



**PALACONGRESSI  
DI RIMINI**

Press Note No. 10

## **AN ECO-FRIENDLY CONFERENCE CENTRE**

### **The New “Palacongressi” of Rimini Will Be a Model of Eco-sustainable Work**

The new “Palacongressi” of Rimini will prove to be a great, state-of-the-art congress structure, with an attentive eye towards energy saving policies and environmental quality.

The building and plant design aims at the realisation of a construction with advanced eco-sustainable features, and its integration with the surrounding environment will make it possible to achieve objectives of energy saving.

The “Palacongressi” planning philosophy is based among other things on the reclamation work of the river habitat belonging to the area where it is being built, which will become a sort of natural reserve open to the entire citizenry, connected with the coast and sea, and will pass through the city, approaching the Arch of Augustus and therefore the historic old town centre.

The planning decisions determine the orientation in the choice of eco-compatible materials, in the control of solar radiation, in the particular measuring out of natural light in indoor areas, in the careful management of water resources and fuels, in the use of renewable energy, in reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through the adoption of building/functional features typical of eco-sustainable and eco-compatible building techniques, in the overall management of the structure directed toward an environmental policy also in terms of internal consumption, waste collection and mobility to and from the “Palacongressi.” It all adds up to a final creation of healthy and comfortable premises, where it will be a pleasure to stay and work.

#### **THE “RAGGIO VERDE” GREEN BELT**

The intervention for the urban renewal and improvement of the surrounding green areas, provided for in the plan for the realisation of the “Palacongressi”, is christened **Raggio Verde**. The bike paths and the old course of the Ausa river will fit into an environment abounding in lindens surrounded by Mediterranean evergreen shrubs, pines, holm oaks and oleanders with different flowerings and fragrances that will form the link between the built-up area, the park and, consequently, a green area connecting the area of the “Palacongressi” with the historic old town centre and the marina. The bike and pedestrian paths will be laid out using sandy stabilised aggregate with natural slopes and will make it possible to reach the sea while avoiding road traffic.

An artificial lake will be created in proximity to the underpass linking the green areas. A small catch basin will feature a system of small waterfalls allowing the observation of certain species of fish that swim upstream, while the still waters abounding in vegetation will form the natural microhabitat of other fish species.

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**A system for the recycling of rainwater** will ensure the irrigation of the green areas, the conservation of the water tables, and the reduction of water discharge in wastewater or mixed sewer systems. Tanks placed underground, and therefore invisible and isolated from atmospheric agents, will guarantee the availability of good quality water.

**Inside the “Palacongressi” a system will be installed for the accumulation of ice.** This sort of ‘ice bank’ comprises a set of storage tanks that during the night accumulate the refrigerating energy necessary for producing ice in the tanks. The stored ice will be used in the daytime for the conditioning of the building, avoiding, in whole or



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in part, the use of refrigeration machines in the peak hours of demand for electric power. The end result will be a considerable reduction – up to 50% – of refrigerating and electric power requirements, as well as the use of space-saving components (pumps, pipes, etc.), in addition to the rationalisation of energy, the demand for which gets shifted to the night hours when power plants are less busy.

**The BMS (Building Management System)** is designed **for the management and control of all the electrical/mechanical systems**. The system will allow the machines serving the rooms to perform automatic microclimate control and the nightly ‘washing’ of the air of the rooms served with the exclusive use of outside air. This allows a cost-free reduction of thermic loads produced during the day, and guarantees automatic high-quality air and coolness at no extra cost with the exclusive use of outside air.

**Dimmable lighting systems will be adopted.** The fluorescent lamps of the lighting systems will be equipped with ballast able to regulate brightness on the basis of real visual needs.

Lamps marking emergency exits will be equipped with LED technologies (life of about 50,000 hours), with less than 4-watt capacity per fixture, free of stroboscopic effects and humming, very small in size and lightweight.

Finally, the choice of **latest-generation condensation boilers** and **low-loss transformers** will allow yield efficiency and saving of electric power.

### **GOOD PRACTICES**

The environmental protection objectives will also be achieved by containing the consumption of paper and plastic materials, favouring the use of dynamic video posting for the dissemination of information. To that will be added the practise of differentiated waste collection, the collection of organic waste for compost, the use of sanitary products for cleaning with a low pollution rate, the adoption of commercial policies in support of the use of materials, instruments and systems with low environmental impact, and support for the utilisation of eco-compatible means of transportation and urban green areas by promoting the bike and pedestrian paths to be used from the “Palacongressi” to the hotels.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS**

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