



Il viale pedonale di Corso Marche (rendering © Studio Amati)

**COVER STORY. THE RECONVERSION OF TURIN'S ALENIA AREA**

# Green Light for the Alenia Project in Corso Marche

A new research-&-development district and a residential neighborhood, with a skyscraper at the confluence of Corso Francia and Corso Marche

**T**urin's City Council has approved the Integrated Program for the reconversion of the Alenia Area on Corso Marche. The Alenia Aeronautica SpA and Thales Alenia Space, the landowners, submitted a program that deals with the creation of a new urban district in which service industries, commercial and residential buildings will be settling down.

"Turin has finally adopted the Corso Marche plan, which will be the prime Italian example of an entirely-pedestrianized district on a human scale," said architect Alfredo Amati, whose Studio has designed the project, "a model area that puts into practice the most recent trends in theoretical developments, including those of Renzo Piano at the most recent international congress on new models for urban transformation which took place in Rome."

The project foresees two stages: the first deals with the High-Tech District, a 25,000 m<sup>2</sup> research-and-development center with a 1000 person capacity, designed to host aerospace companies working in conjunction with Thales Alenia Space. It is a particularly advanced building both from the technological and the complementary-services point of

view, being designed also to contain a nursery and a fitness center.

The 2nd stage deals with the creation of a newly-conceived residential district where green spaces, pedestrianized streets and plazas integrate different functions and types of housing. A district free of vehicular traffic and with a large and varied amount of open space due to the extraordinary number of underground parking spaces and the decision to concentrate part of the housing stock in a vertical direction. Characteristic of the project is a tower capable of hosting an international hotel and offices for large companies.

The tower, to be located at the intersection of Corso Marche and Corso Francia, will be surrounded by lower buildings and covered spaces, with a two-level pedestrian walkway guaranteeing access to the underground parking garages. Residential housing will face out onto this pedestrian axis while the business and commercial area will be found on the opposite side. On Corso Francia, a large, public park space will be opened up. Innovative solutions in terms of environmental sustainability and energy savings have been designed for the entire project. The extension of the already-exi-

sting streets Vie Perroncito and Pasteur is also contemplated.

The project now heads to the Province for a compatibility assessment with the Provincial Territorial Plan. Ground-breaking could take place in 2011. ■

## Mario Viano: "La città cambia volto con Alenia"

L'Assessore all'Urbanistica di Torino, Mario Viano, ha dichiarato dopo la seduta del Consiglio del 12 aprile 2010: "Questa è una delibera di grande rilievo che approda nell'aula dopo un'ampia discussione in Commissione. La variante ha una doppia valenza:

- urbanistica di riconversione verso funzioni urbane, di un'area industriale collocata in un luogo strategico per l'area metropolitana: all'incrocio fra corso Francia e corso Marche e servita dalla linea 1 della Metropolitana, quindi con eccezionale accessibilità

- di sostegno a processi di rinnovo e rafforzamento del polo produttivo di Alenia nell'area torinese, in particolare attorno al nuovo insediamento di alto livello tecnologico a Caselle".



Mario Viano