

Basel, Monday, 4. April 2022

PRESS RELEASE

“United”: needs-based hospital care for Upper Valais

With their design for the renovation and expansion of Brig hospital, Burckhardt+Partner have laid the foundation for interregional healthcare in Upper Valais that is fit for the future. Key components of the architectural concept are improved operational processes and the separation of outpatient and inpatient areas.

The “United” project by Burckhardt+Partner combines the diverse and complex requirements of the Spitalzentrum Oberwallis (SZO) for a hospital environment with efficient operational processes that is not just functional, but also patient and user friendly. This is supported by a visitor flow concept for outpatients and inpatients that also separates the flow of people from that of materials. “The new construction and modernization of the existing buildings from the 1970s will propel the hospital into the future and guarantee modern healthcare for over 30,000 people in the entire region,” says Oliver Schmid, partner and member of the company management at Burckhardt+Partner.

The existing base construction will be extended and restructured. The iconic inpatient wing from the 1970s will be renovated and adapted in its function to the new overall concept. The existing building will be supplemented by a new nine-story building housing the emergency department, seven intensive-care beds, six operating theaters and various general care units. The modernization project will increase the number of beds from 137 to a total of 309.

A new entrance hall will act as the operational hub of the hospital, with direct and intuitive links to the individual areas. It helps the patients find their way around easily and keeps walking distances short. The design of the interior spaces as well as the newly created park are intended to create a patient-friendly environment that supports recovery.

“We sought to cater to the high level of requirements of a modern hospital center in the best possible way and combine them with a high standard of architecture and urban design,” says Oliver Schmid. The new access road layout and the park in front of the hospital establish a new connection into the city, enabling the SZO to assume a significant function from the urban-planning perspective.

The project is future-oriented and sustainable: The renovation of the existing buildings through intelligent interventions extends their useful life by decades. The precise positioning of the new building also creates a situation that allows for the greatest possible flexibility for future structural developments at Brig Hospital.

Contact person for media professionals

Oliver Schmid, Member of the Company Management, Partner

via Burckhardt+Partner Communications

+41 61 338 34 95

kommunikation@burckhardtpartner.ch

About Burckhardt+Partner

Burckhardt+Partner are an internationally distinguished and technologically prominent architectural office. It was founded in 1951 in Basel and has continued to develop ever since. Over the past 70 years, Burckhardt+Partner have not only had a major influence on architecture in Switzerland, but have also been able to compete on the international stage. Burckhardt+Partner currently run five branches in Switzerland and three in Germany.