

PRESS RELEASE

New address for the EHL Innovation Hub



Credits : EHL Hospitality Business School

Lausanne, November 22, 2022 – Until now based at the former Chalet-à-Gobet farm, the EHL Hospitality Business School Innovation Hub is evolving and moving to Epalinges as of March 1, 2023. The Chalet-à-Gobet address will again become a location for projects, for which a new identity is to be defined. To do this, a Lausanne City - EHL taskforce has been set up. In the meantime, Lausanne City wants to keep the premises alive with the current institutions that are happy to remain and by bringing in new ones, as is the case with the EVAM refugee housing.

A new strategic direction

Despite the turbulence caused by the pandemic, the EHL Group has shown resilience in an industry undergoing major transformation. However, this pivotal period has given rise to some deep reflection, in particular on the central role of innovation within an academic institution which will soon be celebrating its 130th anniversary. Analyses carried out internally have concluded that there is a need for a location change of the innovation activities in order to bring them back onto EHL premises at Grand Chemin in Epalinges. Hence, the entrepreneurial community and their activities will move from March 1, 2023, to this site and will benefit from new synergies.

Use the campus as a think tank

"Given the opportunities offered by our new campus, the outline of the Innovation Hub that we had designed at the time has been redefined. Under the impetus of our new CEO, Markus Venzin, we are going to strengthen the innovation center within our ecosystem in order to make it a central pillar that benefits the EHL community, our partners, and more broadly, our industry," explains Winnaretta Zina Singer, Head of Innovation Hub at EHL. The new integration should soon make it possible to implement spaces for experimenting and testing technological innovations in the field of hospitality, as imagined by start-ups, partners, researchers and EHL student entrepreneurs in several residences and food and beverage outlets on the Lausanne campus.

A new opportunity for the site thanks to close collaboration

The relocation of the Innovation Hub will eventually lead to an early return of the lease of the entire site of the former Chalet-à-Gobet farm. In order to best support this transition and work collaboratively, a taskforce has been set up. EHL thus undertakes to contribute to the emergence of new future possibilities for the site, while specifying that it will no longer be a player within them. In parallel with this long-term project, Lausanne City is already taking over part of the spaces under lease to EHL. So, in line with its policy to make available provisionally empty premises, it has proposed to EVAM to temporarily take over the existing hostel on site which will offer accommodation to around fifty asylum seekers. In addition, while waiting for a new project to be developed, Lausanne City is offering current institutions the chance to remain on site if they wish.

About EHL Group :

EHL Group is the global reference in education, innovation and consulting for the hospitality and service sector.

With expertise dating back to 1893, EHL Group now offers a wide range of leading educational programs from apprenticeships to master's degrees, as well as professional and executive education, on three campuses in Switzerland and Singapore. EHL Group also offers consulting and certification services to companies and learning centers around the world.

True to its values and committed to building a sustainable world, EHL Group's purpose is to provide education, services and working environments that are people-centered and open to the world.

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