



UNIBAIL-RODAMCO-WESTFIELD

Düsseldorf, October 26, 2023  
Press Release

## **Pioneer in the energy transition: Paunsdorf Center brings Germany's largest photovoltaic system on a shopping centre roof in service**

**Paunsdorf Center in Leipzig has commissioned Germany's largest photovoltaic system on a shopping centre roof. Through the project, a cooperation with Stadtwerke Leipzig, the retail and leisure destination positions itself as a responsible partner that is committed locally and invests in the sustainability and attractiveness of its location. Present at the inauguration event were Wolfram Günther, Saxony's Minister of State for Energy, Climate Protection, Environment and Agriculture, Heiko Rosenthal, Mayor and Councillor for Environment, Climate, Public Order and Sport of the City of Leipzig, and Dr Maik Piehler, Managing Director of Stadtwerke Leipzig. From the host Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield (URW), Andreas Hohlmann, Managing Director Austria & Germany, and Rainer Borst, Centre Manager of Paunsdorf Center, welcomed the around 40 invited guests at the inauguration event.**

On October 26th, Paunsdorf Center in Leipzig officially brings Germany's largest photovoltaic system on a shopping centre roof in service. With its nearly 2,700 modules on a total area of 10,000 square metres, the system is expected to produce 1.1 million kilowatt hours per year in the future - a volume roughly equivalent to the electricity consumption of 366 single-family homes. With the envisaged self-consumption of 845,000 kilowatt hours from the state-of-the-art system, 30 per cent of the total electricity consumption of the public areas of the centre will be covered. This will save about 528 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually. The project represents an important milestone on the way to the medium- and long-term goal of the operator and owner company URW - to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions along the entire value chain by 50 per cent by 2030, and by 90 per cent by 2050, compared to 2015.

**Andreas Hohlmann, Managing Director Austria & Germany at URW, says:** "Through the consistent implementation of our sustainability strategy 'Better Places', we are continuously working on saving emissions and steadily improving the energy efficiency of our retail and leisure destinations. Our company has just recently expanded its sustainability ambitions and targets and has once again focused the entire strategy more strongly on environmental protection and social responsibility. The new photovoltaic system here at Paunsdorf Center is an important step towards a sustainable future. Local partnerships, such as the cooperation with Stadtwerke Leipzig, are an essential component for successful implementation. We are very pleased about the commissioning of the plant here at the Leipzig site."

**Wolfram Günther, Saxony's Minister of State for Energy, Climate Protection, Environment and Agriculture, says:** "There is enormous potential for energy generation through photovoltaics on shopping centres, on industrial and administrative buildings, above large car parks, but also on the roofs of residential buildings. With all the advantages for decentralised power supply, for the use of very inexpensive own electricity and with a view to avoiding conflicts that arise, for example, with the use of ground-mounted systems. And of course the expansion of photovoltaics also has a great economic benefit for our solar industry in Saxony and central Germany. I am pleased that the L-Gruppe is once again leading the way in climate protection and the

energy transition and underlining Leipzig's status as a pioneer in the construction of new photovoltaic plants. And I am pleased about the commitment of the centre operator, who is investing in the future here."

**Heiko Rosenthal, Mayor and Councillor for the Environment, Climate, Public Order and Sport of the City of Leipzig**, adds: "In my capacity as Mayor and Councillor for the Environment and Climate Protection in Leipzig, I am extremely pleased to be able to celebrate the completion of Germany's largest photovoltaic system on the roof of a shopping centre here at Paunsdorf Center together with Leipziger Stadtwerke today. This milestone supports our joint commitment to green energy in our city."

**Dr Maik Piehler, Managing Director of Stadtwerke Leipzig**, adds: "As a municipal utility, we are particularly committed to the issues of sustainability and energy efficiency. That is why we are pleased to promote them within the free economy as well. Paunsdorf Center has recognised that investing in the plant means investing in the climate, the location and its own profitability. Even beyond that, the centre is committed to establishing renewable energies, promoting electromobility and its long-standing partnership with local green power suppliers. As a trustworthy partner, we will be happy to accompany the centre's management every step of the way in the future as well."

#### **„Better Places“: Sustainability strategically anchored at Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield**

Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield has committed to an ambitious sustainability strategy to address the biggest challenges facing the real estate industry. The Better Places strategy aims to sustainably transform and future-proof the portfolio, be meaningful to the company's teams, support business partners in their sustainability efforts and provide exciting, sustainable experiences for visitors. In addition, the strategy aims to create shared value and benefit for communities in the locations where the company operates. Better Places is in line with the company's overall vision of "Creating sustainable places that reinvent being together".

#### **More information on URW's sustainability strategy:**

<https://www.urw.com/en/csr/better-places>

#### **The figures for the photovoltaic system at a glance:**

- Area: 10.000 sq m
- Number of solar modules: 2.682
- Annual electricity yield: 1,100,000 kWh (corresponds to the electricity consumption of 366 single-family homes).
- Own consumption: 845,000 kWh (corresponds to 30% of the total electricity consumption of the public areas of Paunsdorf Center)
- Power: 1.100 kW/p
- Saved Emissions: 528.000 kg CO<sub>2</sub>

#### **For further information please contact:**

Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield  
Press Office Germany  
c/o JDB MEDIA GmbH  
Katharina Seher  
P: +49 (0)40/ 46 88 32 -50  
E: [urw@jdb.de](mailto:urw@jdb.de)

#### **About Paunsdorf Center**

Paunsdorf Center in Leipzig is the most family-friendly shopping centre in Germany. Every day, thousands of visitors come to the largest shopping centre in central Germany, covering 113,000 square metres. The more than 120 shops offer visitors a wide range of fashion and beauty products as well as the largest sports range in the region. The attractive retail mix ensures a fully comprehensive shopping experience and the extensive gastronomic offer invites you to enjoy, linger and relax. Paunsdorf Center spoils its guests with a comprehensive range of services. These include childcare, playgrounds, nappy-changing and breastfeeding rooms, buggy hire, a centre

---

train, family parking spaces, free mobile phone charging stations, wifi and electric car charging stations. A total of 7,300 free parking spaces are available to visitors. Optimal transport connections via motorway A14, exit Leipzig-Ost or via B6 as well as regional trains and trams with direct stops at the centre ensure quick and convenient accessibility.

#### **About Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield**

Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield is an owner, developer and operator of sustainable, high-quality real estate assets in the most dynamic cities in Europe and the United States.

The Group operates 74 shopping centres in 12 countries, including 39 which carry the iconic Westfield brand. These centres attract over 900 million visits annually and provide a unique platform for retailers and brands to connect with consumers. URW also has a portfolio of high-quality offices, 10 convention and exhibition venues in Paris, and a €3 Bn development pipeline of mainly mixed-use assets. Currently, its €51 Bn portfolio is 87% in retail, 6% in offices, 5% in convention and exhibition venues, and 2% in services (as at June 30, 2023).

URW is a committed partner to major cities on urban regeneration projects, through both mixed-use development and the retrofitting of buildings to industry-leading sustainability standards. These commitments are enhanced by the Group's Better Places 2030 agenda, which strives to make a positive environmental, social and economic impact on the cities and communities where URW operates.

URW's stapled shares are listed on Euronext Paris (Ticker: URW), with a secondary listing in Australia through Chess Depository Interests. The Group benefits from a BBB+ rating from Standard & Poor's and from a Baa2 rating from Moody's.

For more information, please visit [www.urw.com](http://www.urw.com)

---