NYT RÅDHUS BODØ
BODØ, NORWAY

BuroHappold Engineering, in collaboration with Atelier Lauritzen Langkilde, won an open design competition to revitalise the city council premises in Bodø. Over the course of the project, we will restore and upgrade the existing properties, and deliver a new civic headquarters that provides flexible working conditions for staff and a welcoming space for the public.

Both the structural and services engineering aspects of this project presented us with unique challenges. From a structural point of view, the unusual sloped cubic form of the building was complex to achieve, especially given the constraints of what was already a busy site. Our services strategy had to be adaptable to serve a variety of interior spaces, from the vast open plan central atrium to smaller offices and meeting rooms.

By integrating our structural and services designs, we were able to create streamlined, cost effective solutions. Our structural solution comprises a concrete substructure topped with a slim steel frame that will allow services to be distributed at ceiling level, and concrete floors that radiate out from the central atrium.

This strong yet simple concept maximises the available internal floor area, and delivers the flexibility required for the building to adapt to suit differing layout requirements in the future. It also facilitates a quick construction process, which will be vital in the harsh Bodø climate.

Our facade team realised the sloping roof through a design solution that offers maximum insulation and airtightness. This will achieve excellent interior thermal conditions, which our services engineers plan to supplement with controlled air supply for optimum occupant comfort.

As well as uniting all departments under one roof for the first time, the new headquarters will open up a dialogue between the council and the city it serves. The building aims to create open, visual links between the existing properties on site and out over the urban landscape beyond, bridging the gap between old and new, and inviting citizens into the civic realm.

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