

"Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums" Ltd. participates in a discussion about the industrial architecture heritage in urban environment

26 August 2006

On 14 – 26 August this year, Riga hosted the international summer university for architecture students Industrial Architecture Heritage in Modern City Environment, with participants from the Baltic countries, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Romania, Georgia, Serbia, Italy, USA and other countries.

The guest lecturers and the academic staff of the Riga Technical University shared their knowledge with the would-be architects regarding the history of the Riga architecture and the city's historical environment, focusing especially on the industrial heritage, which is represented by the industrial and transport history of Latvia. The students studied the social aspects of the industrial heritage, analysed the meaning of industrial heritage within the context of culture-related buildings, and, at the end of the studies, the students presented their proposals as to the development of the Riga historical industrial environment.

Mr. Valters Māziņš, Chair of the Board of the LLC Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums familiarised the students with the attitude towards and role of investors in the evaluation of qualities of historical heritage. Mr. Māziņš pointed out that the attitude of investors depends on the value of the specific industrial heritage and compliance with the idea of development. Of similar importance is the investors' ability to find an efficient usage for industrial buildings, its ability to assess the required contributions in the renovation of sites and the service hereof and other aspects as well. An example that can be mentioned here is the long-term development project on Andrejsala, in the course of which it is envisaged to transform the existing industrial environment into the multifunctional city environment.

The international summer university for architecture students has been held for the fourth time. It is organised by the Riga Technical University and supported by the Riga City Council, State Cultural Capital Foundation, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia and the State Centre for Academic Exchange.