

NEWS

Switzerland's largest photovoltaic system in Zuchwil (SO) hooked up to the grid – Implenia as general planner involved with its engineering capabilities

Dietlikon, 19 October 2015 – A solar power system with a total output of 5764 kilowatts peak (kWp) began operations at the end of September 2015 on the Riverside industrial estate in Zuchwil (SO). Last Friday, all the parties involved in the project gathered to celebrate the official opening. Zuchwil, a suburb of Solothurn, is now home to Switzerland's most powerful interconnected roof-mounted photovoltaic system. It is the size of five football fields, and covers the annual energy needs of about 2726 individuals or 1027 four-person homes. Annual CO₂ savings come to approximately 595 tonnes. The client, Swiss Prime Site, developed the unique photovoltaic system – a combination of steel structure and photovoltaic cells – together with selected planners and designers as part of its sustainability strategy. As general planner, Implenia was responsible for the engineering services. As well as the record-breaking size, the time required for the project and construction also set new records: it took less than a year from the initial idea to the point at the end of September 2015 when the system was connected up to the grid. The structure on the roof of Production Hall 330 was built in just four months as operations continued in the hall below. Implenia's planning of this renewable energy system is a further milestone in the company's commitment to sustainability. For more information: <http://riversidezuchwil.ch/aktuelles/>



Building Switzerland's largest photovoltaic system, piece by piece: installing the system on the roof of Production Hall 330 at the Riverside industrial estate in Zuchwil. (Source: © SPS)



As big as five football pitches: Implenias Engineering department was responsible as general planner for the newly commissioned photovoltaic system in Zuchwil, the most powerful of its kind in Switzerland. (Source: © SPS)

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Implenia, Switzerland's leading construction and construction services company, also has a strong position in the German, Austrian and Scandinavian infrastructure markets. Established in 2006, Implenias can look back on around 150 years of construction tradition. It brings the expertise of its highly skilled sectoral and regional units together under the roof of a company active throughout Europe. With its integrated business model and specialists operating in all areas of construction, the Group can manage a building project through its entire lifecycle and deliver work that is economical, integrated and customer-centric. The focus is on striking a sustainable balance between financial success and social and environmental responsibility.

Implenia has its headquarters in Dietlikon near Zurich and employs more than 8100 people around Europe. In 2014 it posted pro forma turnover (including the former Bilfinger Construction GmbH) of around CHF 3.6 billion. The company is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (IMPN, CH0023868554). More information can be found at www.implenia.com.