

New NATO HQ



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The decision to replace the existing HQ was taken at the Washington Summit in 1999.

NATO decided to build a new headquarters because the current building is at the end of its economic lifespan and no longer meets NATO's needs.

NATO has been based in the current building since 1967. Since then, the number of NATO members has almost doubled from 15 to 28 countries; a large number of Partners have also opened their diplomatic representations at NATO.

The new HQ will provide the space for:

- 1500 personnel from 28 national delegations,
- 1700 international military and civilian staff
- 800 staff from NATO agencies.
- Currently an average of 500 visitors per day

The new headquarters will provide over 254,000 m² of space and the design of the building will allow for further expansion if needed. The move will make space available for the growing number of Partners' offices, who will be located in a separate building on the NATO campus.

Original contracts and costs

Awarded contract costs:

- Demolition - De Meuter/Interbuild/CEI/DeMeyer, 10 M€
- Architecture, Design, Quality Mgmt - SOM-ASSAR, ACG, SOCOTEC, SNC- LAVALIN, 115 M€
- Construction - BAM Alliance 458 M€
- Electronic Security - Siemens / Putman 17 M€
- Audio Visual Installations – Televic, 26 M€
- Active Network - Lockheed Martin (now Leidos), 62 M€
- Other contracts, including additional IT, and furniture - approx. 60M€

Additional costs for: NATO Governance and Transition, Annual Revision, Contingencies, Construction security and Claim settlements

Total project costs: 1.1 B€

A green building for the future

The new headquarters has been built with the future in mind. The design includes flexible space that can accommodate changing requirements and has incorporated modern information and communications technology.

The environment and sustainability have played a major role in the design process. The new building's energy consumption has been optimized through the use of geothermal and solar energy and advanced lighting systems. Thermal insulation, thermal inertia and solar protection have been incorporated in the design to reduce heating. Rainwater will be used for non-potable water use and the buildings short wings will have green roofs.

Timeline of the new NATO Headquarters decision and contracts

- 1999 At the Washington Summit the decision was taken to replace the current HQ.
- 2001 Dean of the NAC chaired an Architectural Design Competition for the NNHQ.
- 2003 SOM+ASSAR won the Architectural Design Competition.
- 2004 North Atlantic Council asked Belgium to manage the project on NATO's behalf.
- 2004 Belgium accepted to take on Host Nation responsibilities.
- 2004 Architectural Design / Engineering Contract was awarded to SOM+ASSAR.
- 2007 Belgium launched an Information Notification for the construction contract.
- 2008 Belgium received expressions of interest from potential bidders.
- 2009 Belgium issued the invitation for bids to selected firms.
- 2010 BAM Alliance was selected and awarded the construction contract.
- 2010 BAM Alliance started the construction works.
- 2013 Siemens / Putman was awarded the contract for Electronic Security Services.
- 2013 Televic was awarded the contract for Audio Visual Installations.
- 2013 Lockheed Martin (now Leidos) was awarded the contract for Active Network Infrastructure.
- 2016 Construction works start reaching their final stages. IT infrastructure is being deployed progressively.
- 2017 (expected) Handover of the new building to NATO by Host Nation Belgium. The facilities and systems start to be commissioned and tested, the building becomes operational progressively.

NATO's main move to the new headquarters is due to be completed later in 2017.

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