

Montea wins first Realty Award for sustainable distribution centre at Blue Gate in Antwerp



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19th September 2024 – Montea has won the coveted Realty’s Sustainable Building Award in the category Industrial & Logistics. The prize was awarded to the logistics building Montea is developing for Herfurth and Dries Van Noten at Blue Gate in Antwerp. This year marks the first time the Realty Awards have been organized. The pan-European award is given to property developments which improve industrial and logistics activities, increase efficiency and encourage sustainability within the supply chain.

The Realty Awards focus on the most innovative and high-impact real estate projects in Europe. With the support of important players from the industry, the property sector, and the European Union, this prize was awarded for the first time last Tuesday, at the prestigious Realty property fair. An international jury of 70 experts carefully scrutinized the various candidates and chose Montea’s project as being the strongest in the category ‘Industrial & Logistics’.

The new building for Herfurth and Dries Van Noten is located in the Blue Gate business park, which is strategically located near the port of Antwerp. As a result, the last-mile delivery for the customers of Montea can be exceptionally sustainable and efficient. Moreover, this is a multimodal site as transport is possible by rail, water and road. Montea has three sites at Blue Gate: DHL is active at the first, Amazon operates at the second, and the third is still under construction but will ultimately be home to Herfurth and Dries Van Noten by the end of 2024. The site used to be a heavily polluted brownfield and has since been completely redeveloped.



Sustainable innovation is key

The jury of the Realty Awards chose Blue Gate Antwerp and Montea because the project is fully in line with the new sustainability initiative New European Bauhaus, which strives for solutions that are not only sustainable, but also contribute to a better living environment and a more inclusive society. Sustainable innovation is at the forefront at Blue Gate; Montea is therefore aiming for a BREEAM Excellent certification. In addition, the design is visually strong, created by renowned architectural firm POLO, and the project is a prime example of a public-private partnership involving many partners and stakeholders.

The development of the new logistics building for Herfurth and Dries Van Noten at Blue Gate sets the bar for future warehouses. Specifically, Montea is realising several sustainable applications in this warehouse: the offices will be constructed in Cross Laminated Timber (CLT), the airtightness of the loading docks will be increased and there will be a large installation of heat pumps and solar panels with a capacity of 1.5MWp. As a result, the building is not only completely carbon-neutral, but it is also energy-positive, which means

that it generates more (green) energy than it uses. The building materials used are also sustainable and the long-term vision was a priority during development.

“The fact that Montea has won the very first Realty Award in the category ‘Industrial & Logistics’ is a unique recognition of our efforts with respect to innovation, sustainability and efficiency within the logistics sector, which underpins our philosophy of creating long-term value. Developments like the one at Blue Gate clearly demonstrate that sustainability can offer genuine added value for our sector and society as a whole. We are very proud of this European recognition for our whole team.” – Xavier van Reeth, Country Manager Belgium at Montea.

ABOUT MONTEA “SPACE FOR GROWTH”

Montea NV is a listed real estate company under Belgian law (GVV/SIR) that specializes in logistics property in Belgium, the Netherlands, France, and Germany. The company is a leading player in this market. Montea offers its clients the space they need to grow, providing versatile and innovative property solutions, allowing Montea to create value for its shareholders. At June 30, 2024 the property portfolio comprises a total lettable area of 1,926,268 m², spread across 97 locations. Montea NV has been listed on Euronext Brussels (MONT) and Euronext Paris (MONTP) since the end of 2006.

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