

## **Spark: The ThyssenKrupp Quarter as development trigger**

The construction of the ThyssenKrupp Quarter, with its roughly 2,000 jobs at present, has triggered a development process which is bringing further investment to the immediate vicinity. The ThyssenKrupp Quarter is acting as an engine for the development of the Krupp belt and is helping strengthen the surrounding areas.

Several projects have already been launched. An ambitious housing project will provide stylish accommodation on the outskirts of the Krupp Park in the coming years. It will be adjoined by a district center with local amenities, various services and a Park restaurant. The Krupp Park with its gently undulating landscape and a roughly 10,000 square meter lake offers ideal conditions for further upscale development projects.

At the same time it is making the neighboring district of Altendorf more appealing to investors. For example, an attractive residential development with 60 new apartments is being built around the Niederfeldsee lake in a collaborative project between the city of Essen and the municipal housing company Allbau, creating a modern waterfront living environment.

The ThyssenKrupp Quarter is enhancing the quality of the location, especially along Altendorfer Strasse. The city center is now being extended by the ThyssenKrupp Quarter and the Krupp Park. Nearby Berliner Platz is also to be given a make-over. The square at the end of Altendorfer Strasse between Limbecker Platz and the university is the site for a new residential quarter to be developed around a water axis by municipal and private investors.

The first section of Berthold-Beitz-Boulevard, which opened last year, is already helping ease the traffic situation in the area. Work on the second section between Pferdebahnstrasse and Bottroper Strasse is due to commence before the end of 2010. The roughly 60 hectare northern development area of the Krupp belt will then be centrally linked to the outer city ring road, becoming more attractive for investors.

The overhead power lines running through the Krupp belt have been relocated and now run alongside Berthold-Beitz-Boulevard, improving the general characteristics of the area. The Ruhr Regional Association (Regionalverband Ruhr) is working on a further project to create a 21 kilometer cycle and footpath linking the Duisburg and Essen campuses of the University of Duisburg-Essen. Known as the "Rheinische Bahn", this path will follow the historic Ruhr line of the former Rheinische Eisenbahn-Gesellschaft (Rhine Rail Company) and will cut through the Krupp belt near Pferdebahnstrasse. The first five-kilometer section will be opened on June 18. ThyssenKrupp has actively supported the Regional Association, among other things making bridge structures in the area of the Krupp belt available to the project. There are plans for the cycle path to be linked to the ThyssenKrupp Quarter.