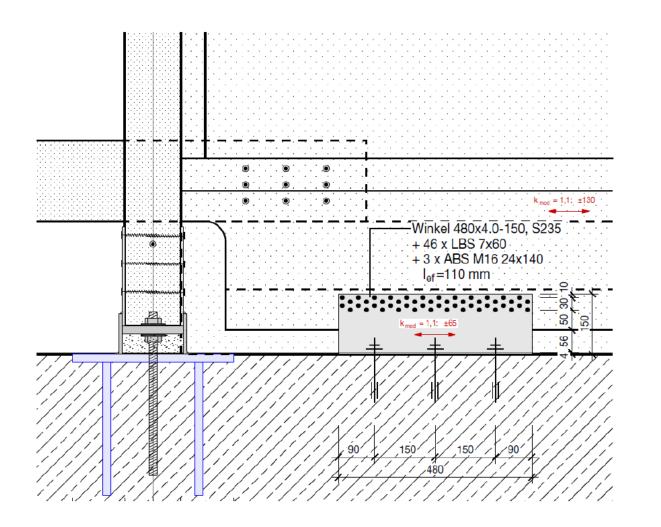




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#### **CONSTRUCTION DETAILS - GROUND CONNECTION OF BRACING TOWERS**





 $T_{ed, sismic} = 130 \text{ kN}$ 



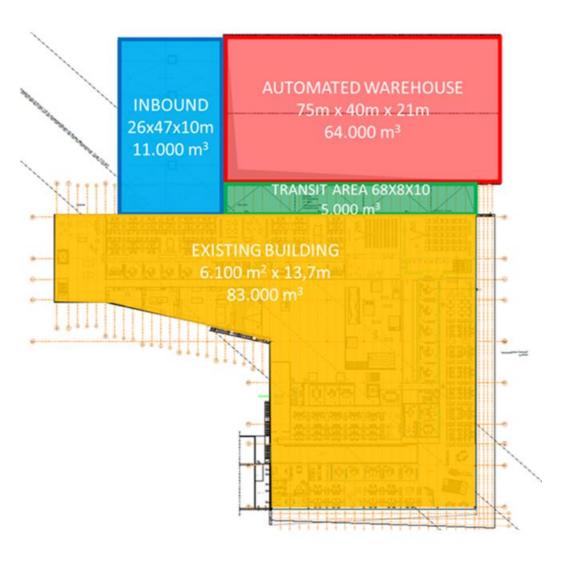
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#### **INCREASE CAPACITY**

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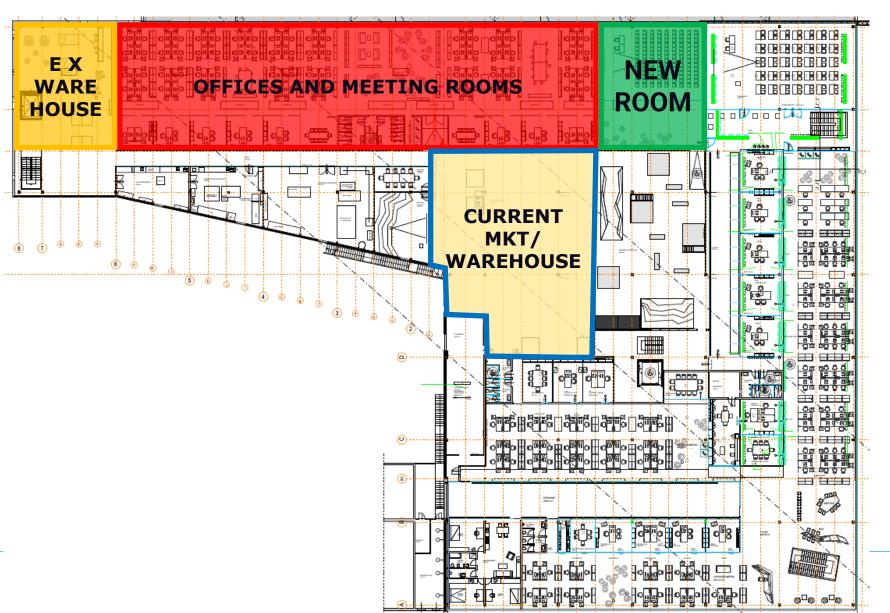
This addition will **more than double the HQ current capacity**. Currently we can store 11,500 pallets of material, after expansion is complete, that storage will more than double at a capacity of **26,000 pallets worth of products**.







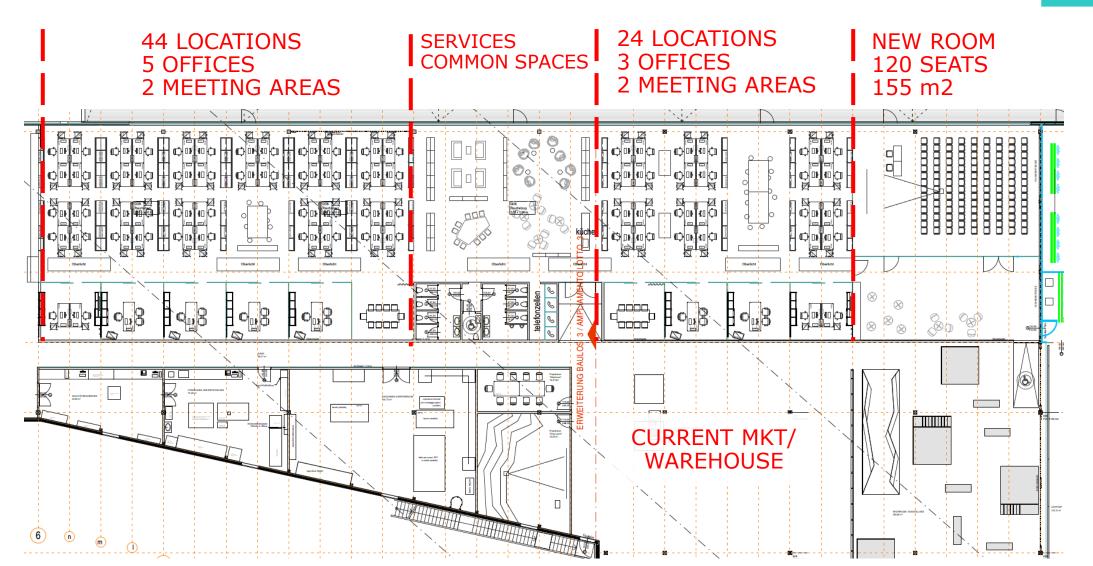
#### WORKS IN THE EXISTING BUILDING



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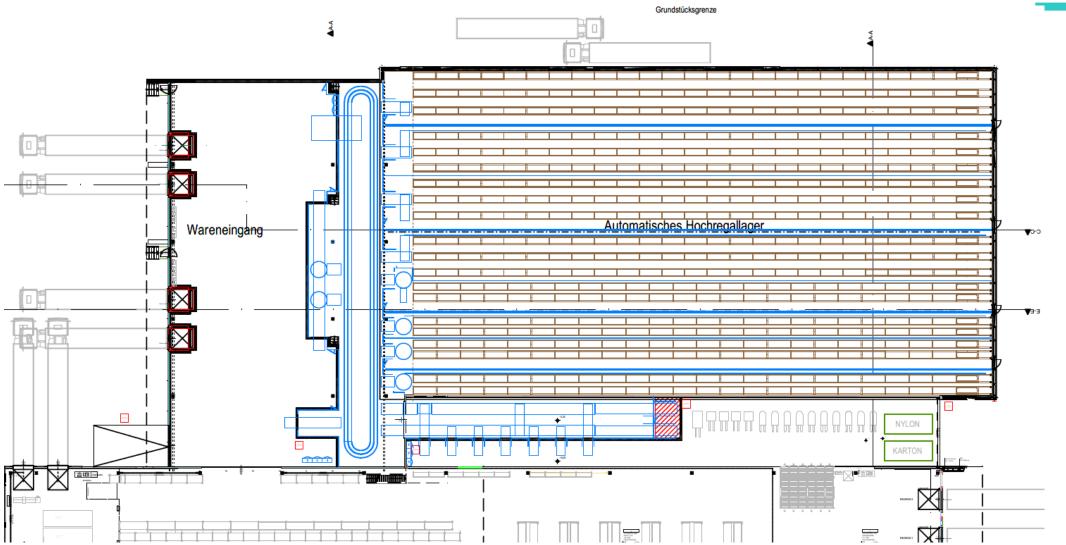
#### WORKS IN THE EXISTING BUILDING





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#### **MOVEMENTS OF GOODS**

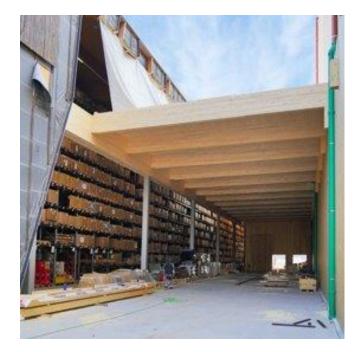




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#### **INCREASE CAPACITY**







Tying old and new together, cladding begins.





#### **INCREASE CAPACITY**

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We are coming up on approximately **1 year** of this project being underway and final stages are in process. Part of this quick timeline is in part by using **pre-fabricated timber elements**, similar to what today's participants do.









#### **PRODUCTS USED**



Those massive columns acting as the spine of this building needed some equally large hold-downs. These were custom made and fastened with our **certified LBS Anchor Screw**.







### STRUCTURE



Not only is this one of the **tallest wood warehouses in Europe**, but also among the **first to be fully automated**, using conveyers, lifts and sliding shelving to speed and simplify the process.





#### **PRODUCTS USED**



### ALUMAXI

CONCEALED BRACKET WITH AND WITHOUT HOLES

#### SUPERIOR STRENGTH

Standard connection system developed to guarantee higher values of design strength. All values are calculated and certified.

#### STEEL-ALUMINUM

EN AW-6005A high strength aluminium alloy bracket, obtained by extrusion and therefore weld-free.

#### FAST FASTENING

Certified strengths calculated in all directions: vertical, horizontal and axial. Certified fastening with LBS screws and SBD self-drilling dowels.



PROJECT





#### **PRODUCTS USED**







Various in-house products **used** on the expansion.















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#### SEISMIC-RESISTANT SYSTEMS







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#### **TEMPLATES FOR ASSEMBLING SHELVES**



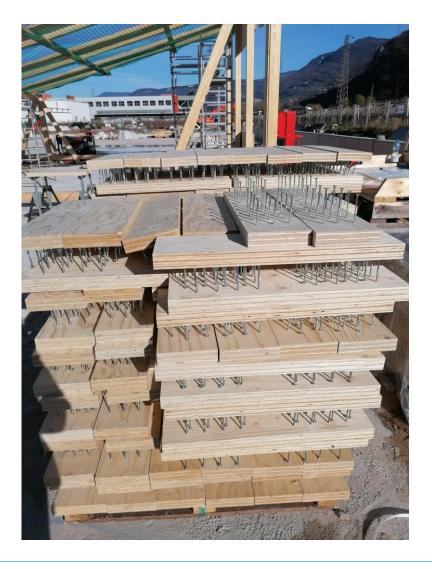


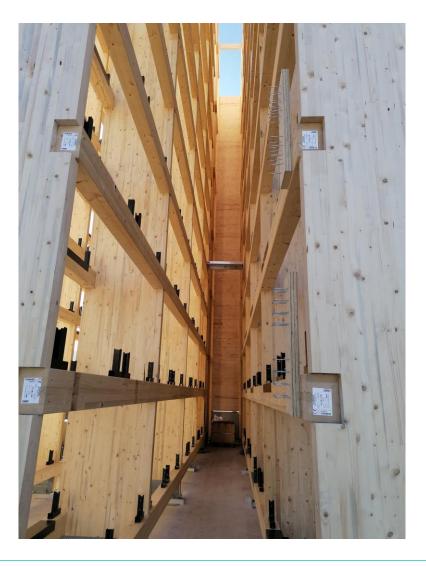


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#### **JOINING OF PALLET RAILS**









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#### **ANCHORAGE OF TOWERS**











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### THE FUTURE

Next steps:

- I. Interior outfitting
- II. Install PV sells for electricity
- III. Bring Automation Online
- IV. Cladding completion
- V. Move stock and people in

Through floods, a pandemic, global uncertainty, and rising material costs, this project is beginning to see the finish line, although there is still much work to complete.

We hope it serves our 22 international branches well and stands as an example of what can be accomplished with modern timber buildings. This type of construction is **completely modular** and could be duplicated anywhere to fit many users needs. As timber professionals, you may be working on similar structure soon.







### **ARCHITECTURAL RENDERS (arch. Lukas Burgauner)**





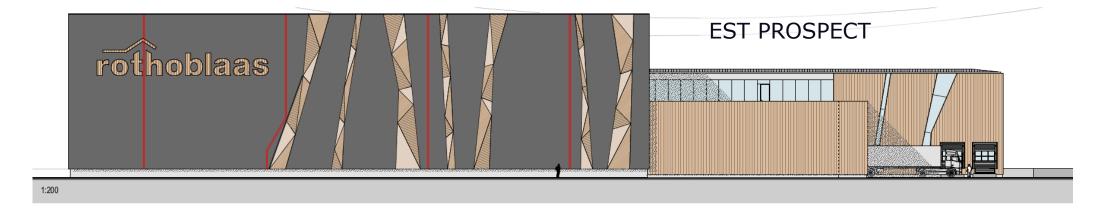


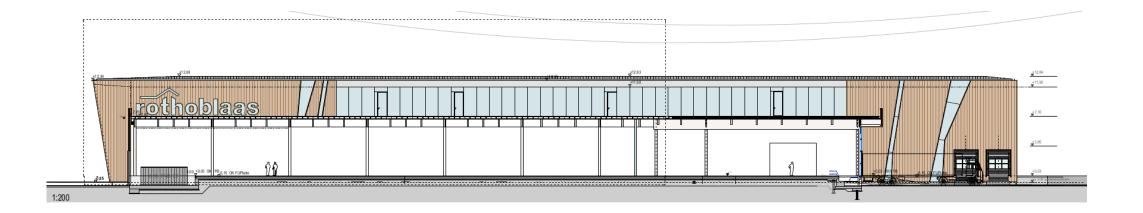


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### **PROSPECTS AND SECTIONS (arch. Lukas Burgauner)**





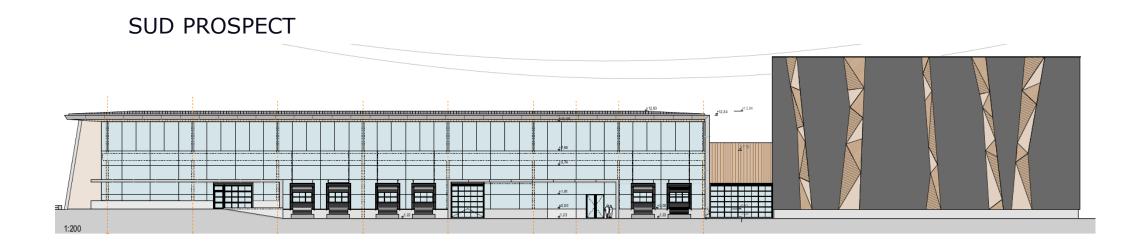


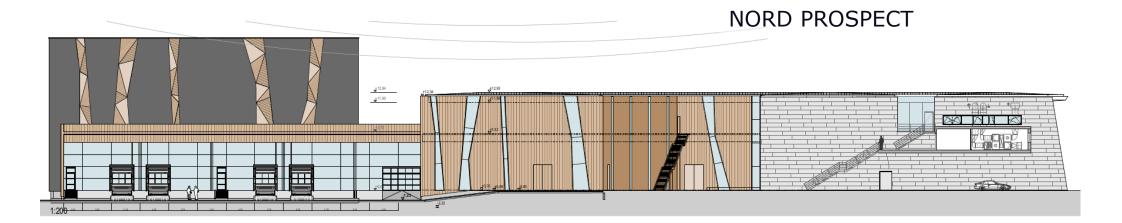


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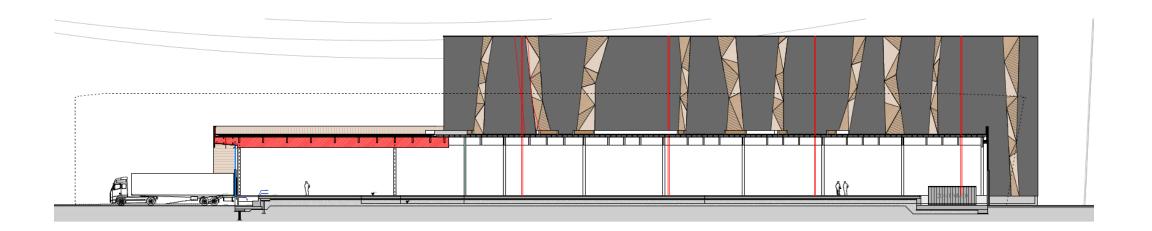




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WEST PROSPECT





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# Thanks for your attention

Ing. Matteo Andreottola