

PRESS RELEASE

Deutsche Wohnen refurbishes UNESCO estate in Siemensstadt

Berlin, 3 June, 2014. In May of this year Deutsche Wohnen successfully completed the refurbishment of the Ring Estate Siemensstadt. Since August 2009 Deutsche Wohnen has invested a total of EUR 9.5 million (of which EUR 3.15 million were state subsidies) in the comprehensive refurbishment of the estate in accordance with its listed building status. This was done to preserve the unique character of the estate in Berlin-Charlottenburg and to adapt it to the requirements of modern living. Deutsche Wohnen owns 527 residential units in the northern section of the Ring Estate, which has been on the world cultural heritage list of UNESCO since 2008.

In the course of the refurbishment work all the roofs were modernised, the stairwells and numerous facades and balconies refurbished in accordance with the estate's listed building status, and many landscaped areas re-designed. In order to improve the estate's energy efficiency Deutsche Wohnen focused on the insulation of cellar ceilings and attics and the replacement of windows in the kitchen and bathroom. To conclude the refurbishment work the children's play area in Goebelstrasse was redesigned in May of this year and given a streetball area, table tennis tables, swings and an area for small children to crawl and climb.

As Lars Dormeyer, Managing Director of Deutsche Wohnen Construction and Facilities GmbH, explains, "With regard to all these refurbishment measures we worked closely together with the responsible authorities for the preservation of historic buildings. Deutsche Wohnen owns four of the six Berlin Modernist estates on the UNESCO world cultural heritage list and so has a great deal of experience with the refurbishment of protected buildings."

The Ring Estate Siemensstadt was built between 1929 and 1934 by members of the innovative and progressive architects' association "The Ring". Six young architects realised their ideas of modern urban design in this estate: Otto Bartning, Fred Forbat, Walter Gropius, Hugo Häring, Paul-Rudolf Henning and Hans Scharoun. The variety of their styles is evident in the estate today. The entire spectrum of "New Building" can be seen here – from the functionalism of Gropius to the spatial artistry of Scharoun to Häring's organic variety of forms. In Goebelstrasse 2 in the Ring Estate Deutsche Wohnen has set up an information point which provides both residents and interested tourists with information about the estate's architectural heritage. For further information about



the Ring Estate Siemensstadt and Berlin's other UNESCO estates, please visit www.welterbesiedlungen-berlin.de.

Deutsche Wohnen

Deutsche Wohnen is one of the largest publicly listed residential property companies in Germany and Europe with a business focus on managing and developing its residential property portfolio. As at 31 December 2013 the portfolio comprised a total of 150,900 units, of which 148,800 are residential units and 2,100 are commercial properties. Deutsche Wohnen is the owner of flats in four Berlin Modernist housing estates, which were declared to be UNESCO World Heritage Sites in July 2008. These estates are the White City Estate (Weiße Stadt), the Horseshoe Estate (Hufeisensiedlung), the Carl Legien Estate and the Ring Estate (Ringsiedlung Siemensstadt).

Picture credits:

Anja Steinmann for Deutsche Wohnen AG