

NetBase

modern working – ecological living

This document is an outline of the netBase project, which can be summed up as follows.

The basic idea is to marry ecological ways of living with contemporary ways of working. New technology joined with awareness for nature is meant to encourage an ecologically and economically sustainable way of life.

The foundation is an infrastructure, which consists on the one hand of modern (Internet) technology and on the other hand of a center in the midst of nature.

Upon this platform people collaborate and communicate worldwide. They are connected via the net. In addition they have a geographical center, where they can stay together and, above all, they get in immediate touch with nature.

At the same time the netBase center works as a platform and catalyst for local initiatives. People from the region can obtain computer skills and media competence. They get the chance to become an active part of the global culture and economy.

New media – new possibilities

New media and technologies enable new forms of collaboration. The geographical location loses importance, while competence and knowledge are getting more and more important. Innovative ways of working, using the potential of the net, are taking shape.

In this regard netBase has two objectives: to give a global working community a local center and to help local people to successfully step into the global net. In this way the project joins synergistically the global with the local and the other way around.

From local to global:

Up to now you had to be in a city spending most of your time in offices in order to get a job or an education in the field of new media. This is mainly caused by the simple fact, that most modern companies and educational institutions are located in big cities. NetBase wants to offer the possibility to get contemporary jobs and education in the country – without commuting. The Internet, the appropriate knowledge and international relations make it possible.

From global to local:

The net creates the opportunity to organize working communities, which are independent of any location. But meeting in reality outside cyberspace and working together face to face can not be replaced completely. For this purpose the center is used – it is the temporary working place for the members of an internet-based organization. The organization is a group of highly qualified professionals (technicians, designers, authors, universalists, etc.), who join their competencies, forces and contacts in order to offer services and products in the field of 'new media'.

Humans and Nature

Working on a computer is an unbalanced activity. To top it all this kind of work is happening in highly artificial environments, often combined with an unnatural and stressful lifestyle. Besides the fact, that this is quite unhealthy in the long run, the computer worker loses the relationship to nature. This is bad for humans and nature.

Especially the one-sided work needs the balance, that nature provides. To experience this balance is not only beneficial to the human's well being, but also it creates more awareness for nature. It leads to the realization, that an intact nature is important. The netBase center promotes a good relationship between humans and nature. It gives the opportunity to develop this kind of relation.

The center itself will be built with this spirit. With this spirit it will be managed, being an example, that economy and ecology can be married.

It will be constructed in an ecological way. Natural and regenerative materials will be used (wood, loam, stone). Solar energy is utilized in an active and passive way. An organic wastewater cleaning system will reduce pollution a minimum.

The dimensions will be in harmony with nature. No more than eight guests will stay and work there at the same time. At peak times up to 16 guests for the day can be there. Thanks to the flexible and modular construction, single persons, as well as couple and families can be accommodated comfortably.

Guests will be encouraged not to come with the car, but to take the train. A shuttle service is available, as well as a car, which can be shared for local use.

Vegetables and fruits will be organically grown on the property.

Working with computers can be balanced with gardening. Furthermore there will be a changing offer for improving well being and consciousness. Like courses in yoga, tai chi, meditation and more – taught by international experts.

The location

The netBase center is to be built on a mountainside above the northern Lake Garda. This place is quite and secluded, but also easy to reach. Sufficiently distant from the lake, for not being bothered by the touristy hustle and bustle, but near enough for being able to use the corresponding facilities (shops, restaurants, etc). Even though the spot is a real idyll, building the center won't destroy completely untouched nature. Another advantage is the existence of good infrastructure (electricity, water, phone line, a private street).

The northern Lake Garda is located in the province Trentino (northern Italy). The position in the heart of Europe makes it a predestined site. Besides the sunny and fertile climate, and not least the famous Italian culture is to be mentioned.

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version 1.02 / 02.08.00