

PRESS RELEASE

Hamburg/Essen, Germany, November 2, 2016

RE-OPENING OF THE HANDELSHOF IN ESSEN - A HOTEL WITH A LONG-STANDING TRADITION - UNDER THE NEW NAME OF NOVUM SELECT HOTEL HANDELSHOF

- **Historical hotel re-opens its doors to customers after undergoing comprehensive renovation**
- **Official opening of the Novum Select Hotel took place on November 11th.**
- **Ideally located first-class hotel with 198 rooms, bar, restaurant, and conference rooms**
- **Award ceremony and opening of exhibition on urban development competition**

One hundred years of hotel history: After having been lovingly and extensively renovated by its owner and operator, Hotel Handelshof - a hotel with a rich tradition as well as a great location in Essen - finally reopens its doors under its new name: Novum Select Hotel, thereby forming part of the rapidly expanding Hamburg hotel group of the same name. The hotel with its 198 rooms will be welcoming its first guests at the beginning of November.

David Etmenan, managing partner of the NOVUM Group, admits, 'With the completion of this project, a great dream has come true for us. A hotel of this class, size and with such a prominent history represents a true landmark for our range of Select Hotels, not least because of the years Heinz Rühmann, the great actor, spent here as a child.'

Parallel to the re-opening of the Hotel Handelshof, now to be known under the new name of Novum Select Hotel Handelshof Essen, an exhibition of urban studies on the "Essener Süd-West-Stadt" will take place at this location. These

PRESS RELEASE

studies are the result of a competition between students from nine universities throughout Germany organised by HafenCity Universität Hamburg (HCU).

The competition for urban building constructions gives new impetus to development projects for the centrally located area between the north and south of Essen. A total of 35 design concepts offer a broad spectrum of possibilities for the city in this age of urbanity.

The EUROPA-CENTER Real Estate Group is working on a new office and hotel project in this area close to the main railway station, where - amongst others – another NOVUM Group hotel will be built. The competition is sponsored by the Real Estate Group and supported by the EUROPA-CENTER Uwe Heinrich Suhr Stiftung (*Foundation*) with an award.

A preview of the exhibition will be open to the public on the day of the opening. After the opening, the exhibition will be on show at the Novum Select Hotel Handelshof Essen until November 25th, 2016 (Tuesdays to Fridays and Sundays, between 14.00 and 19.00h).

The Handelshof opened in 1913 and was run by Heinz Rühmann's parents for several years. After the end of the Second World War the building, which had only suffered minor damage, was quickly renovated, and served as a public reading room to start with and received hotel guests again from 1952 onwards. In 1985 the six-storey building with its solid steel concrete core structure became a listed building.

The Novum Select Hotel Handelshof Essen is run by experienced hotel manager Bernd Bittkow (41). The NOVUM Hotel Group, which is rapidly expanding throughout Europe, currently has two other hotels in Essen, a third new-build project - a stylish Novum Style Hotel for business travellers - is already in the works.

PRESS RELEASE

ABOUT THE NOVUM HOTEL GROUP

The family-managed Novum Hotel Group with currently 102 hotels and more than 10,380 rooms in over 30 locations throughout Europe is one of the largest hotel groups in Germany. Established in 1988 and on a steady course of continuous expansion since 2004 under the management of David Etmenan, the Novum Hotel Group proves to be exceedingly dynamic. The group's hotel portfolio includes three and four-star hotels, always centrally located, operating under the brand names of Novum Hotels, Novum Select Hotels, Novum Style Hotels, and Novum LikeApart Hotels. In addition, the NOVUM Hotel Group is a franchisee of the InterContinental Hotel Group and Accor. www.novumgroup.de



Presseabteilung, Lange Reihe 2, 20099 Hamburg (DE)

presse@novumgroup.de • www.novum-hotels.de

In case of any questions, requests for photos or interviews, please feel free to contact the NOVUM Group any time on +49 40/ 600 808 - 264.

ABOUT THE EUROPA-CENTER IMMOBILIENGRUPPE

Centrally located in Hamburg, the EUROPA-CENTER Immobiliengruppe operates as an investor, developer and portfolio manager of high-end office buildings, commercial buildings, hotels, business apartments, logistics centres and sorting depots. EUROPA-CENTER currently owns and manages office and commercial properties in Hamburg, Berlin, Bremen, Bremerhaven and Essen. 20 buildings with a construction volume of about 360,000 m² have been developed under the EUROPA-CENTER brand name so far. Apart from expanding our real estate group at the existing locations we have acquired new locations both in Germany and abroad: Hanover, Dusseldorf, Cologne, Munich, Barcelona, Madrid, and Lisbon.



PRESS RELEASE

Press contact
Mareen Wicher
Tel. +49 (0)40 27144-450
Email: wicher@europa-center.de