



Press Release

Renens, 12 February 2009

Orange moves into new headquarters, promotes telecommuting and introduces new mobility concept

Orange has moved into its new head office in Renens with over 550 employees from Lausanne and Bussigny. The company is using over 8,000 square meters of the 11,600 square meters of total available office space in the newly constructed «Plan Léman» building, owned by the UBS «Swissreal» property fund. By moving to its new headquarters in Renens, Orange is simultaneously forging new paths when it comes to workplace design and corporate mobility.

«We will remain in the canton of Vaud because we have developed a special relationship to western Switzerland in our 10-year history. At the same time, the consolidation of employees from Bussigny and Lausanne at the new head office will increase work and cost efficiency. We decided on the town of Renens because of its open, dynamic and business-friendly character», said Andreas S. Wetter, Orange CEO, about the move to Renens.

The new Orange headquarters are located at Rue du Caudray 4 in Renens. The contemporary office building is easy to reach thanks to its proximity to public transportation and the nearby freeway. One restaurant in the building itself, five additional surrounding restaurants and shopping and leisure activity opportunities in the area make for a pleasant environment for Orange employees even outside of working hours.

Renens strengthens its appeal

The town is pleased with Orange's move to Renens. Mayor Marianne Huguenin cited the higher number of jobs being created in Renens as only one of the advantages. She stated that Orange's relocation will also attract other companies which will create additional jobs, and this in turn will continue to bolster Renens' image as an economic centre and an appealing town.

Renens is a dynamic town in the heart of the Lausanne agglomeration. Situated in close proximity to the major public transport arteries, Renens is the main township of the district, which also includes the EPFL and the University of Lausanne. Renens has over 19,000 inhabitants and over 700 businesses with over 7,000 jobs in its municipal area.

Laptop and trolley as mobile office

Fixed workstations in the new building no longer exist for the majority of Orange employees. As a result of the flexible workplace model and open-plan office employees simply take their mobile office – consisting of a mini suitcase on wheels or backpack and a laptop – and settle down at a docking station that happens to be free. At the end of the day employees take their mobile and paperless office home with them, as the next day's agenda may call for a customer visit or off-site meeting or they may simply be telecommuting from home or working at another Orange branch office.

«Our strategic focus has always been on people's mobility. It is therefore natural that we want to offer our employees the highest possible degree of mobility and flexibility», says Wetter, explaining the new concept, and stresses: «We believe in 'walk the talk'. Who but we ourselves can best be the vanguard when it comes to daily use of state-of-the-art, mobile workplace solutions?»





Sustainable mobility concept

Telecommuting from home and the mobile office are only one component of the Orange mobility concept, which is strongly focused on sustainable business development. Traveling with public or alternative transportation is also purposefully promoted.

Instead of simply providing discounted parking spaces, all employees receive a monthly mobility stipend that they can use as they wish. Employees who travel by car are offered community cars, so-called pool cars. Employees are sensitized to an energy-saving, environmentally friendly manner of driving with discounted eco-drive classes. Electric bikes and e-bikeboards can be rented occasionally for a single day free of charge. Day tickets for public transportation are also offered at discounted rates.

«We do not wish to impose our will on employees regarding how they should arrange their work-related mobility. However, we do want to create incentives and show the alternatives to traveling by car. These alternatives often enable more efficient and productive travel», says Wetter explaining the objectives of the Orange mobility concept, and adds: «Here too we believe: 'together we can do more', both for the environment as well as for the company.»

*High-resolution media images of the new Orange headquarters [can be downloaded here](#).
The publication of these photos must adhere to the following indications: Picture: Orange/Thomas Jantscher.*

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