



**Neue Direktion**

**Typology** office **Location** Cologne **Construction volume** GFA 30,000 m<sup>2</sup> (incl. underground garage), GV 119,300 m<sup>3</sup> **Client** HOCHTIEF Projektentwicklung GmbH, Niederlassung Rhein-Ruhr, Cologne **Final investor** Commerz Real AG, Düsseldorf **Tenant** EASA – European Aviation Safety Agency **Cooperation** kadawittfeldarchitektur with Graf + Graf Architekten **Realization** 2013-2016 **Competition** 1st prize 2012 **Certificate** DGNB Gold



Photo Jens Kirchner

The former railway head office is on Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer immediately opposite the Rhine River and in immediate vicinity of Cologne's main railway station, the cathedral and the city centre.

The design takes the existing listed structure, including the historic facades, into consideration and develops a contemporary, modern solution for the pre-war mansard roof structure, which now forms a distinct contrast to the historic features below. Metal bands envelop the four roof storeys and trace the slope of the historic roof contours that characterised the Rhine River silhouette of the cathedral city for many years. The glass facades beyond the bands do not follow the original sloped roofline but are set perpendicular to the floor plates. This feature generates deep, much-appreciated terraces in the surrounding space offering panoramic views across the city. The listed facade of the lower storeys is upgraded; the impressive historical entrance hall is rebuilt and incorporated into the new build. They all fulfil the requirements of modern flexible office space and offer different office layout concepts ranging from single cell units to business lounges.