

Press release

21 September 2007

Camp Nou Stadium, home of FC Barcelona, to be remodelled

"FC Barcelonas Camp Nou Stadium, one of the worlds greatest football venues, is to be extensively remodelled. Following an international competition, Foster + Partners have been selected as the architects for this renewal of the stadium, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

The stadium, already the largest in Europe, will be enlarged to accommodate over 106,000 fans, together with extensive new facilities including hospitality and public areas. A new roof will also be created to shelter the fans. The stadium will be enclosed by a brightly coloured mosaic outer skin that wraps around the building and continues over a new roof. The multi-coloured enclosure comprises overlapping translucent tiles in the club colours. The myriad of tiles can be seen as symbolising the loyalty and devotion of FC Barcelonas fans worldwide.

The remodelled stadium retains the essential elements of the original Camp Nou, designed by architects Francesc Mitjans-Miró, García Barbon and Soteras Mauri, which was inaugurated in 1957.

On match nights, the stadium will glow, providing a new architectural icon for the city. In the same way that FC Barcelona is more than a club, the new Camp Nou will be much more than a stadium.

For further information
please contact Katy Harris at
Foster + Partners,
T +44 (0)20 7738 0455
F +44 (0)20 7738 1107
E press@fosterandpartners.com

Lord Foster, Chairman and Founder of Foster + Partners said:

It is an enormous honour to have been selected to remodel Camp Nou Stadium for FC Barcelona, such an important symbol for the Barca fans and the Catalan people. Football is a powerful and democratic force that brings together all social classes in celebration, therefore a stadium, perhaps more than other type of building, is a truly democratic space, the design of a stadium is the greatest expression of an architecture that goes beyond aesthetics to have a social agenda. In this sense I believe that there is a wonderful connection between football and architecture.

Mouzhan Majidi Chief Executive of Foster + Partners and project architect said:

We are extremely excited to have won this design competition. In its 50th year this is a fantastic opportunity to give a timely regeneration to the Camp Nou. Our design respects the characteristic asymmetric seating bowl and as well as embodying the club colours in its form, the remodelled stadium will also incorporate the very latest construction technology so that the stadium can remain in use by the club throughout the works.

Facts and Figures

Client: FC Barcelona

Architect: Foster + Partners

Sports Specialist Advisor (Competition): AFL

Original Stadium Architects: Francesc Mijans-Miro, Garcia Barbon and Soteras Mauri

Inaugurated 24 September 1957

For further information
please contact Katy Harris at
Foster + Partners,
T +44 (0)20 7738 0455
F +44 (0)20 7738 1107
E press@fosterandpartners.com

Projected Stadium Footprint: 52,000 m²

Projected Floor Area (gross): 180,000 m²

Approximate Budget: Euro 250 million

Projected Capacity: Increased from 98,000 to 106,000 seats (Largest stadium in Europe)

New Accommodation:

Expanded hospitality/VIP accommodation,

Function rooms

Hospitality boxes

Public concourses

New Stadium Museum

FCB offices

Third Party Offices

TV broadcast + studio facilities

Press areas

Catering

Underground service vehicle roads and bays provision for disabled people throughout

Seating Bowl

Existing seating bowl retained with upper tier expanded to accommodate extra seating capacity. Asymmetric upper tier of stadium to be retained. Presidential box retained on west side.

Spectator circulation:

For further information

please contact Katy Harris at

Foster + Partners,

T +44 (0)20 7738 0455

F +44 (0)20 7738 1107

E press@fosterandpartners.com

Horizontal and vertical circulation for all tiers to be rationalised. Ramps to upper tier to be replaced by new escalators. New escape stairs to be built around outside of stadium to release internal stadium area for concourses and stadium accommodation.

Stadium Enclosure:

Stadium to be enclosed in new mosaic enclosure composed of translucent panels in the colours of the FC Barcelona club. Enclosure will act as rain screen around sides of stadium allowing naturally ventilated concourse areas. Enclosure to include photovoltaic panels to harvest solar energy. At night lighting will make enclosure glow in bright colours and will feature animated effects to give the stadium changing image and dynamic response to environment and events.

Roof:

New stadium roof to be added to cover seating bowl on all sides. Cable net roof structure spans across the stadium and is tensioned within compression ring above the outer edge of the seating bowl. Roof structure to be erected progressively whilst stadium remains in use. Mosaic pattern of enclosure to continue over roof.

New Basement:

New stadium basement will include a new service ring road and new back-of-house facilities such as goods loading bay, TV outside broadcast compound and stores. Basement will also allow extended players' changing area and extended press conference and mixed zone.

First Team Training Pitch:

Retained on stadium site with underground link to players' changing area inside stadium.

Museum:

New larger stadium museum incorporated into rebuilt stadium accommodation on west side.

Stadium Tour:

Stadium to allow stadium tour visits with segregated circulation from FCB operational circulation.