

Oponentura diplomové práce
České vysoké učení technické v Praze, Fakulta architektury

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"If houses were built industrially, mass-produced like chassis, an aesthetic would be formed with surprising precision" - Le Corbusier, *Toward an Architecture*

The relation between Architecture and the Automobile is since the beginning of the 20th century a topic, which conducted many architects, including Le Corbusier, to numerous researches and practices. The automation of the construction is seen as a key process to produce like the car manufacturing with mass-produced elements which would be assemble in each site, however from the other side, is possible to look to the building as a perfect "machine", which should perform in a high standards concerning the space planning, efficiency and detailing. The topic is still nowadays contemporary from too many perspectives, and this diploma project shows clearly the resemblances between architecture and automotive industry. How to design a building, which should solve the multi-challenging task related with the car design process?

SKODA occupies a large area at Mlada Boleslav and different quarters of the city are dedicated to specific facilities of the company. The urban relation between the site "Stará Česana" and the city center its well explained, as the awareness of important visual relations. Regarding the overall design of the proposal, it's clear and visible that the solution was to smoothly unify the site, furthermore it is proposed a clean shape and vision of being impressive when faced from the city center. One single building designed as a sign of the avant-garde and future of Skoda design industry, with no angles and looking as a large ship on the river embankment.

The complexity of the technical requirements, the flow of the individual functions and the overall integration on the spot is well illustrated by the presented documentation, furthermore, the architectural answers to this problematic clearly combine several well thought solutions which organize the building and its functions. The proposal reminds the revolutionary Lingotto building as it's showed in the diploma project, with an understandable stratification of the functions by floors, providing the facilities and creating the symbioses between the engine and the man.

The ground level provides the flexibility, the fluent routes with horizontal and vertical connections, and the clear access to building where trucks, cars, workers and visitors are merged. The variants for the second floor illustrates the flexibility of the open space and is

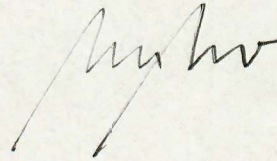
dedicated to the offices with links to the adjacent buildings/or functions. The last floors are almost an exclusive of the cars, the final product of the company. Possible the only comment, and following the strong design principle of the building, is towards the technical shafts where the facilities, as toilets and kitchenettes, could be placed above each other or near by the main pillars of the building.

The facade and materials chosen follow the overall principle of the building, with transparency and light. Only one semitransparent skin, which changes its character during the day and night, involves the building and unifies all functions. The structural and technical solutions proposed seems adequate, however further information and drawings in other scale, regarding the materials and detailing would be desirable to be present, to have a full and clear understanding of the proposal.

In general, the proposal gives the impression to be a first solid step to provide a sufficient and efficient solution to the program of the Visualization Center. Due to the complexity of the multifunctional object and its different components, the proposed building would need further technical specialists to be effectively developed, on the other hand, as a future architect, the author proved with his decisions and principles to be ready to lead this team.

Prague, 30.01.2018

Marco Maio, Arch.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marco Maio', written in a cursive style.