

**Professur für Architektur und Konstruktion  
Annette Gigon Mike Guyer**

**Block Research Group  
Dr. Philippe Block**



**LUCIEN WIDMER**

**HS 2021  
master thesis**



## Master Thesis Lucien Widmer : Durability

This Master Thesis is dedicated to the research on durability. The chair of Professor Mike Guyer with the assistance of the Block Research Group pursue a holistic approach to the topic with focus on the structural and materialistic aspects of durability. Throughout the diploma semester it became evident that not only the durability in construction but also a programmatic and social durability had to be achieved.

This insight lead to the conclusion that we need to rethink the way we are designing and planning architecture today. Decisions concerning durability have to be integrated into the development process from the very beginning and onwards.

However, what is the point of durability if time is running out? If our future can be durable, it also needs to be sustainable. The ambition/aim of my project is to consider all these aspects of durability and its effects.

### Programmatic Durability

The Werkstadt Zürich is an industrial site in the midst of rapid change of the built environment and constant architectural debate. Due to the popularity and ever rising estate prices in the city of Zürich, industrial areas are being pushed towards the outskirts of the city. Thereby directly affecting the diversity and cultural experience of the neighborhood. Owned and developed by the Swiss Railway company SBB, the desire to keep the Werkstadt as a site of urban production was critical. Keeping in mind the constant economic pressure urban production is facing, it has to be redefined to meet todays requirements. My approach is based on the idea of optimizing it's efficiency by introducing a circular economy through sharing. The exchange of expertise and knowledge by specialists of various professions as well as sharing machines and infrastructure, allows to me to reach my goal to develop a creative hub of contemporary urban production. This densification results in the shape of a high-rise building enabling me to realize the programmatic and architectural intervention on a minimal footprint, preserving the existing buildings in their current use and structure.

### Social Durability

By leaving the industry a key aspect in the site, an urbanistic development of diversity and communication can be achieved. With further integration of housing options and community spaces inside the building, a lively exchange of people working and living can take place.

### Structural Durability

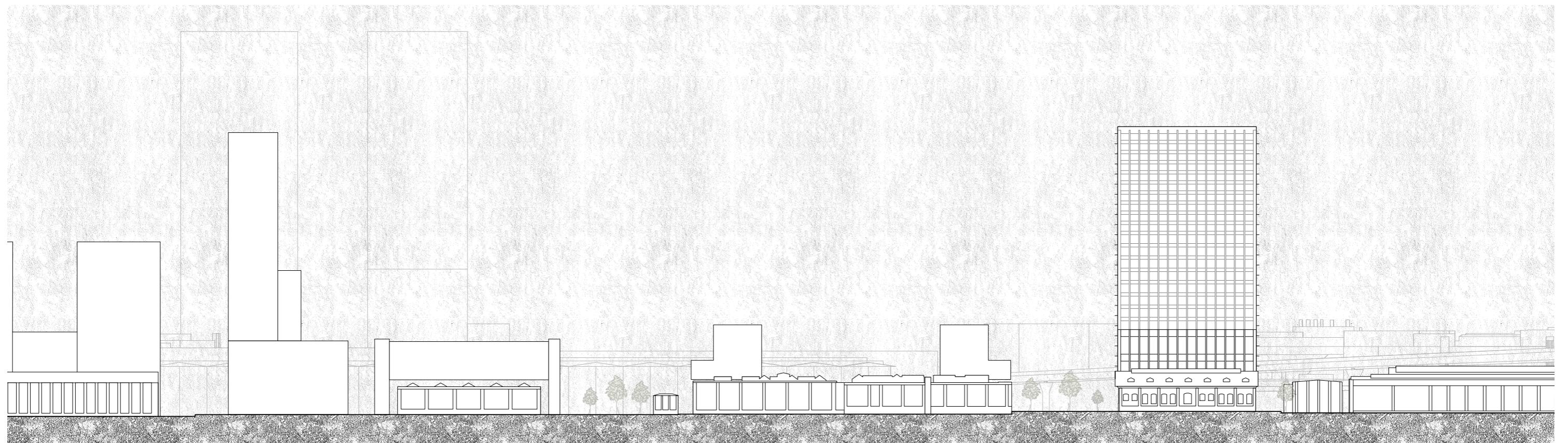
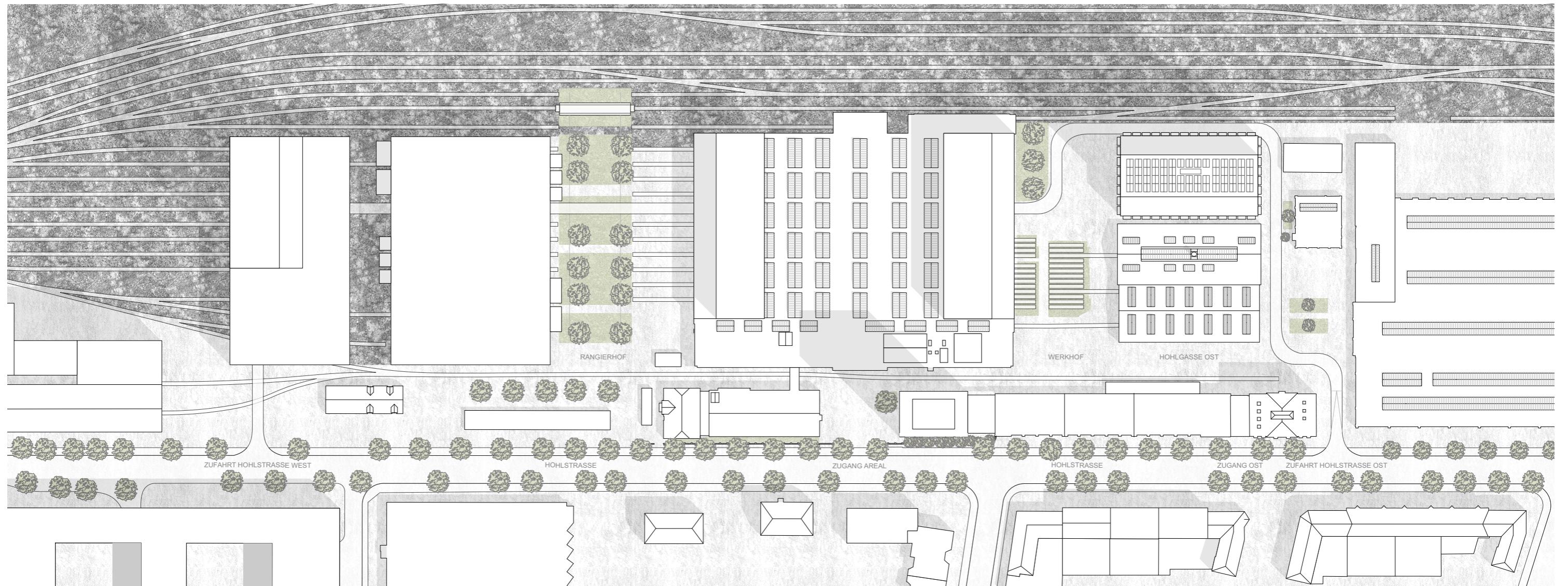
Are the objectives and regulations concerning sustainability in the building industry set by the state able to influence the current architectural practice sufficiently? What is the lifespan of todays buildings and how can their structure be durable not only from an engineer's perspective but in a broader approach?

To find answers to these questions, the Chair of Annette Gigon and Mike Guyer has collaborated with the Block Research Group of the Institute of Technology in Architecture.

With their guidance the Rippmann Floor System RFS was integrated into the project and builds the foundation of this project. Through geometrical optimization and structural separation, a highly modular and resource efficient system can be obtained. Similarly to the RFS, the second structure on the upper floors of the building is completely made out of wood with metal dry connections. Choosing dowel laminated timber floor DLT avoids the use of binding glue that contributes immensely the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of timber construction. By using the two floor systems, around 46 percent of the building's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be saved compared to a more conventional hollow core system. These systems are also highly modular with dry connections only, meaning the assembly and end of life disassembly are possible with minimal energy. This makes the structure adaptable to future changes as it can be used in various programmatic scenarios. Because these systems are not sturdy enough themselves to resist horizontal wind forces, a global structural system of lateral stability is introduced. The so-called outrigger system is located in the upper third of the building and occupies a whole floor. It directs horizontal forces through trusses and a rigid frame to the core of the building. In this manner the concrete core needs less material and can be prefabricated and post tensioned. This results in the benefits of faster installation and a reduction of foundation material. The façade follows a similar logic to the floor system with its highly modular characteristics and can be assembled off site. Through a frame construction each panel can be lifted in place and bolted to the metal connectors in the column head. Each panel can therefore easily be replaced and interchanged with different modules. The hull of the façade consists of large ceramic plates that are attached to the façade element. The use of ceramics is a valuable contribution to the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions when compared to more conventional materials used high-rise buildings such as steel or glass.

### Energy Durability

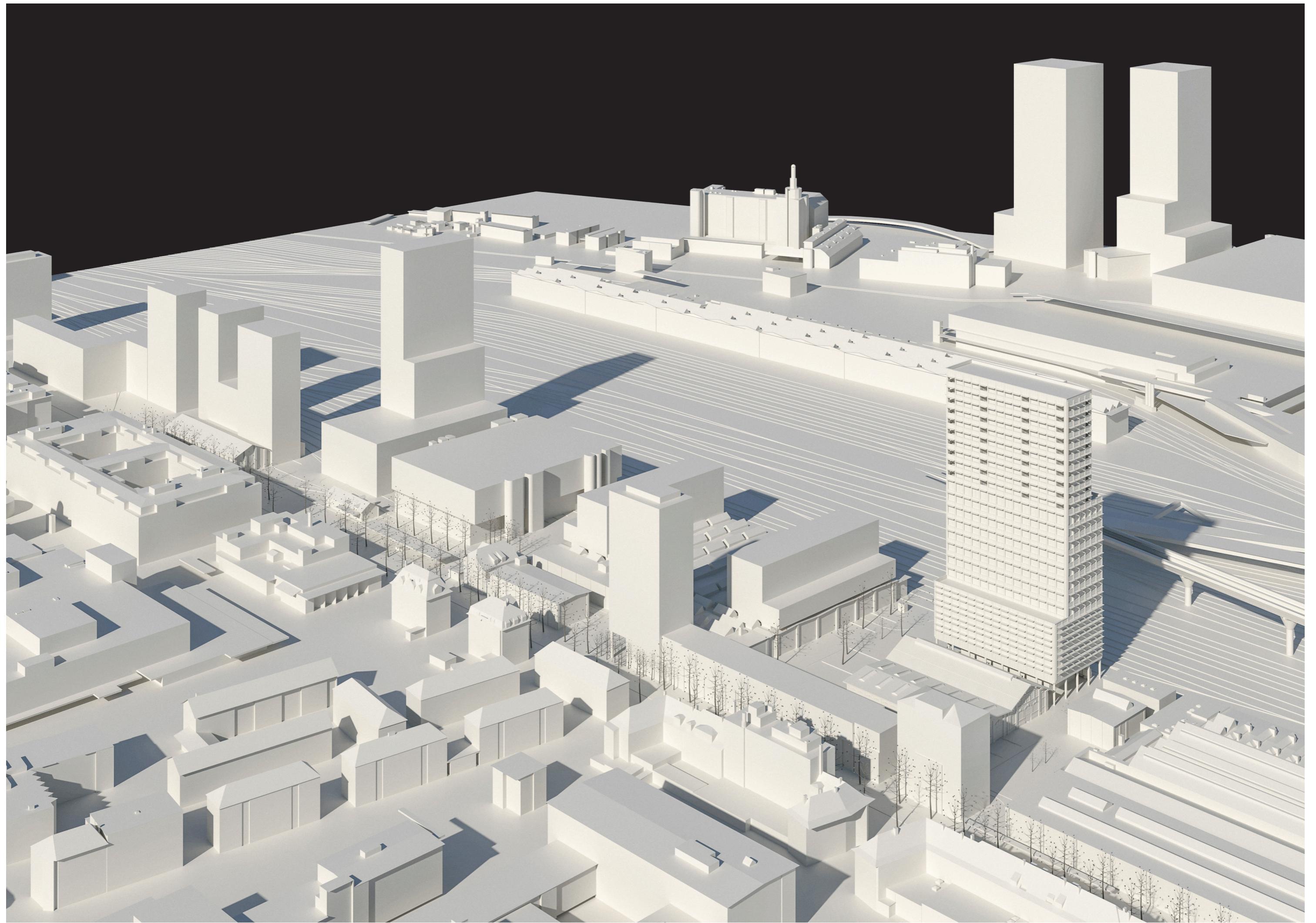
With a predicted continuation of rising energy consumption, the demand for renewable energy is greater than ever. By replacing the existing oil heating plant on the site, it was most reasonable to integrate a hybrid photovoltaic module into the façade. Using horizontal solar panels, the total energy and thermal demand of my building is generated and covered with a surplus of 12% and therefore accomplishes the goal of an energy positive house that can contribute to the neighboring buildings needs. In addition, the panels serve as a brise soleil that provide shade during summer and keep the building from overheating.



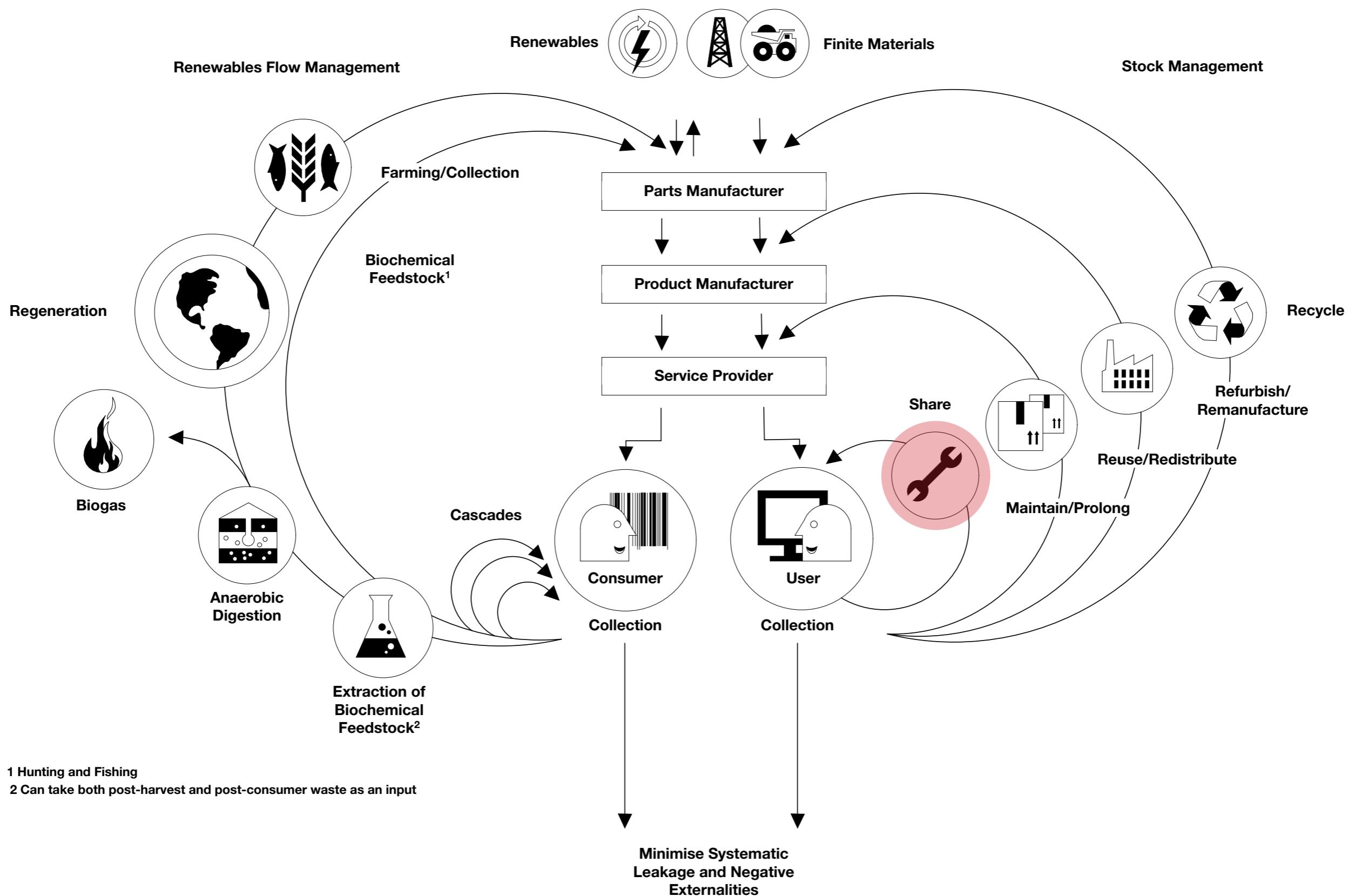
Situationsplan Areal

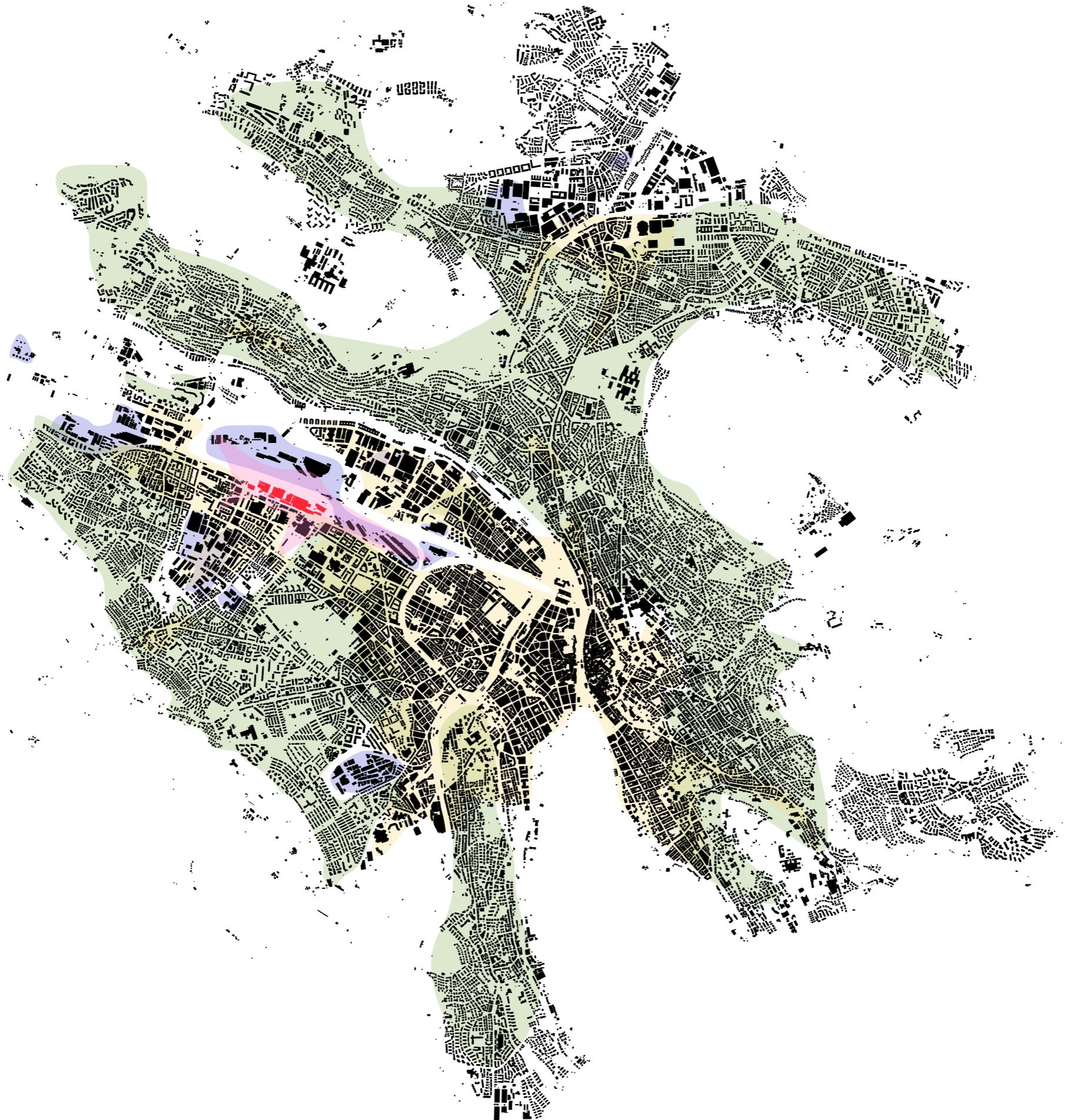


Situation Werkstadt Zürich



Situationsmodell





## Dowel Laminated Timber DLT



### Engineered Timber-only Products

Nr. of operations required (energy) / Separability (decreases) / Chemicalia involved (recyclability) / Price / Availability (decreases)



D



SAWN  
TIMBER



NAIL  
LAMINATED  
TIMBER  
(DLT)



GLUE  
LAMINATED  
TIMBER  
(GLT)

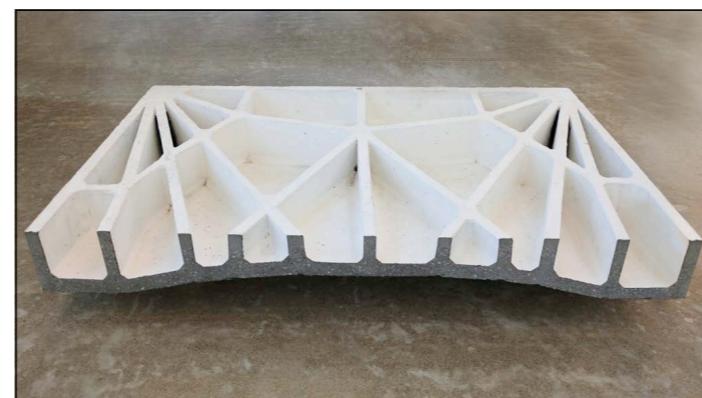
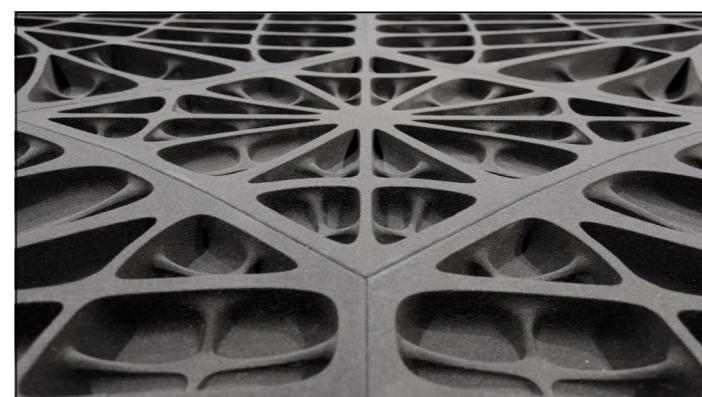
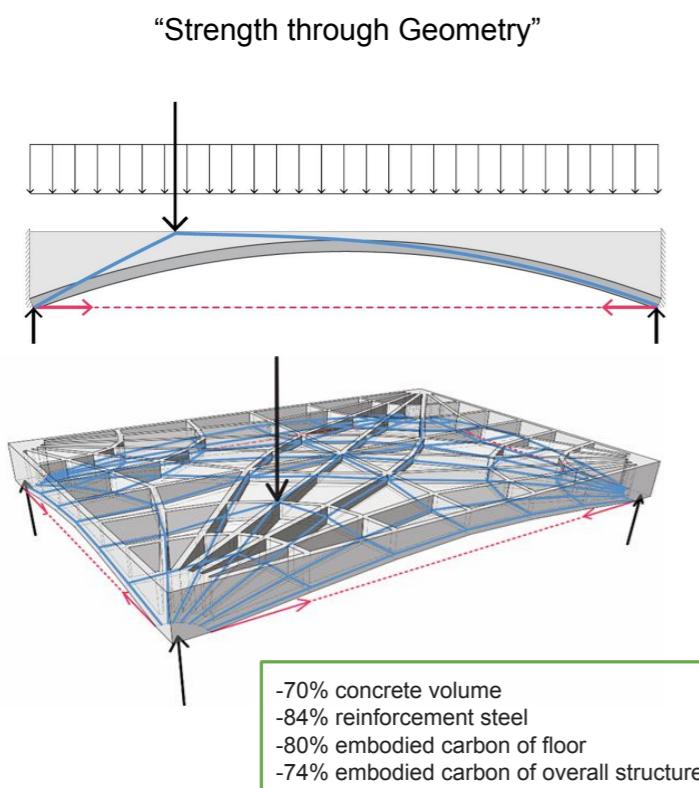


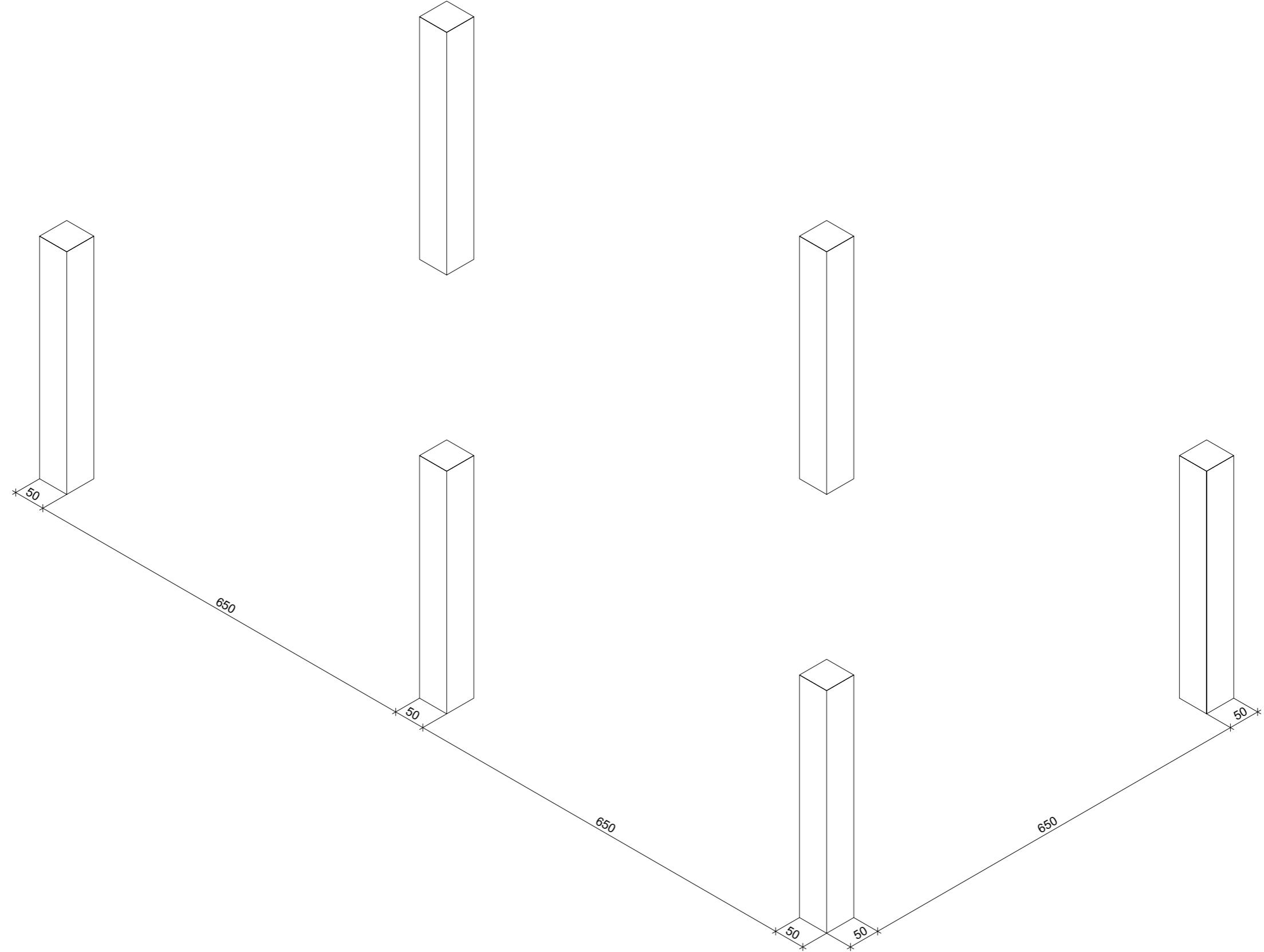
CROSS  
LAMINATED  
TIMBER  
(CLT)



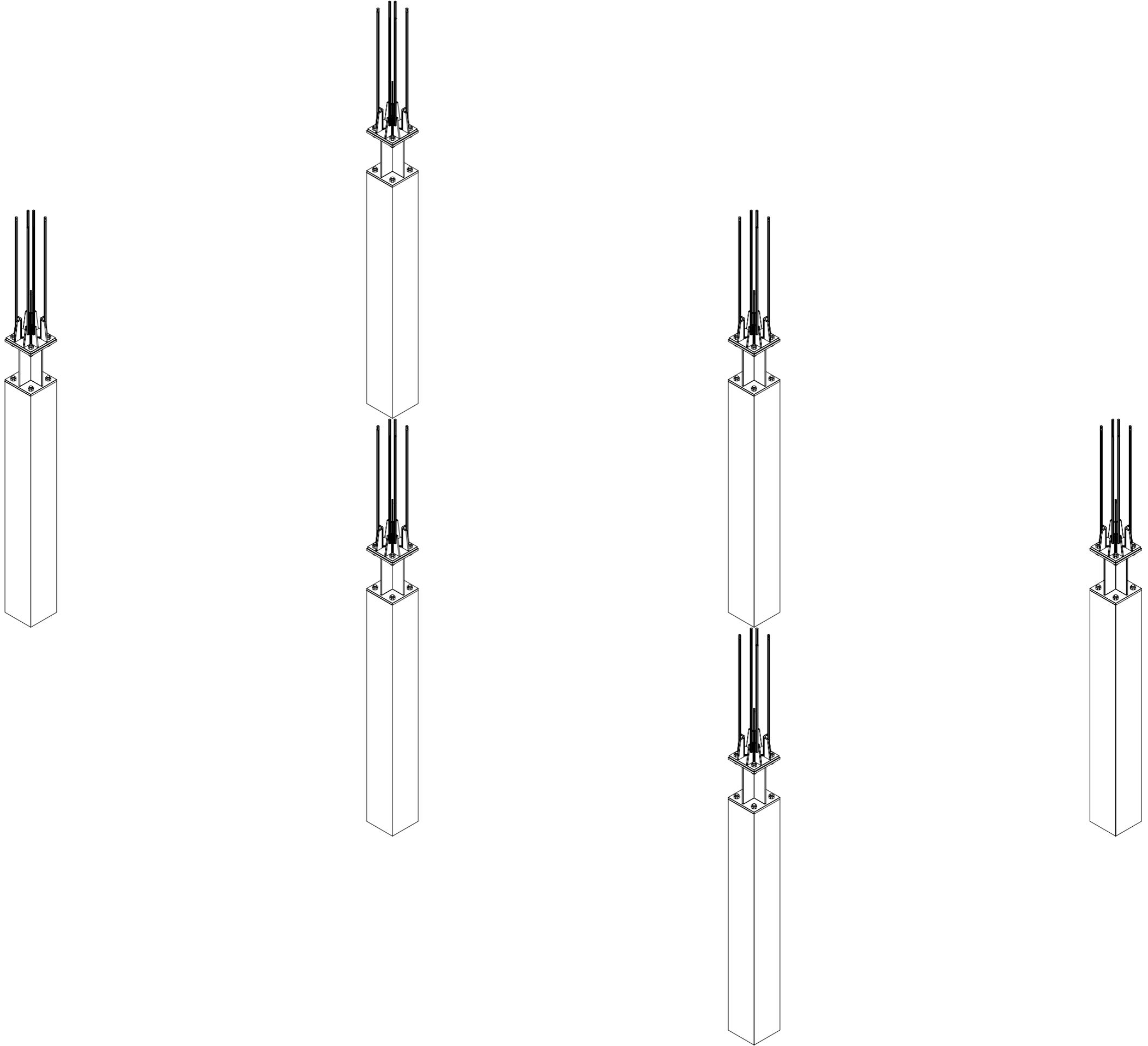
LAMINATED  
VENEER  
LUMBER  
(LVL)

## Rippman Floor System RFS

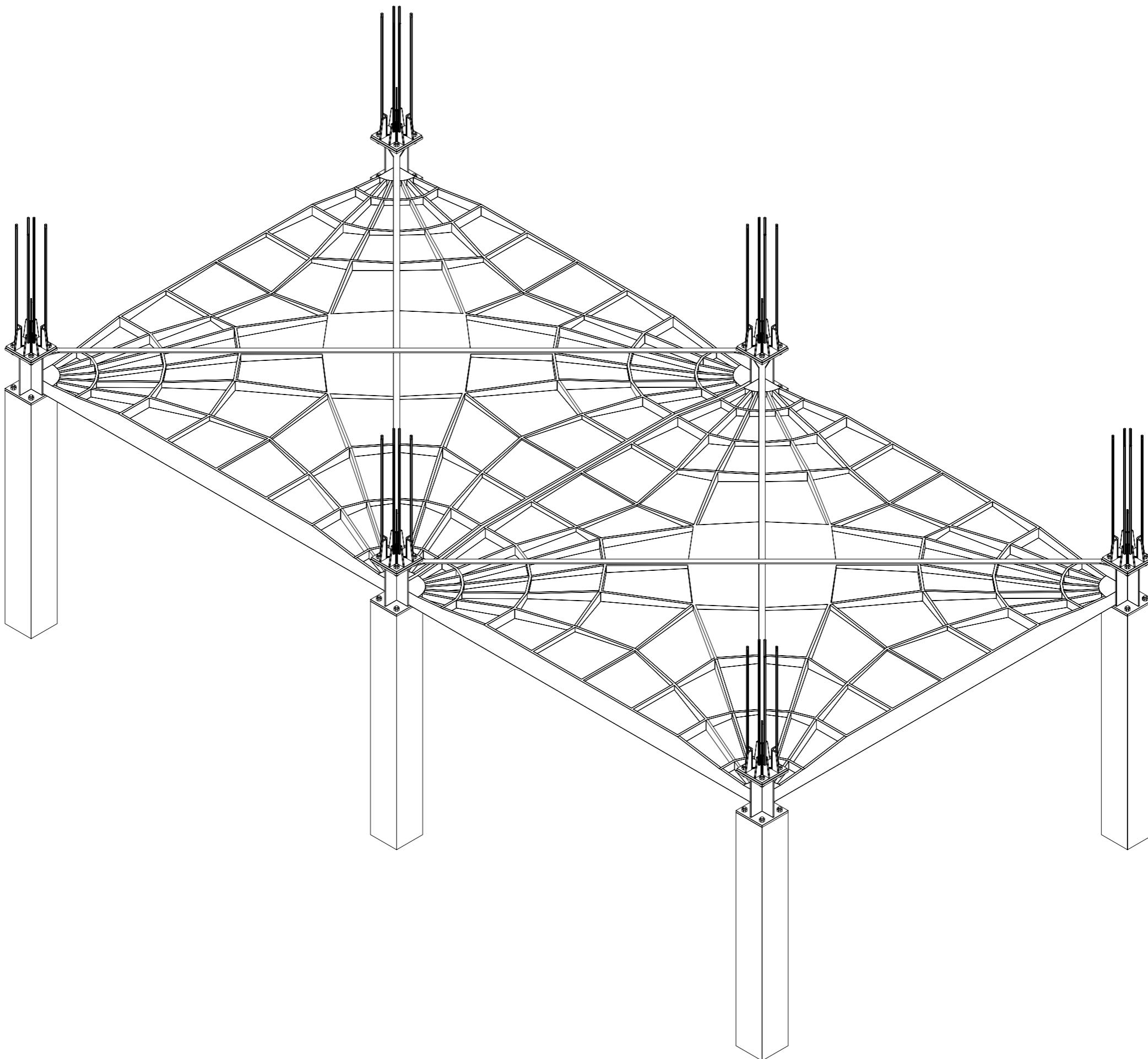




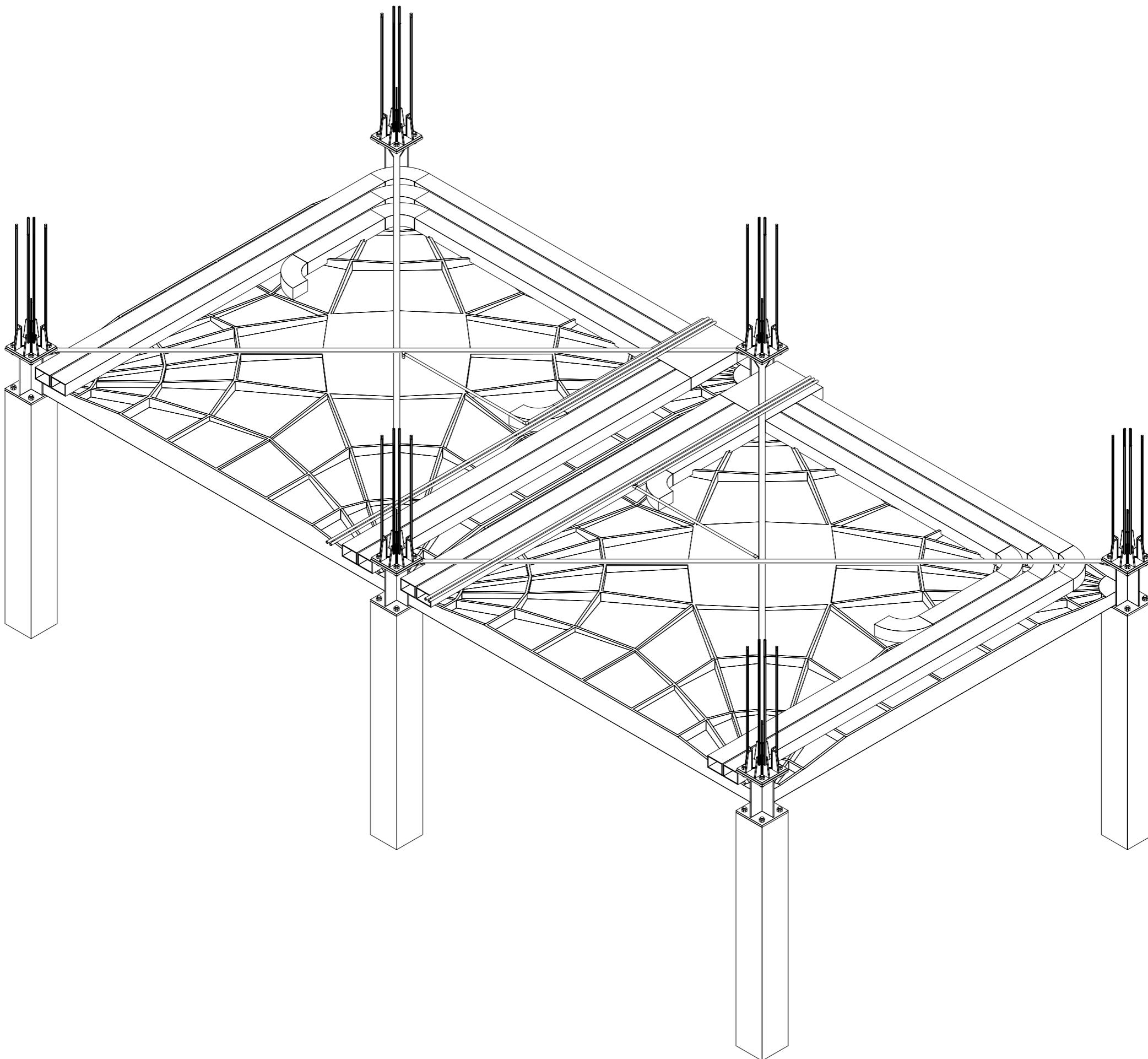
Axonometrie Deckensystem RFS



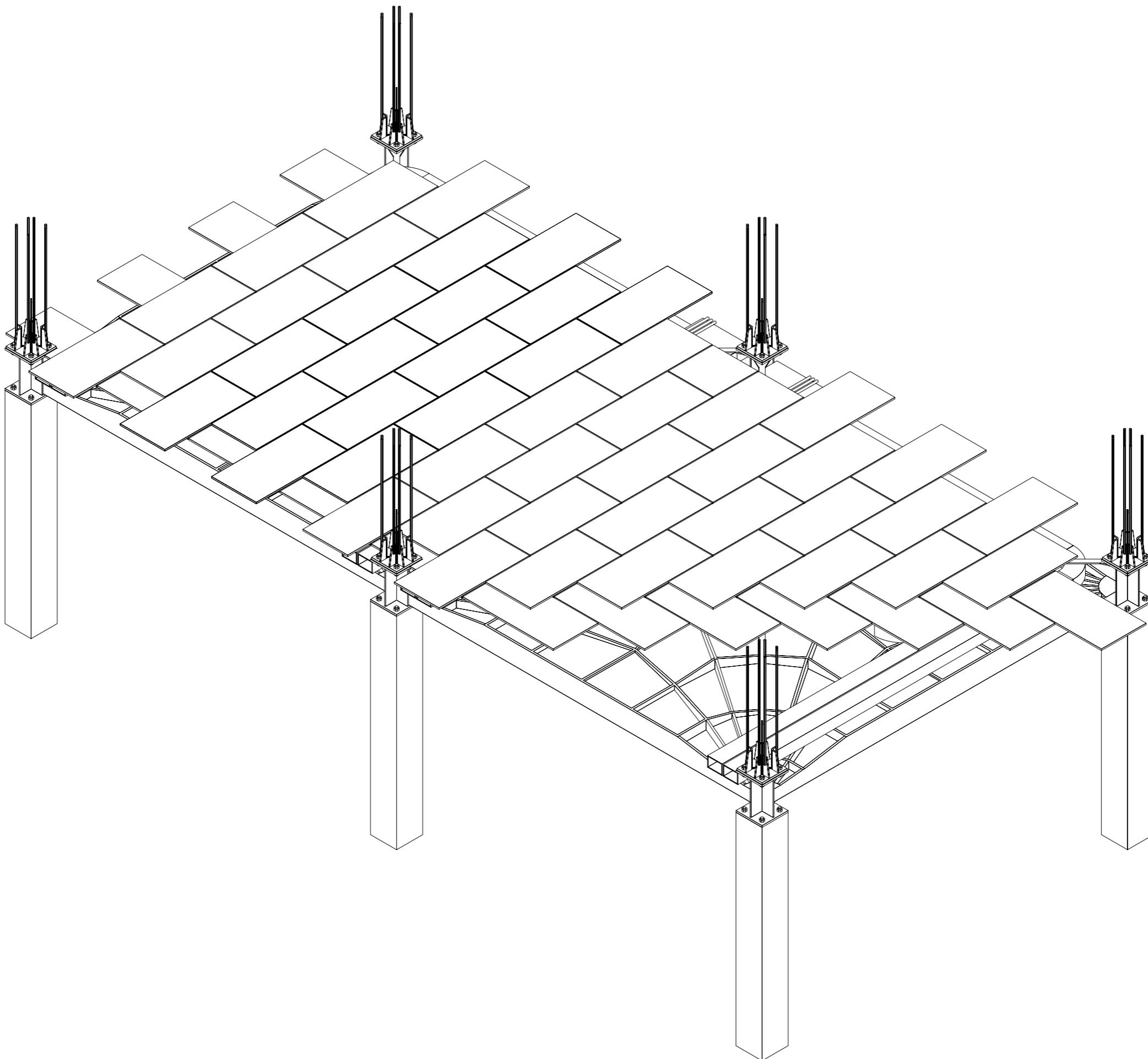
Axonometrie Deckensystem RFS



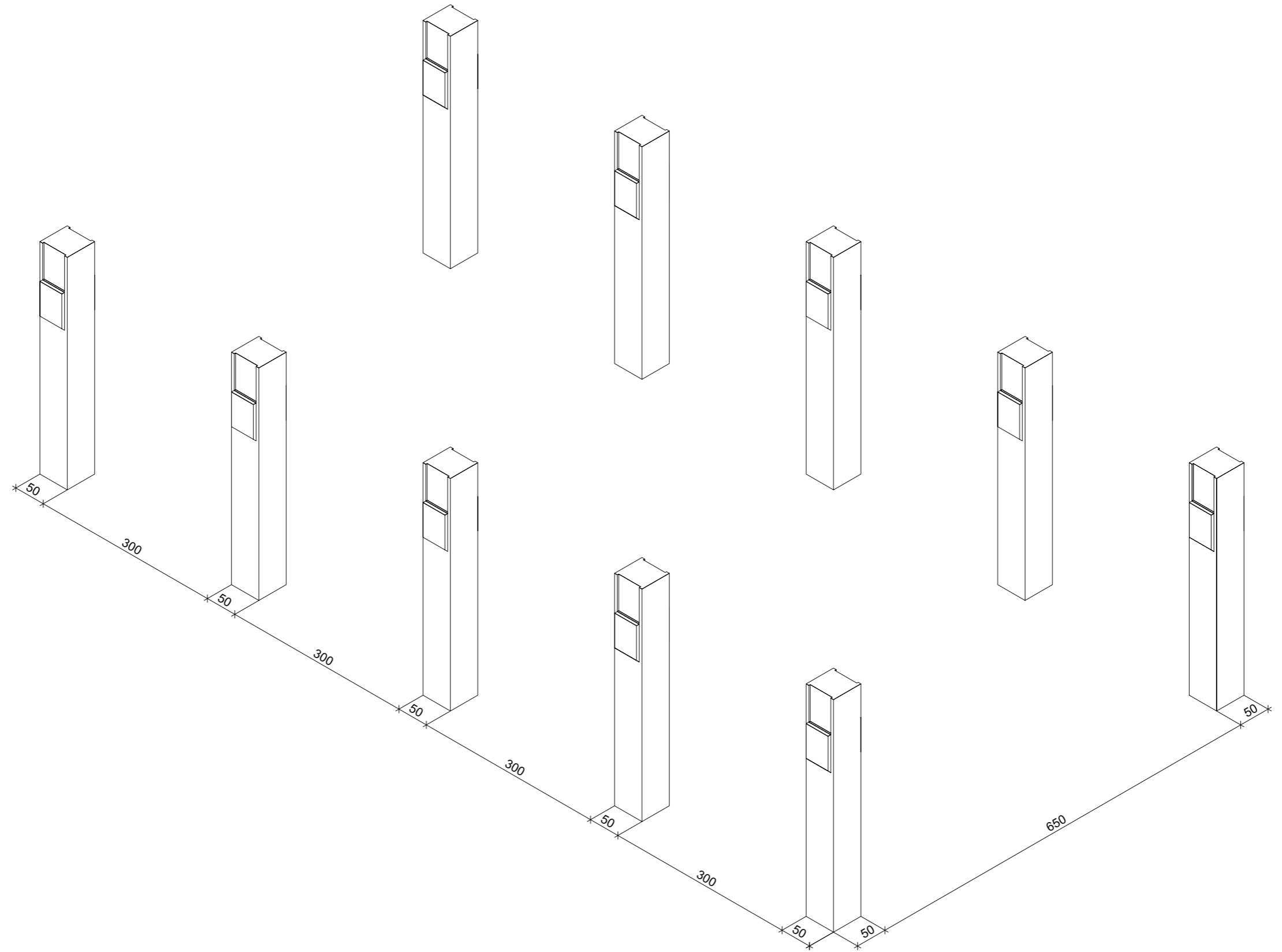
Axonometrie Deckensystem RFS



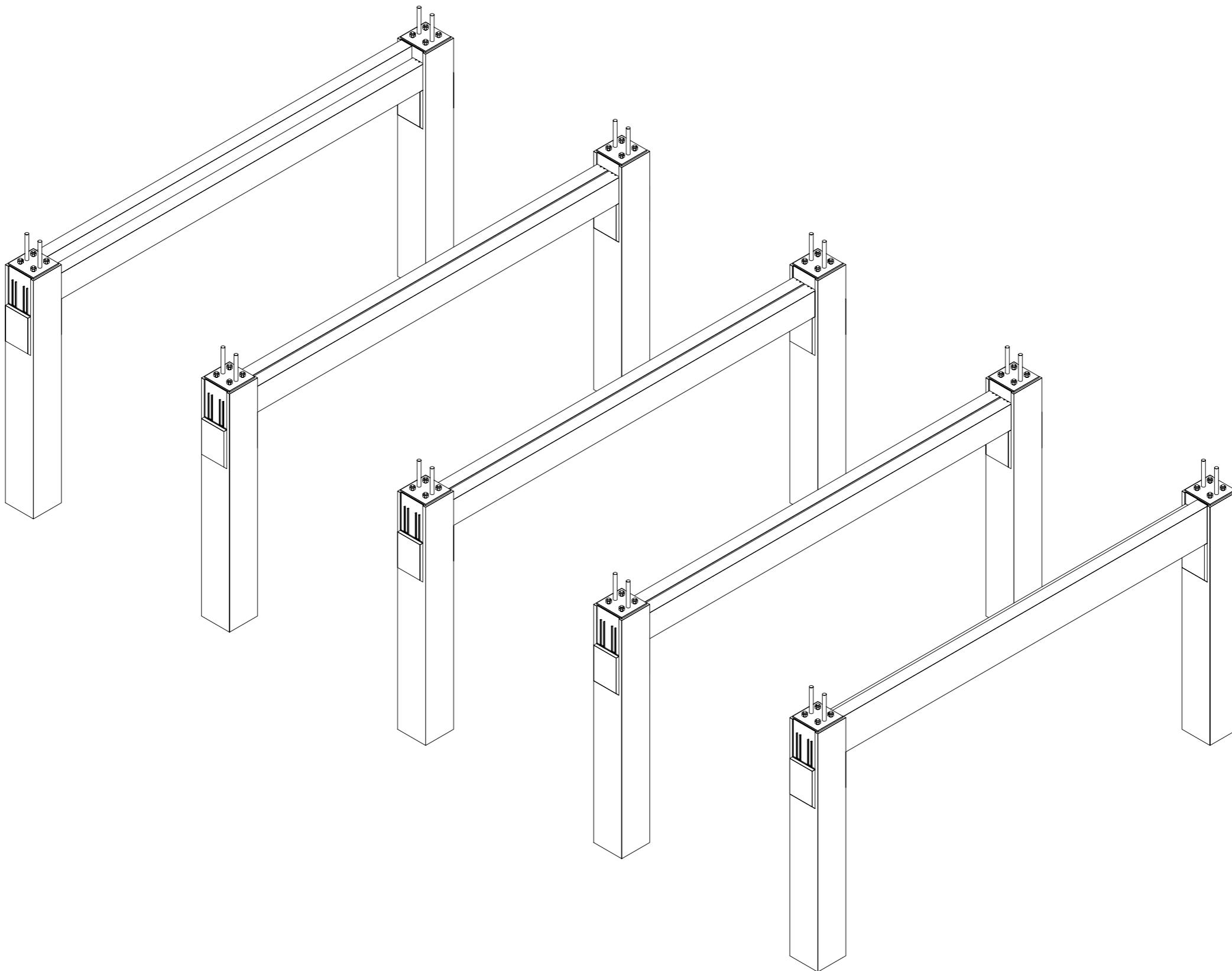
Axonometrie Deckensystem RFS



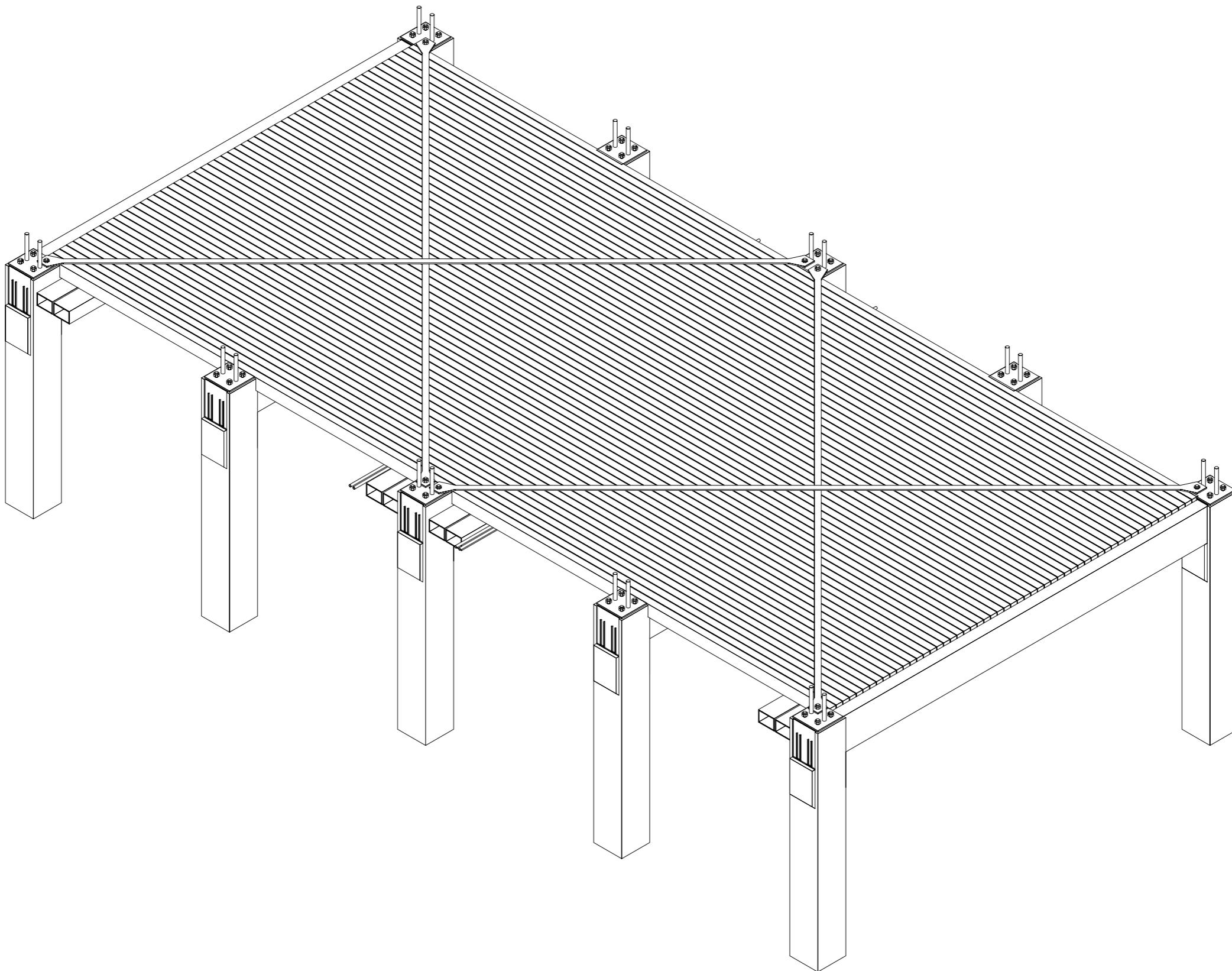
Axonometrie Deckensystem RFS



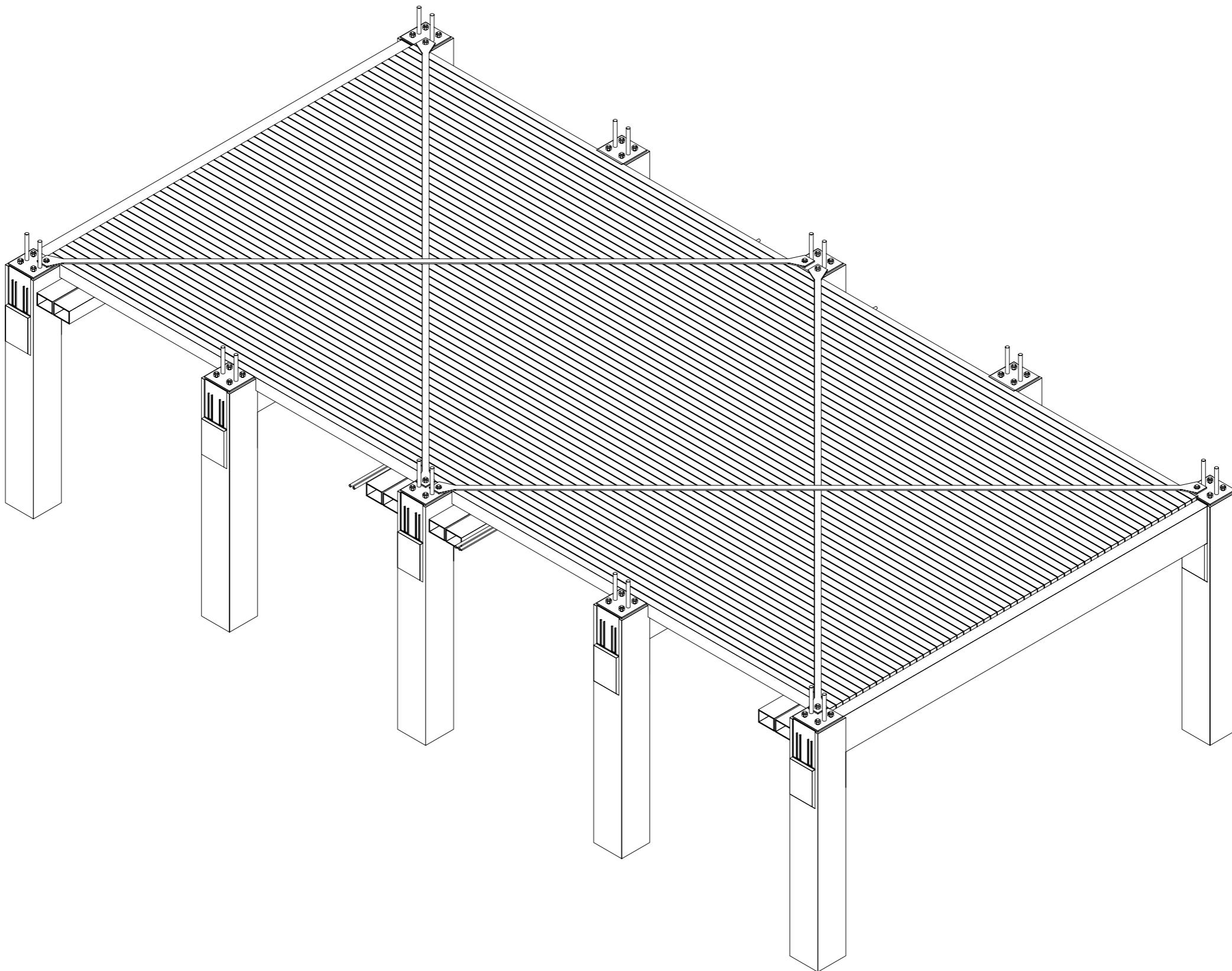
Axonometrie Deckensystem DLT



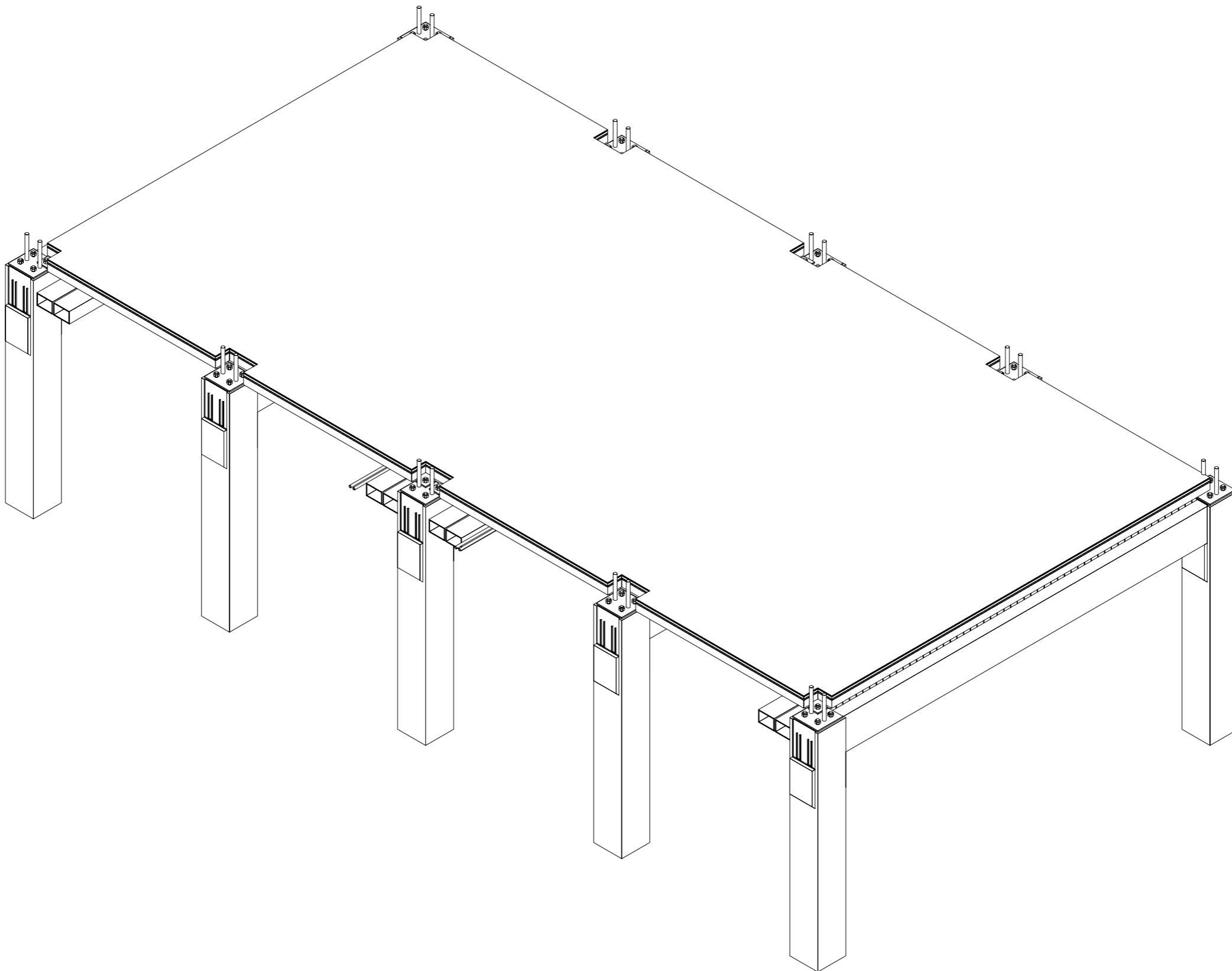
Axonometrie Deckensystem DLT



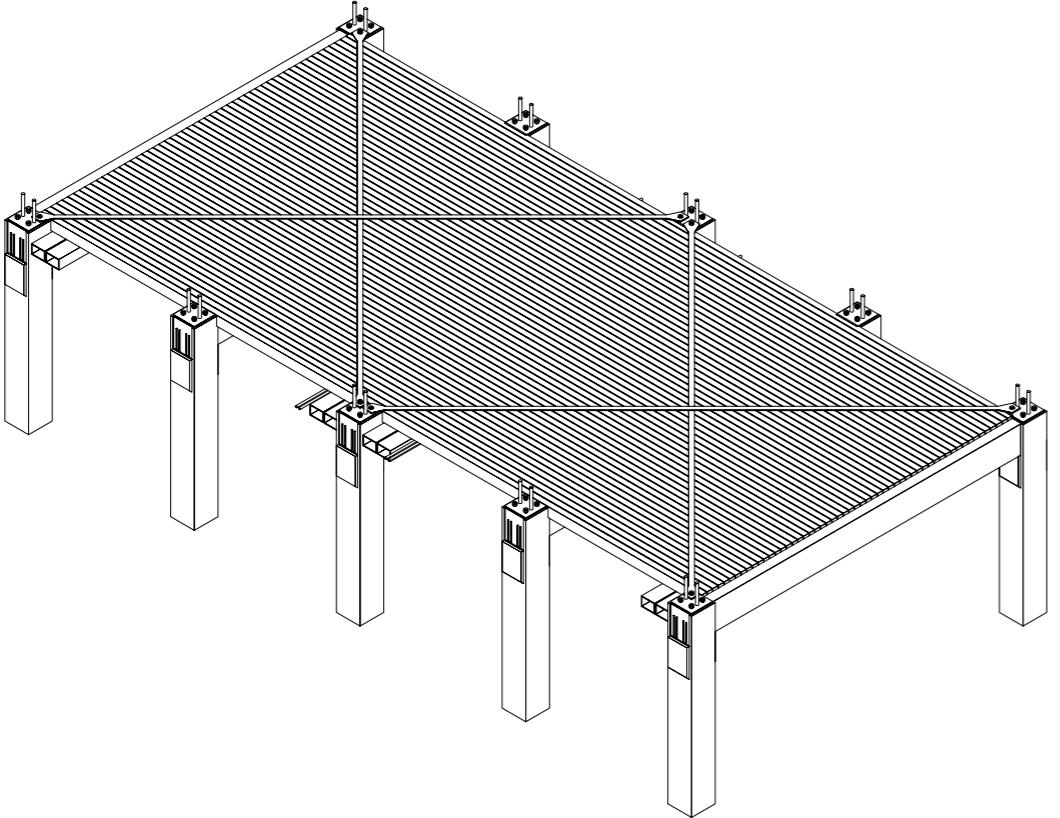
Axonometrie Deckensystem DLT



Axonometrie Deckensystem DLT

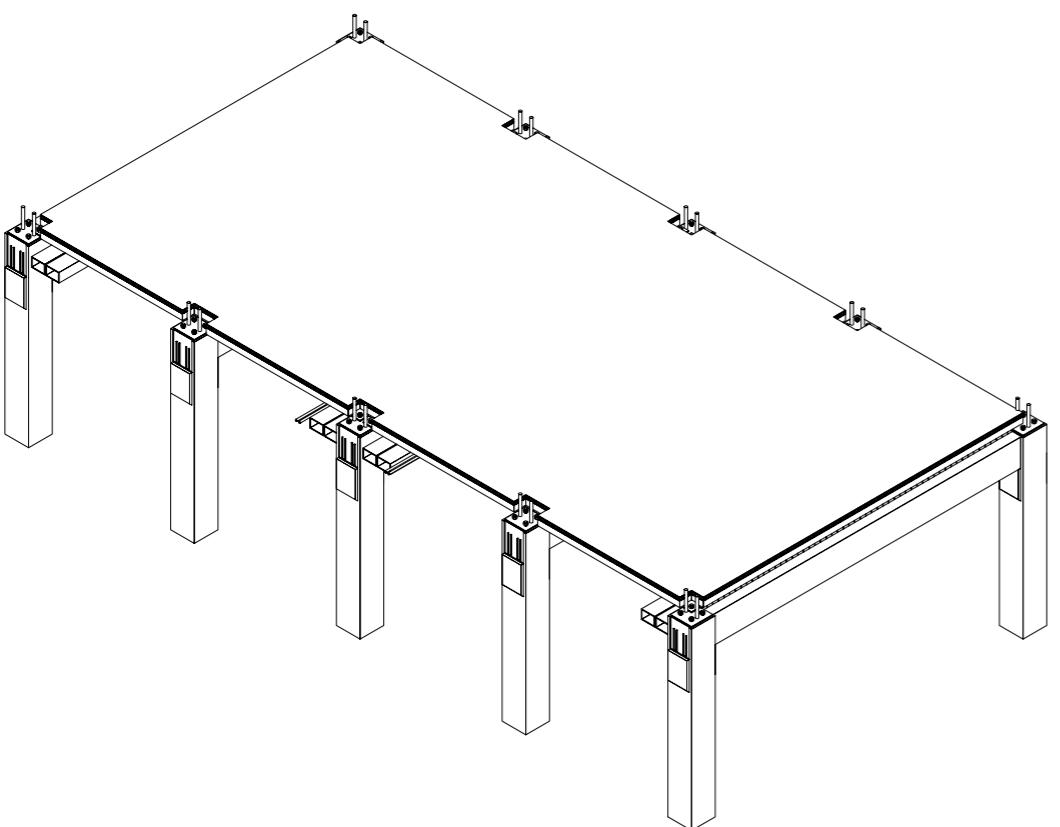


Axonometrie Deckensystem DLT



Material	RFS Gewerbe 700 x 700			Total
	RFS Beton	RFS Stahl		
Materialstärke				
Rohdichte kg/m³		7850		
Rohdichte kg/m²	280	19.7		299.7
Treibhausgasemission kg CO₂-eq		0.734		
Treibhausgasemission kg CO₂-eq/m²	18	14.46		32.5
Anteil von Total	55%	45%		100%
Gewicht pro Geschoss t	288.12	20.2713		308.4
Geschossfläche	1029	1029		
Anzahl Geschosse	12	12		
Total Gewicht t	3457	243		3701
Total CO₂ t	222	179		401

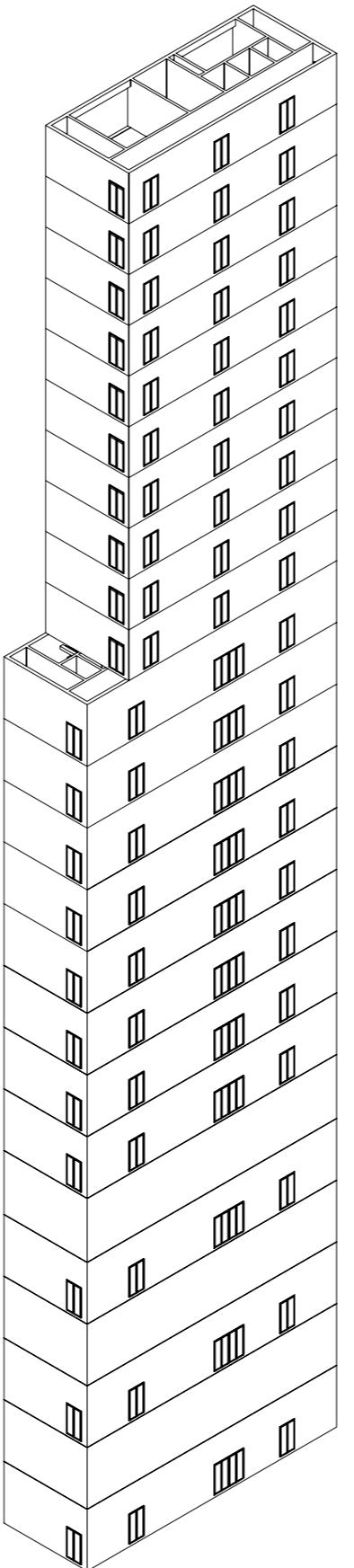
Vergleich			
Hollow Core Gewerbe 700x 700			
HC Deckenelement	Träger	Metallkreuz	Total
0.25	0.6	0.02	
2500	2500	7850	
286	64.75	4.5	355.25
0.172	0.172	0.734	
49.19	11.14	3.30	63.6
77%	18%	5%	100%
294.3	66.6	4.6	365.6
1029	1029	1029	
12	12	12	
3532	800	56	4387
607	138	41	786
			119% 196%



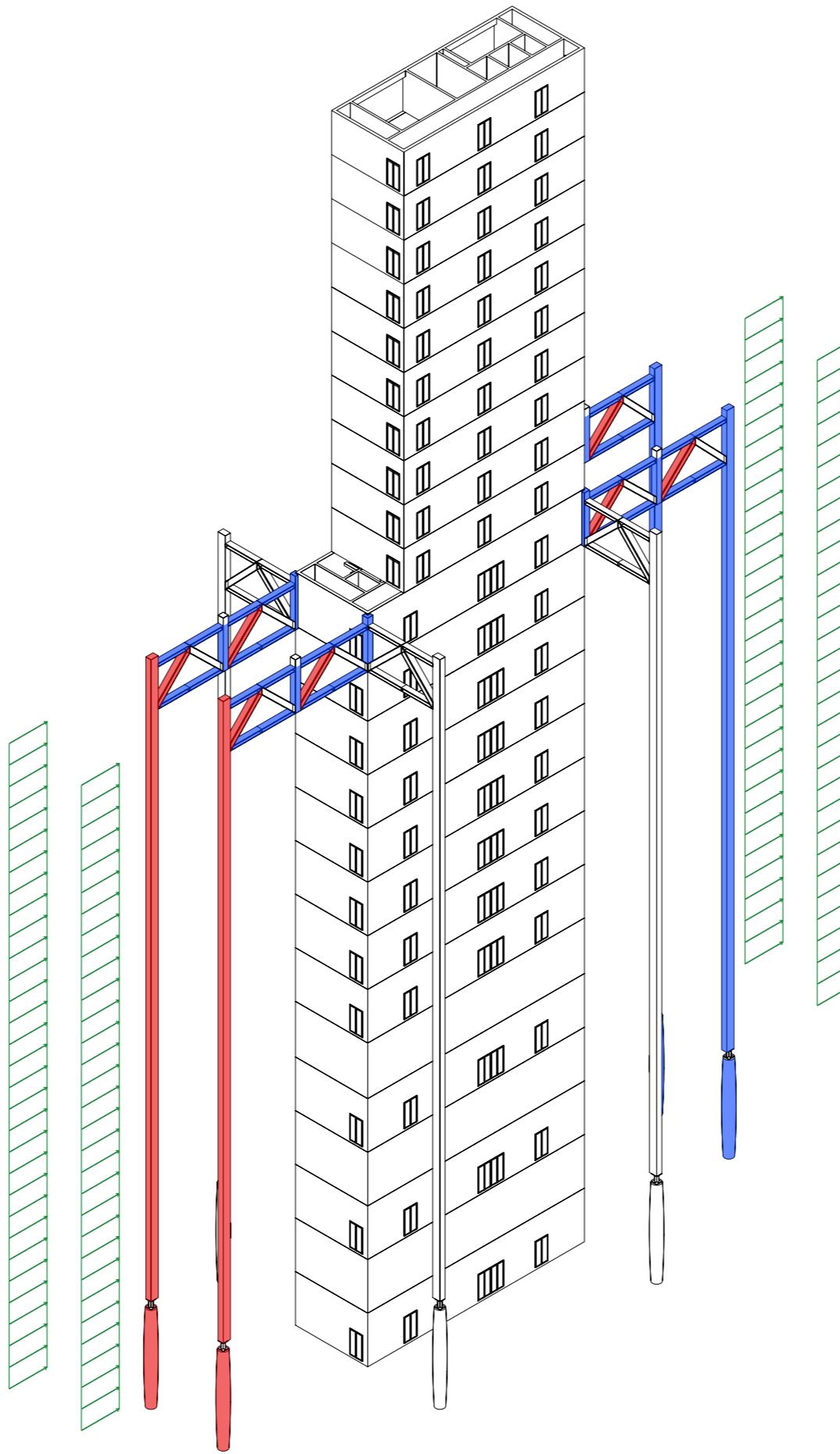
Material	DLT Wohnen 700 x 350				Total
	DLT Deckenelement	Träger BSH	Metallknoten	Metallkreuz	
Materialstärke	0.2	0.4		0.02	
Rohdichte kg/m³	470	465	7850	7850	
Rohdichte kg/m²	81	25	6.5	4	116.5
Treibhausgasemission kg CO₂-eq	0.143	0.446	0.734	0.734	
Treibhausgasemission kg CO₂-eq/m²	11.58	11.15	4.77	2.94	30.4
Anteil von Total	38%	37%	16%	10%	100%
Gewicht pro Geschoss t	54.1	16.7	4.3	2.7	77.8
Geschossfläche	668	668	668	668	
Anzahl Geschosse	9	9	9	9	
Total Gewicht t	487	150	39	24	700
Total CO₂ t	70	67	29	18	183

Vergleich			
Hollow Core Wohnen 700 x 350			
HC Deckenelement	Träger	Metallkreuz	Total
0.15	0.6	0.02	
2500	2500	7850	
176	117	4	297
0.172	0.172	0.734	
30.27	20.12	2.94	53.3
57%	38%	6%	100%
117.6	78.2	2.7	198.4
668	668	668	
9	9	9	
1058	703	24	1786
182	121	18	321
			255% 175%

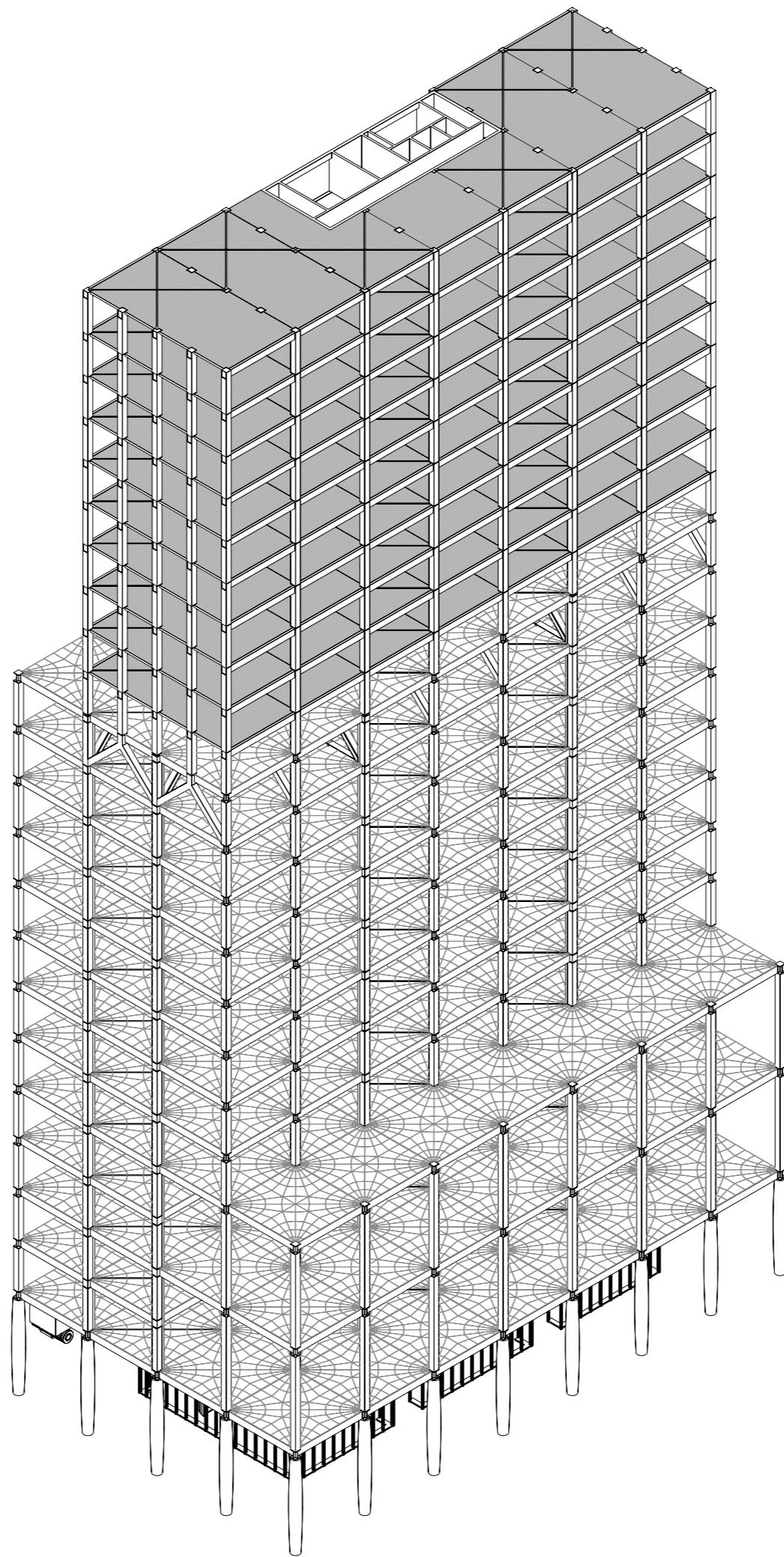
Axonometrie Deckensystem RFS / DLT



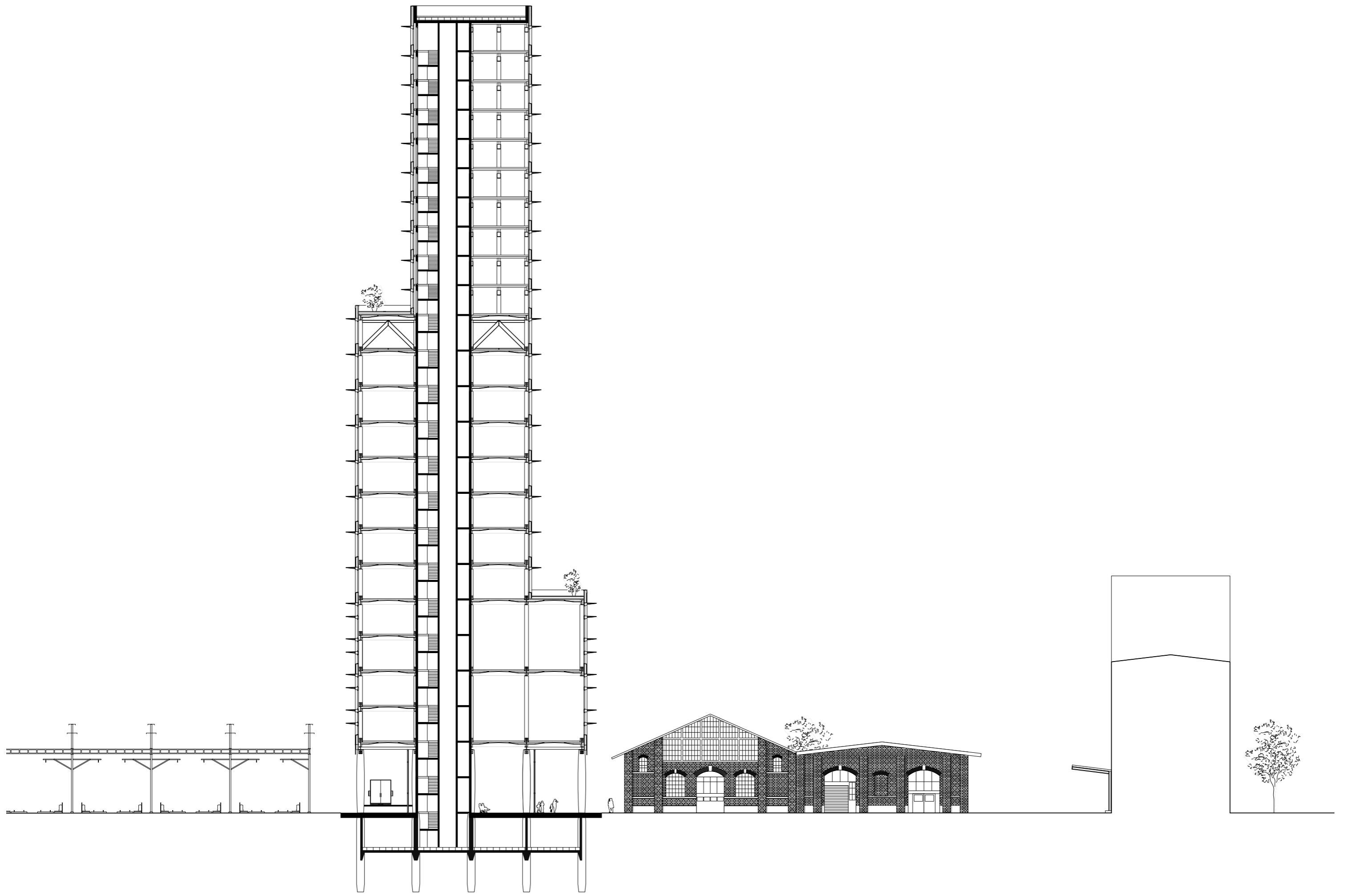
Axonometrie Kern



Axonometrie Outrigger System

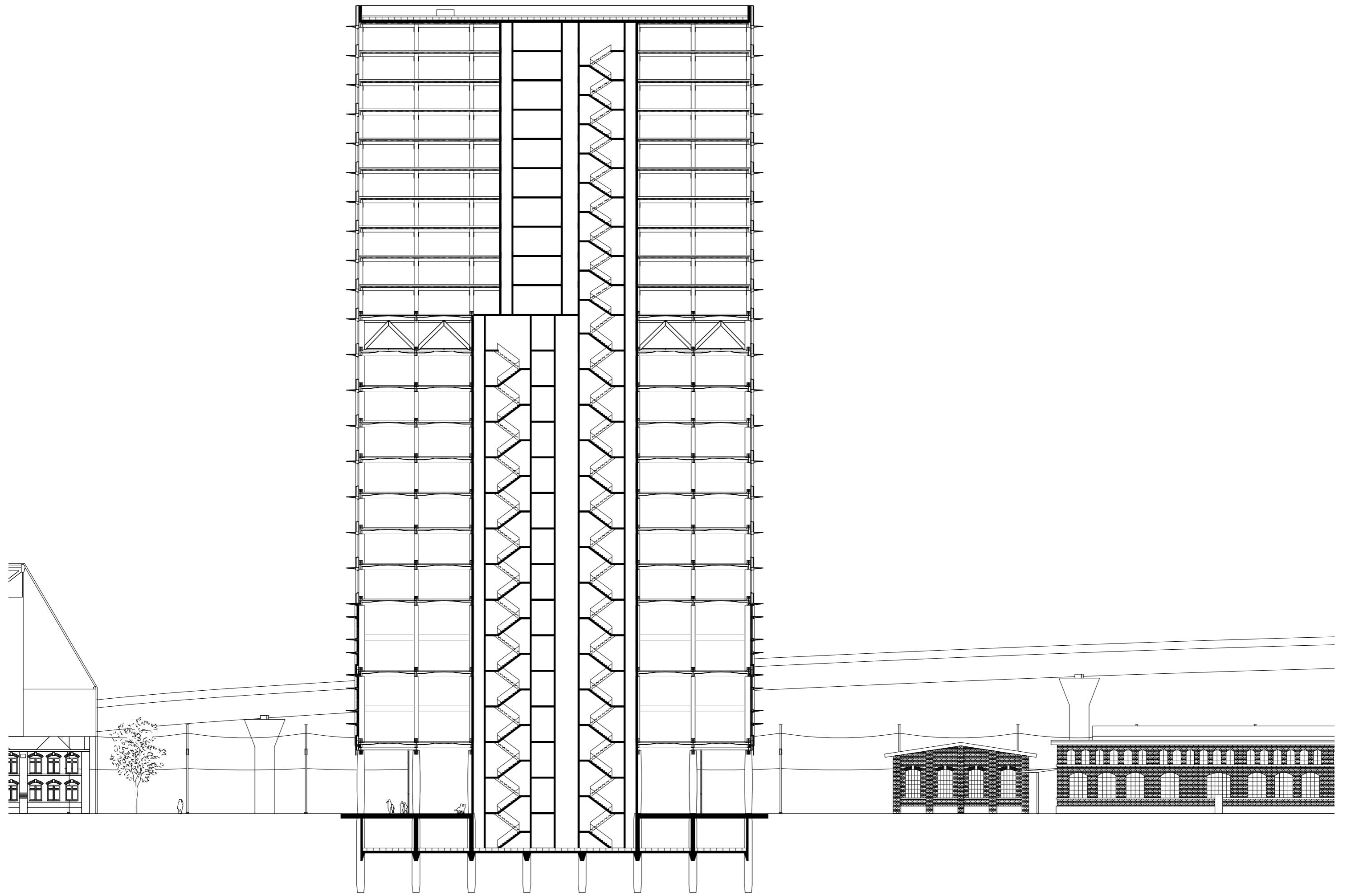


Axonometrie Tragwerk



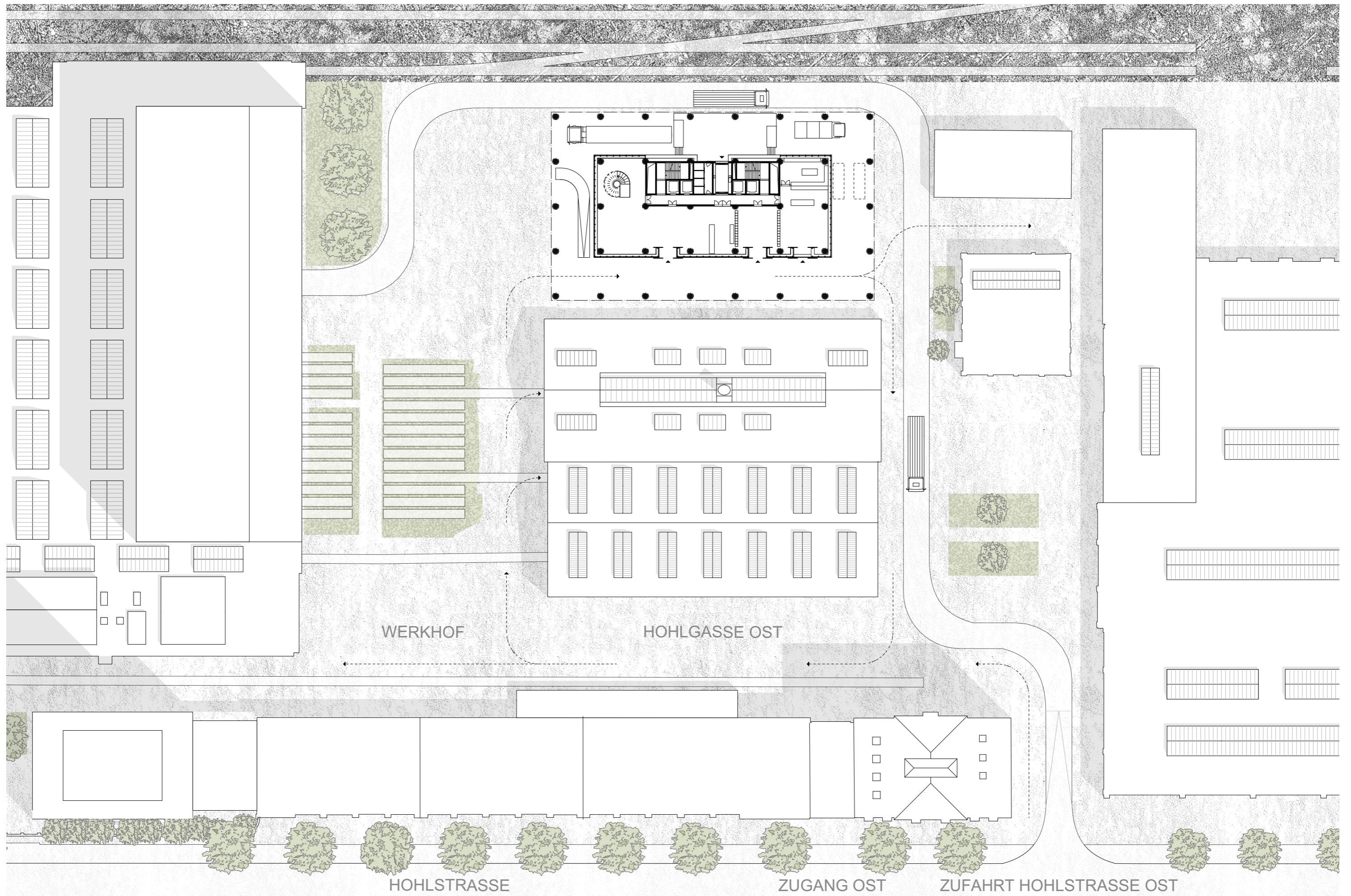
Querschnitt

0 10 30

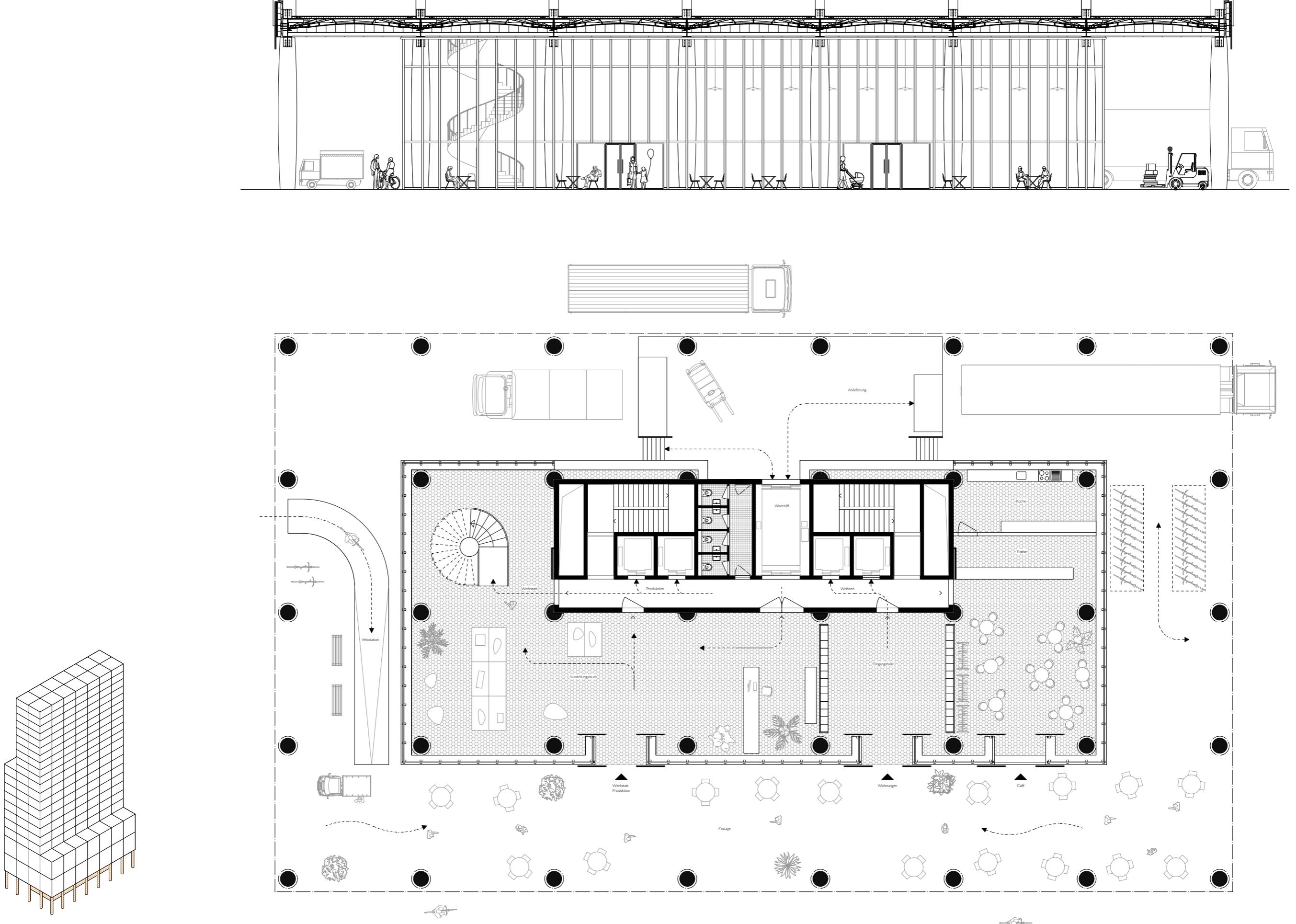


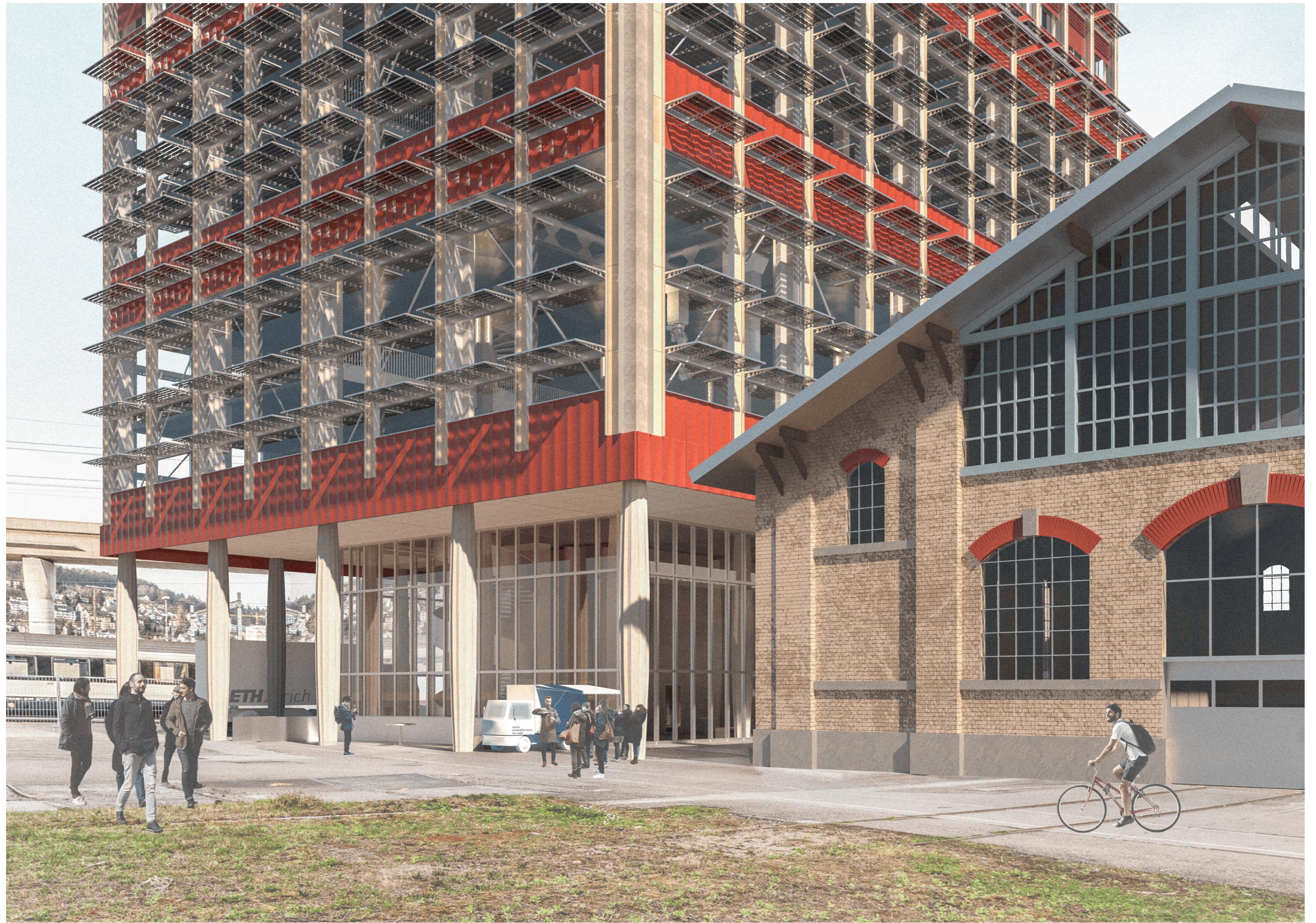
Längsschnitt

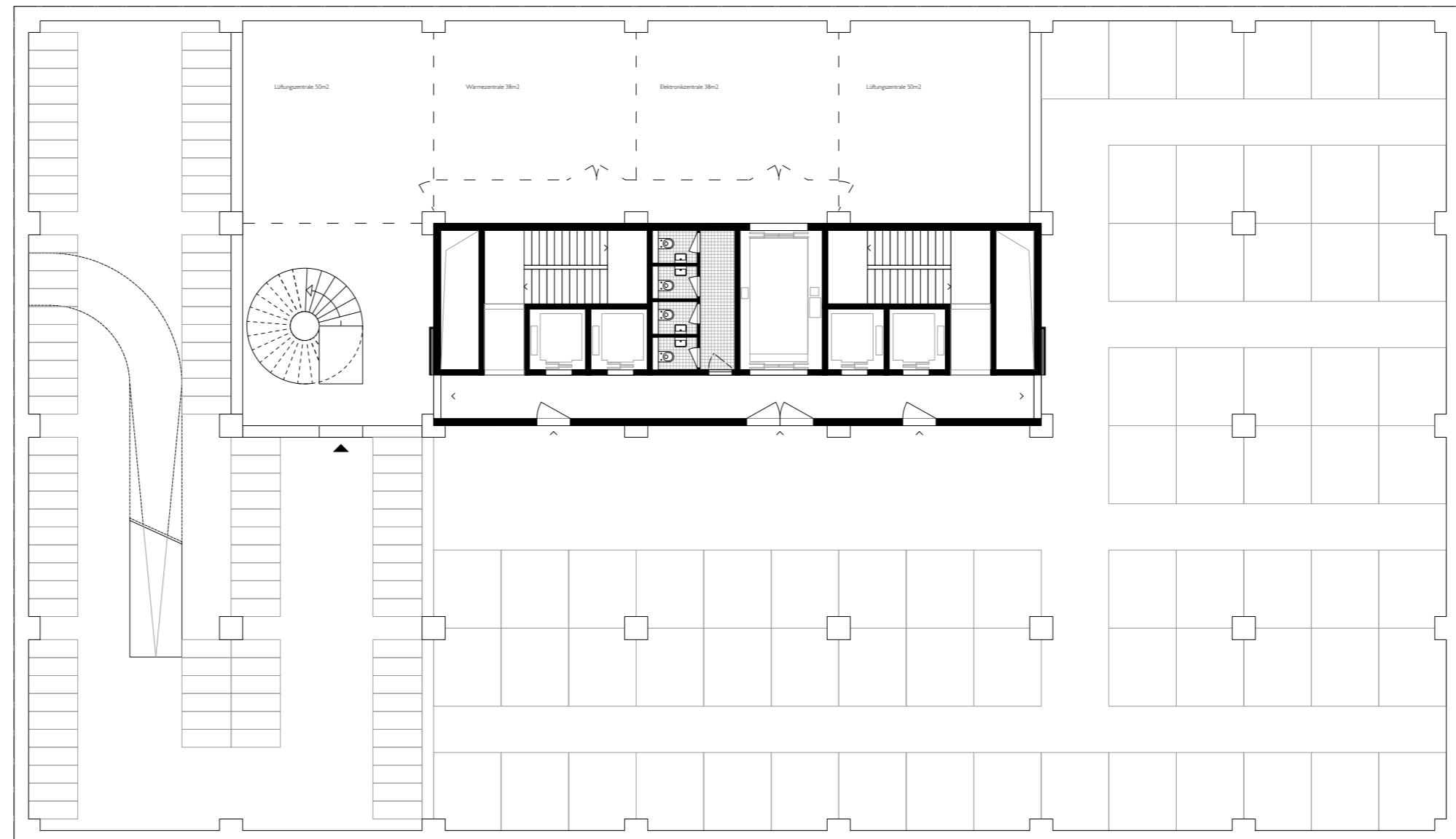
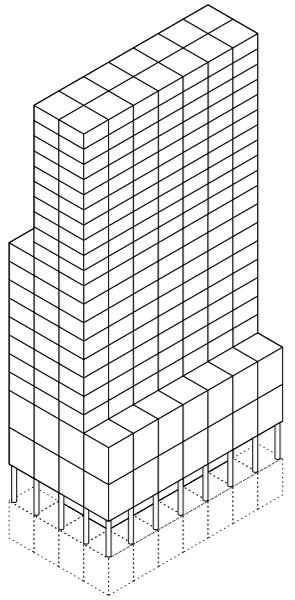
0 10 30



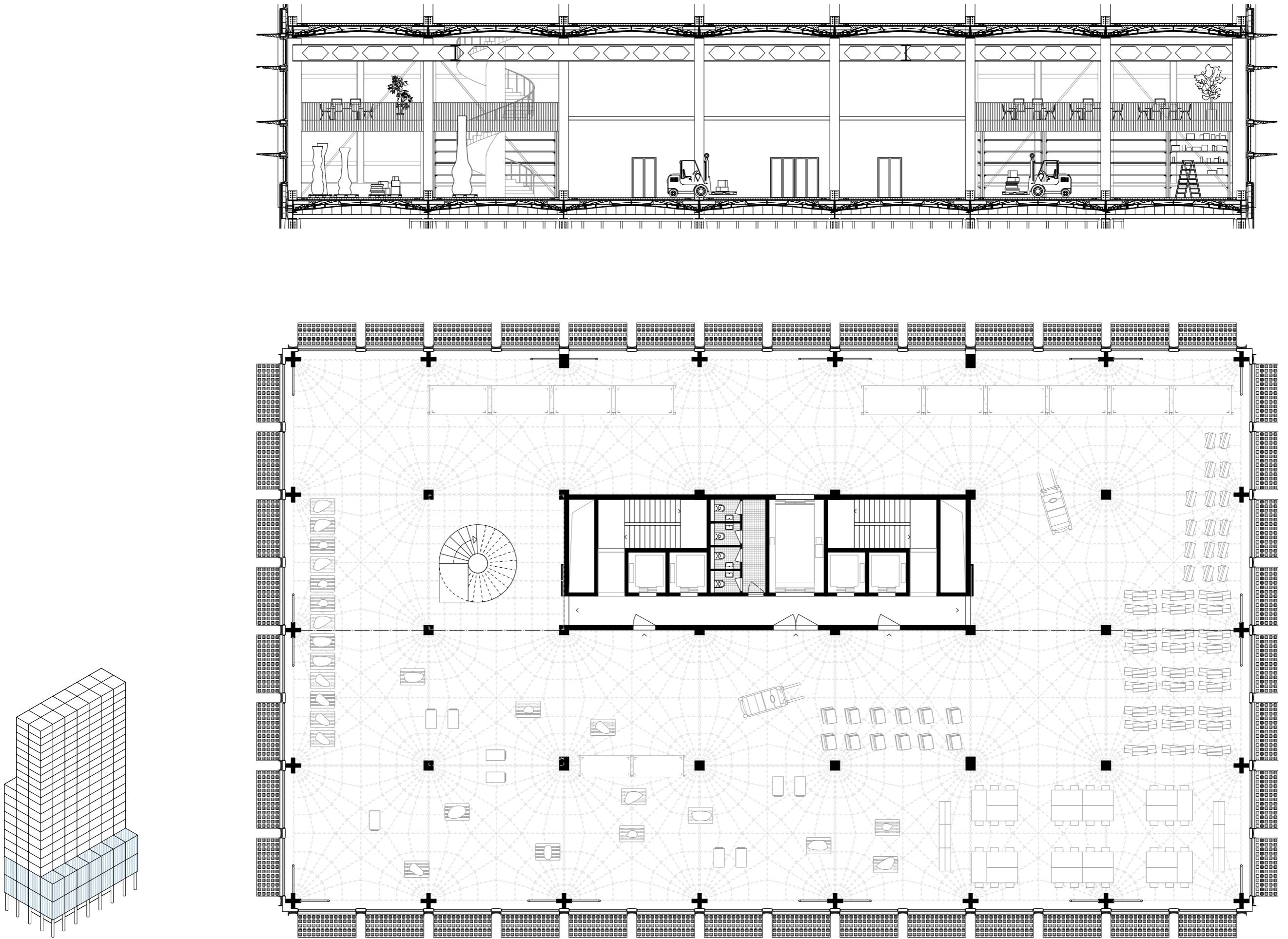
Situationsplan





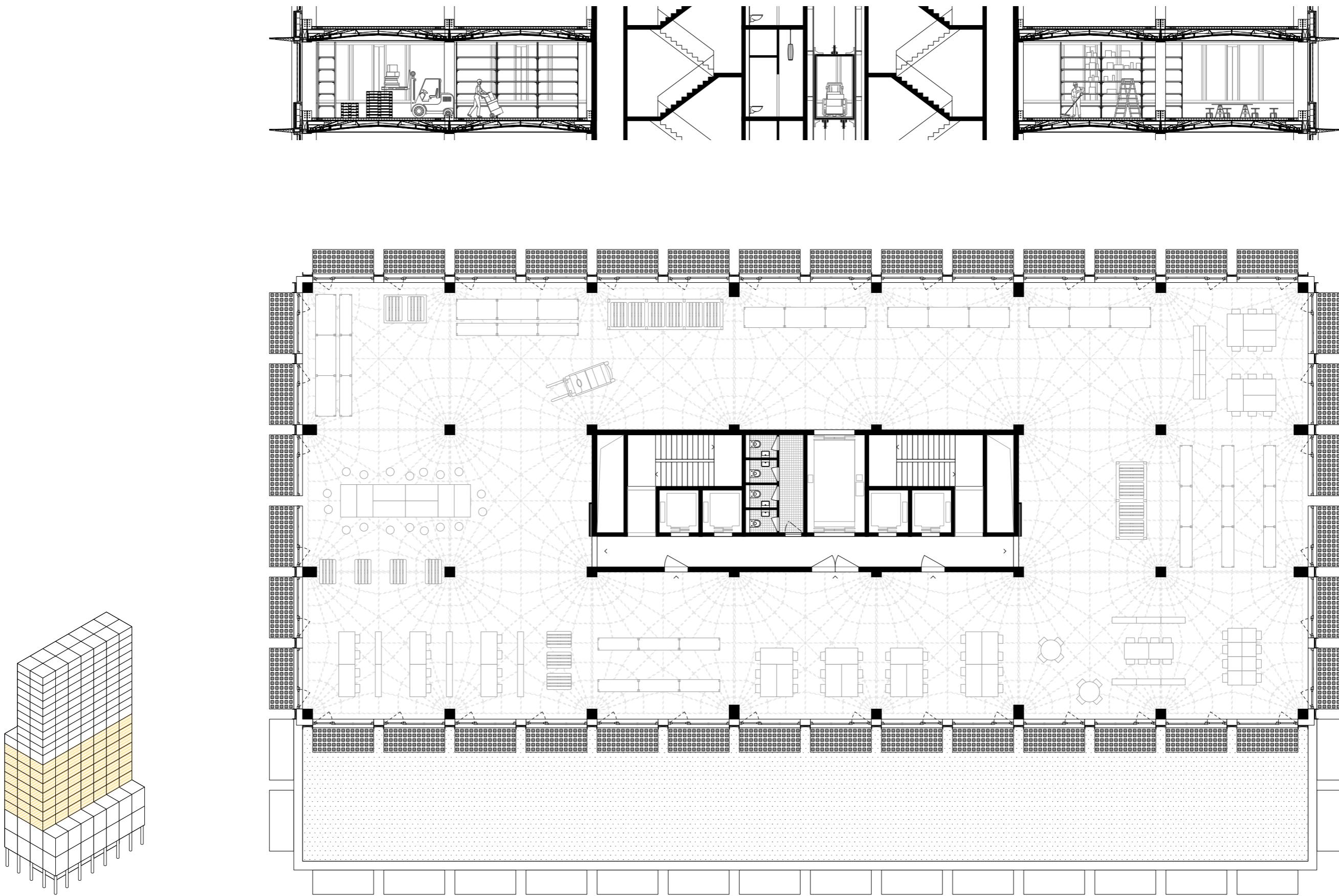


Grundriss Untergeschoss

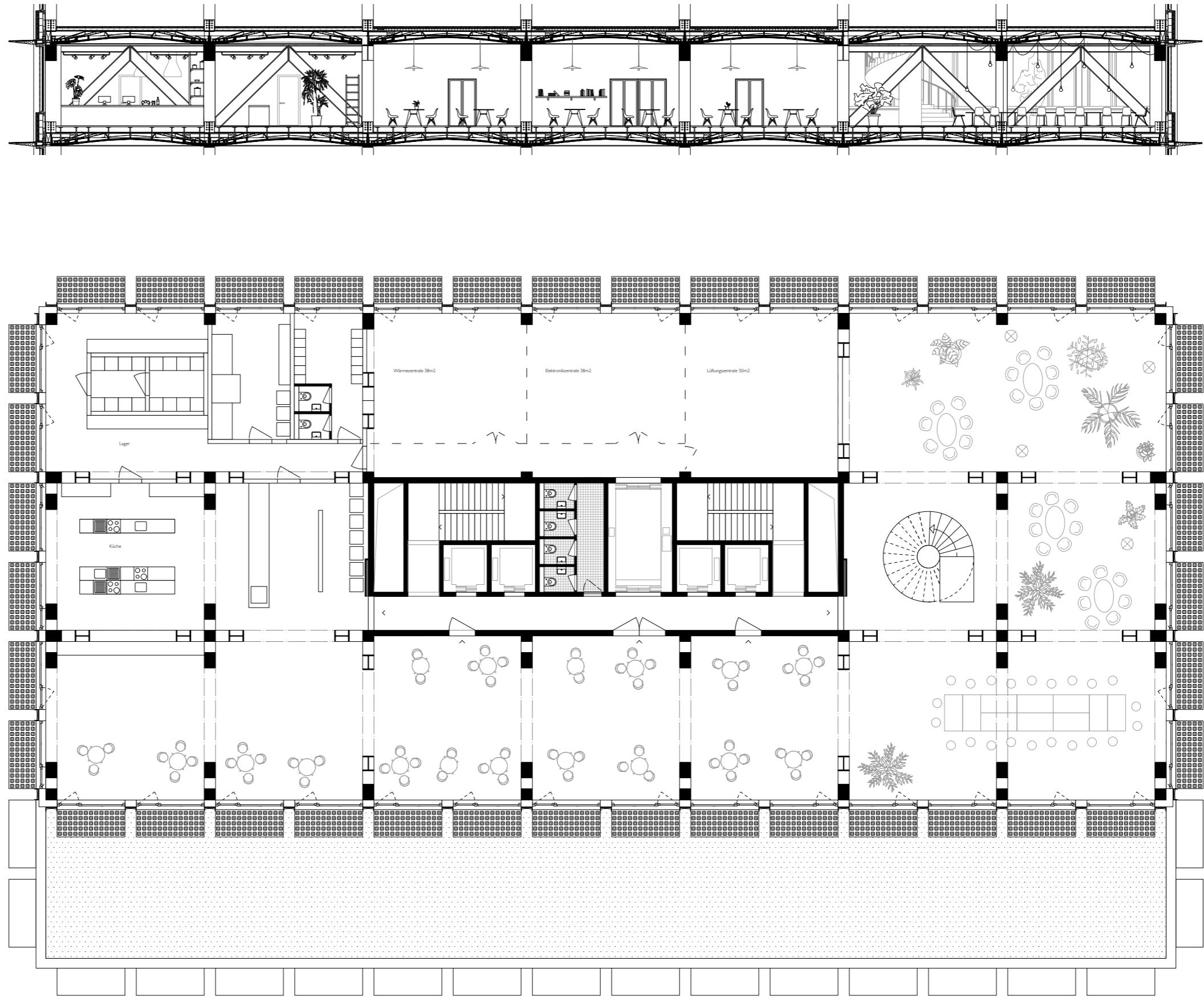
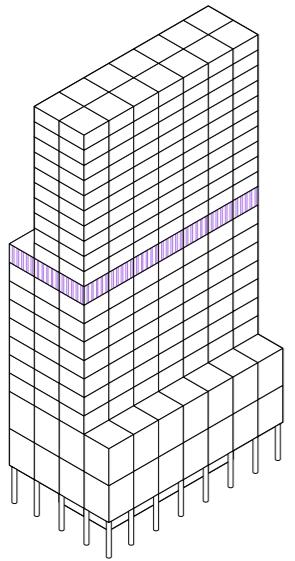


Grundriss Werkhallen

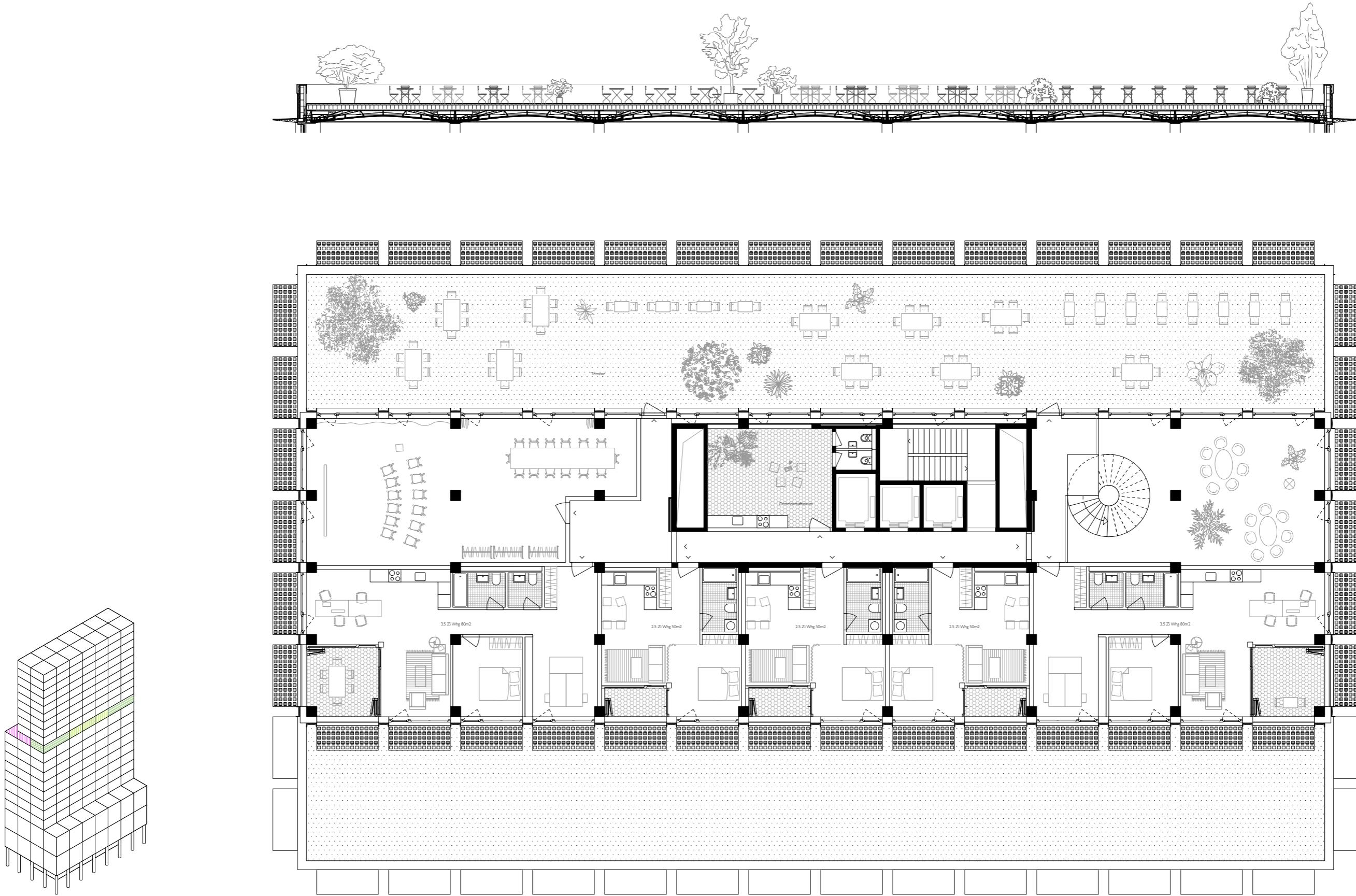




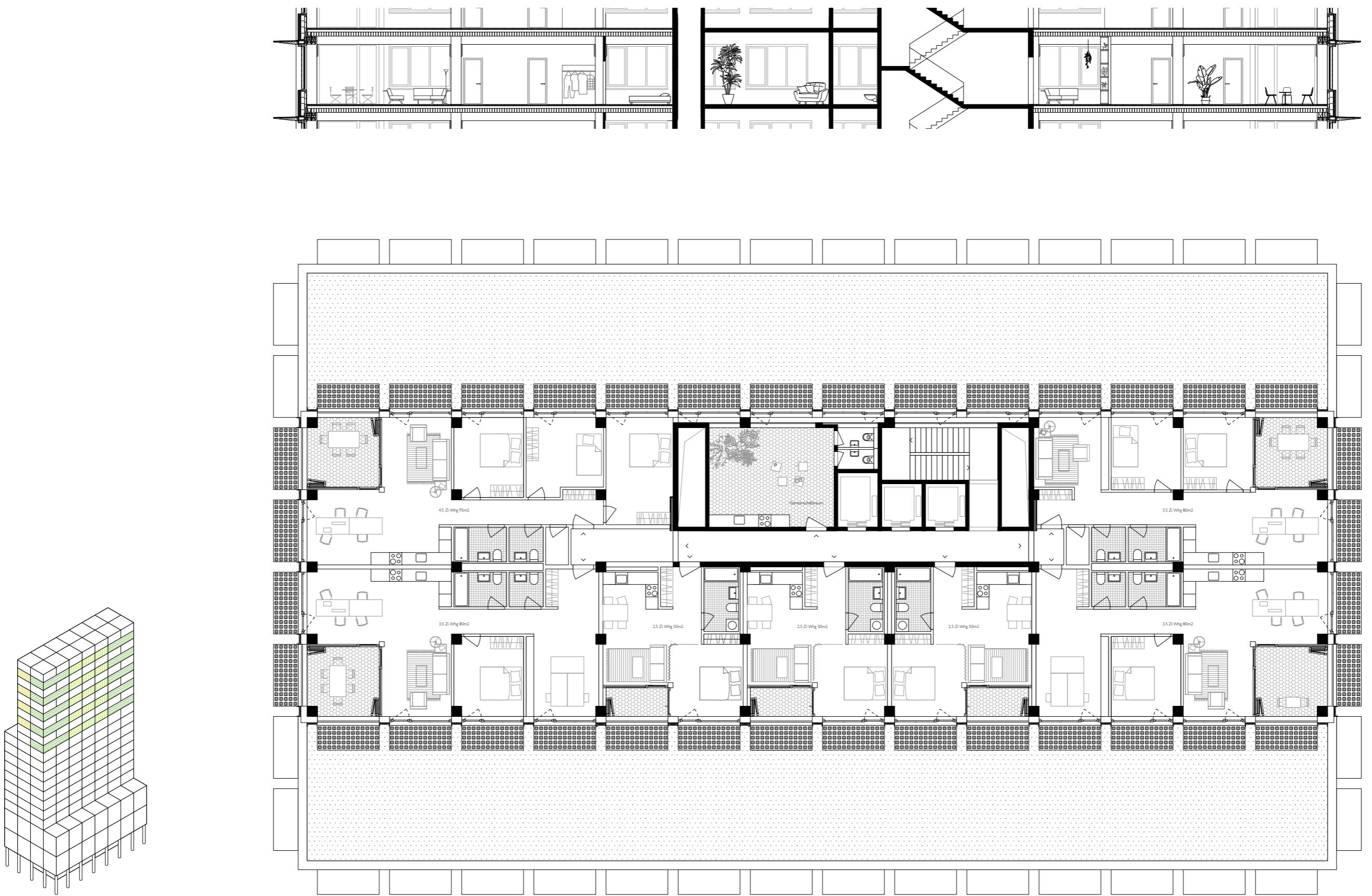
Grundriss Regelgeschoss Produktion



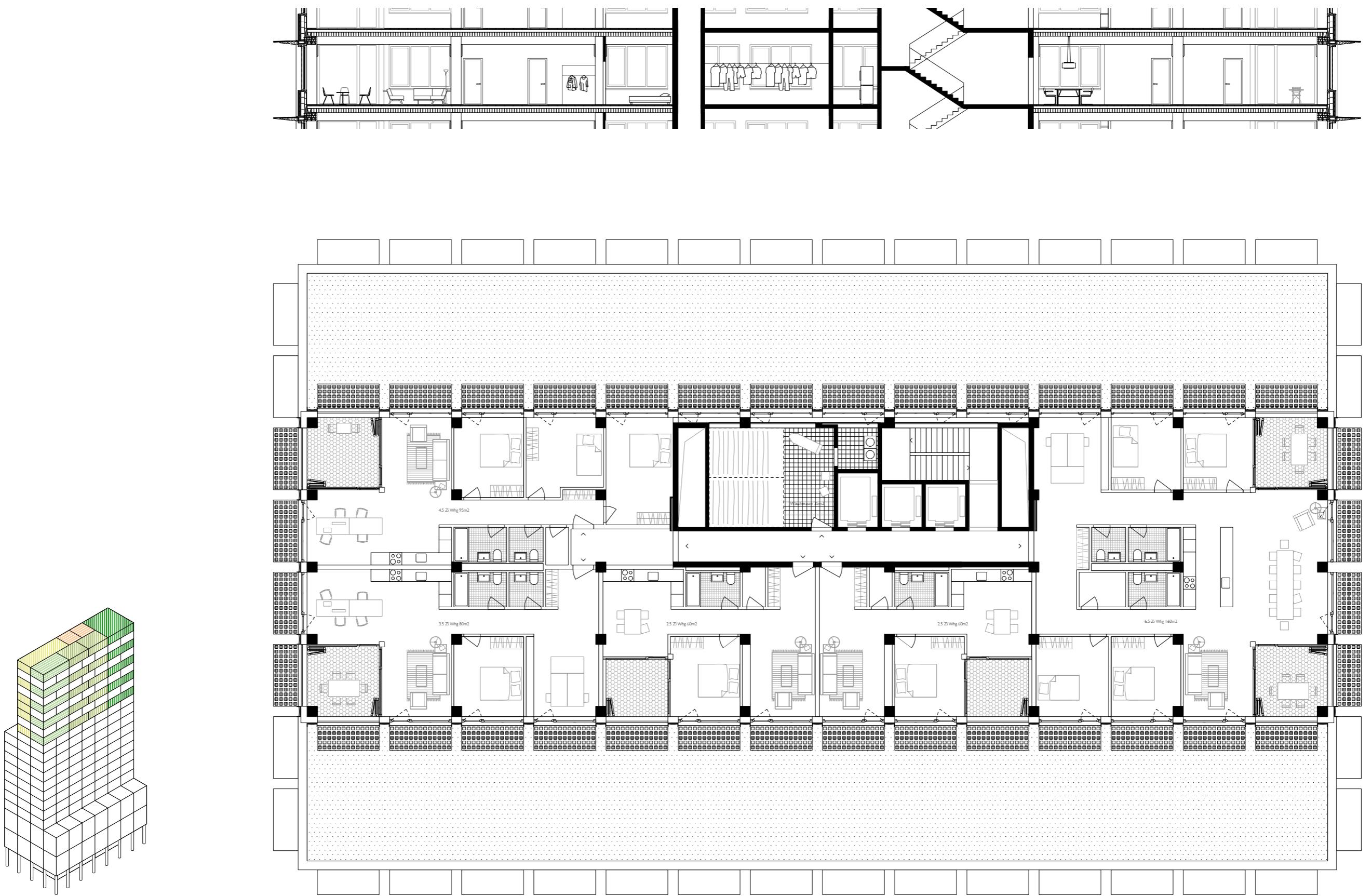
Grundriss Outrigger Geschoss



Grundriss Gemeinschaftsgeschoss

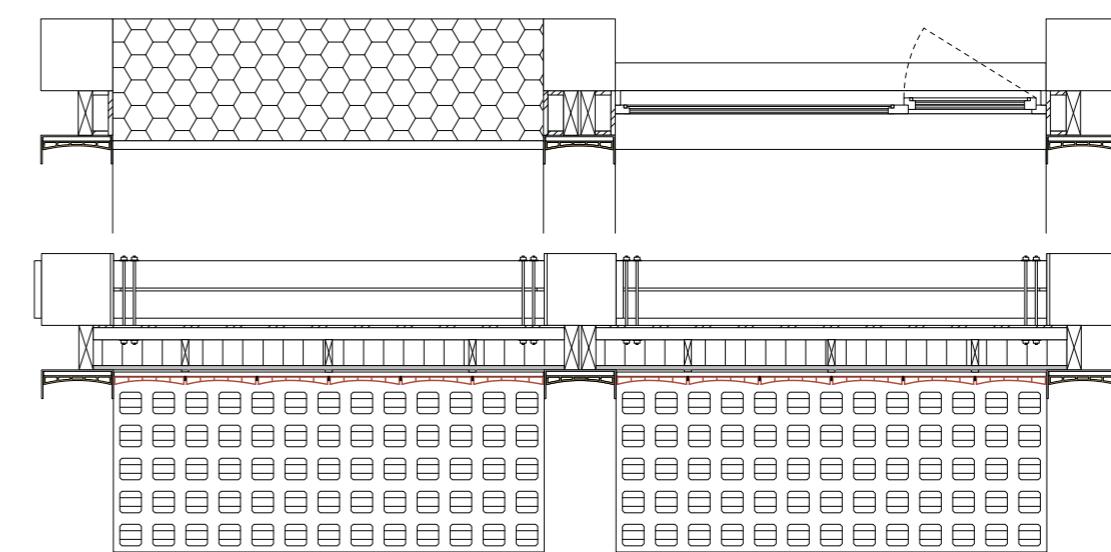
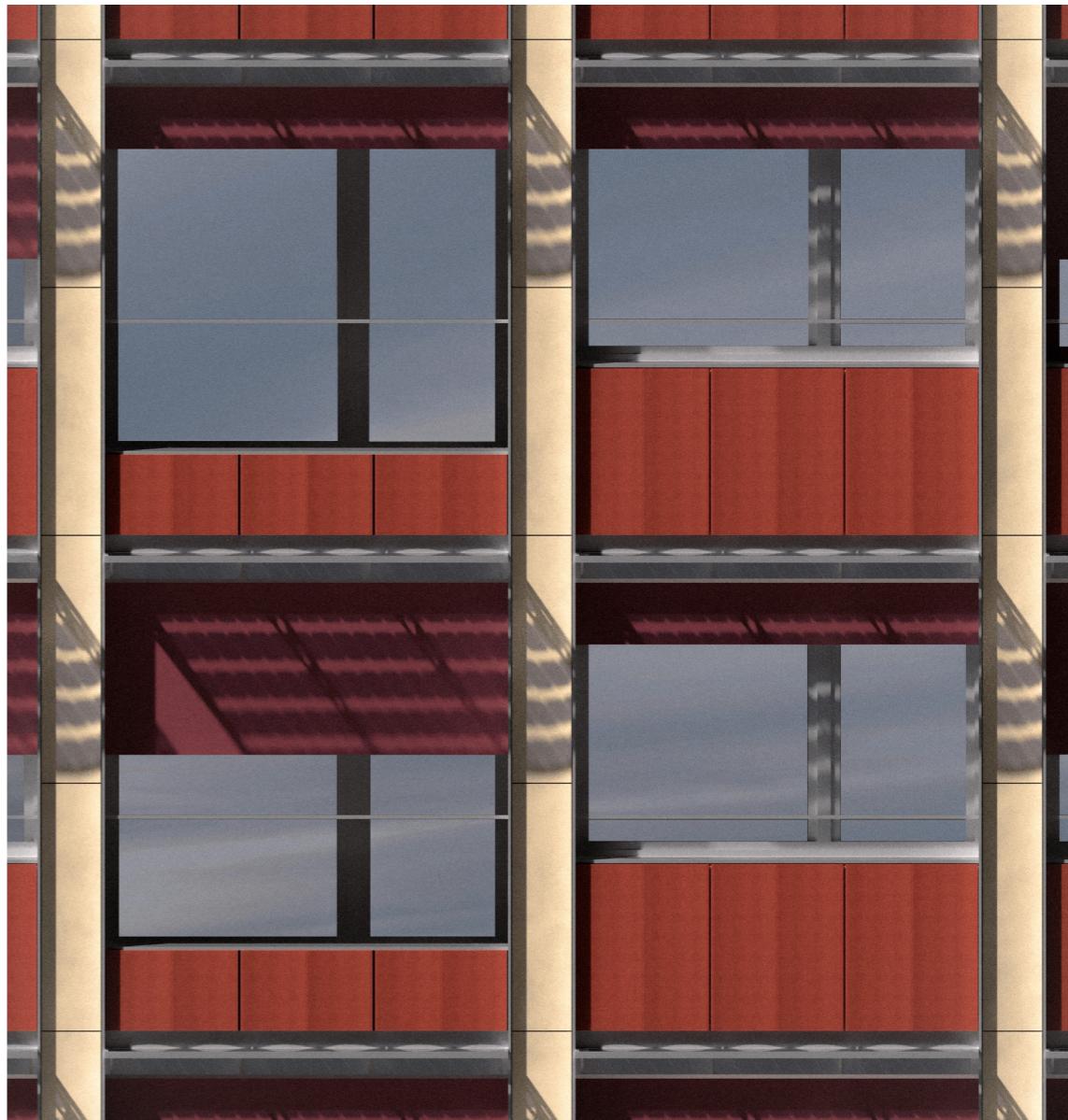
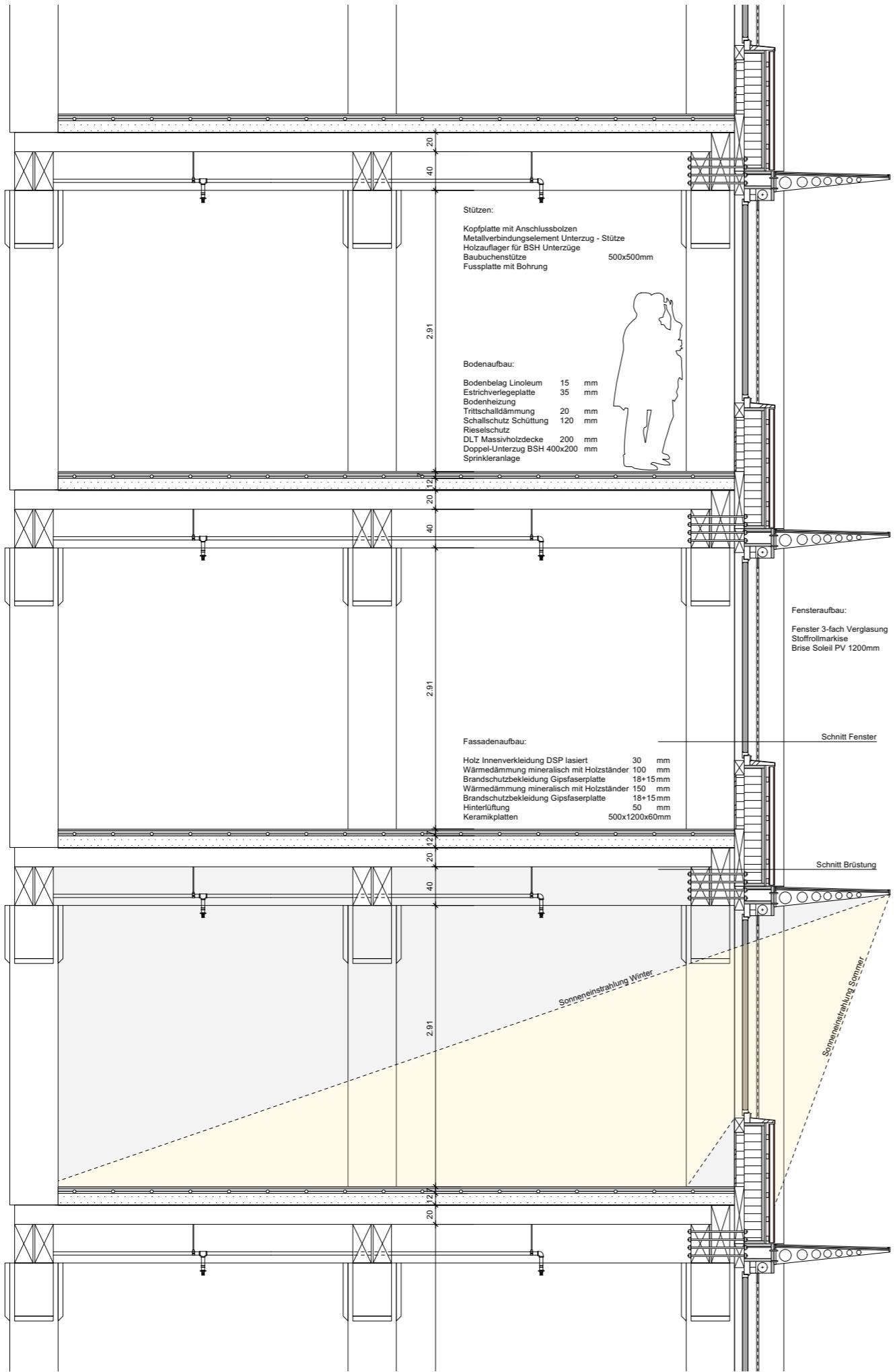


Grundriss Regelgeschoss Wohnen I



Grundriss Regelgeschoss Wohnen 2

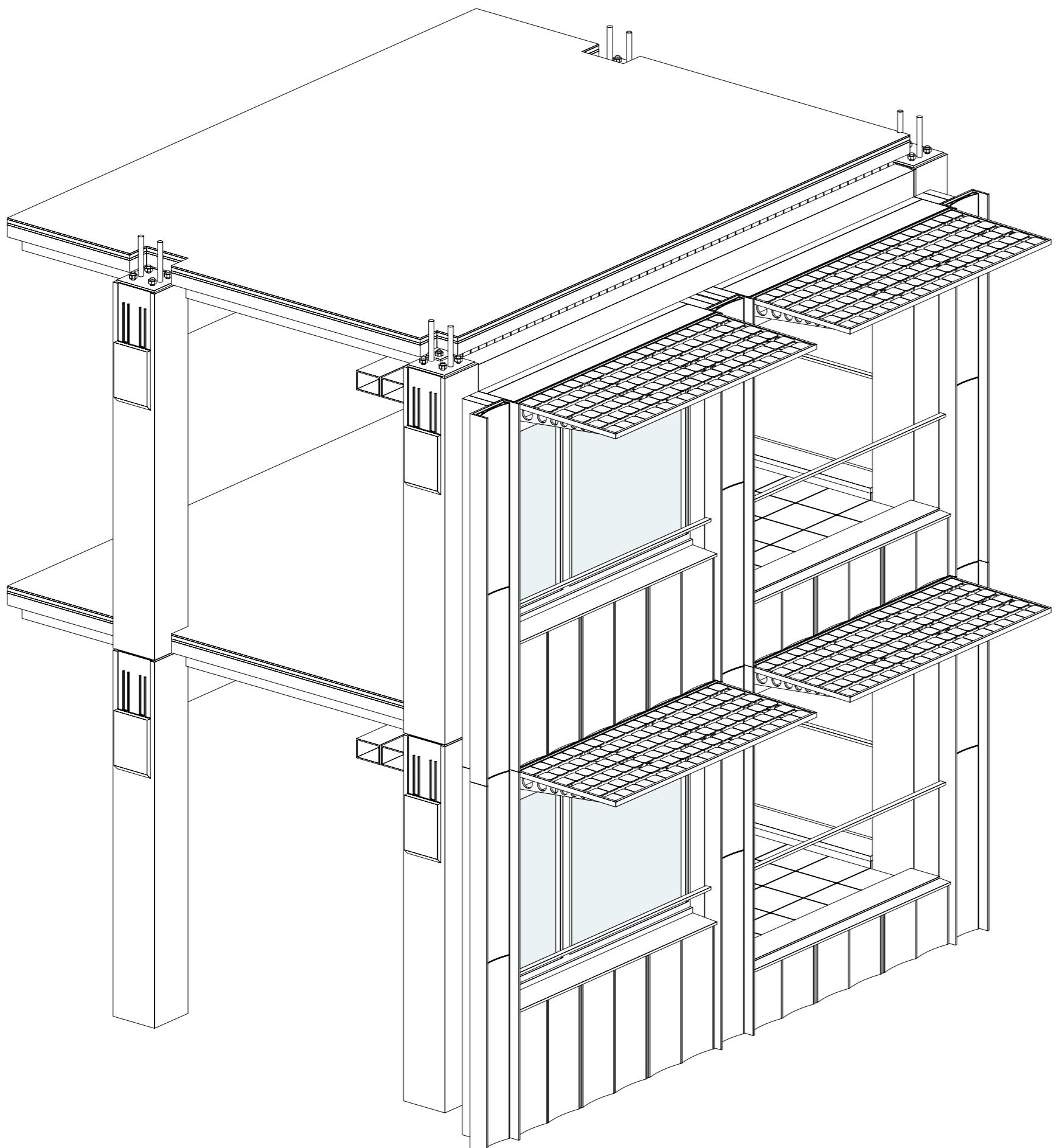




## Fassadenkonstruktion



Fassadenansicht Süd / West



Axonometrie Fassadenelement

Energiebezugsfläche  
18502 m<sup>2</sup> 90213 m<sup>3</sup>

Thermischer Energiebedarf

Heizung	Jährlicher Bedarf	pro Tag
15 kWh/m <sup>2</sup>	277530 kWh/a	760.4 kWh/d
Kühlung	Jährlicher Bedarf	pro Tag
6.5 kWh/m <sup>2</sup>	120263 kWh/a	329.5 kWh/d
Wasser	Jährlicher Bedarf	pro Tag
19.8 kWh/m <sup>2</sup>	366339.6 kWh/a	1003.7 kWh/d

Nieglungswinkel

0°	5°	10°	15°	20°	25°	30°	35°	40°	45°	50°	55°	60°	65°	70°	75°	80°	85°	90°
0° 86.5	90.0	92.9	95.3	97.3	98.7	99.6	100.0	99.8	99.0	97.8	96.0	93.7	90.9	87.6	83.9	79.9	75.3	70.6
5° 86.5	90.0	92.9	95.3	97.3	98.7	99.6	100.0	99.8	99.0	97.7	96.0	93.7	91.0	87.7	84.0	79.9	75.5	70.7
10° 86.5	89.9	92.8	95.3	97.2	98.6	99.5	99.8	99.6	98.9	97.6	95.0	93.6	90.8	87.6	83.9	79.9	75.5	70.7
15° 86.5	89.9	92.7	95.1	97.0	98.4	99.2	99.5	99.3	98.7	97.4	95.6	93.3	90.7	87.3	83.7	79.7	75.3	70.7
20° 86.5	88.8	92.6	94.9	96.7	98.0	98.8	99.1	98.9	98.1	96.9	95.0	92.8	90.1	87.0	83.5	79.5	75.2	70.6
25° 86.5	88.7	92.4	94.6	96.3	97.6	98.3	98.6	98.3	97.5	96.1	94.4	92.3	89.6	86.5	83.0	79.1	74.9	70.4
30° 86.5	88.6	92.1	94.1	95.8	97.0	97.6	97.9	97.5	96.7	95.5	93.3	91.6	88.9	85.8	82.4	78.6	74.4	70.1
35° 86.5	88.4	91.8	93.7	95.3	96.2	96.9	97.0	96.6	95.8	94.6	92.8	90.6	87.9	85.0	81.6	77.9	73.9	69.6
40° 86.5	88.2	91.4	93.2	94.5	95.5	96.0	96.0	95.5	94.7	93.5	91.6	89.4	87.0	84.0	80.7	77.0	73.1	69.0
45° 86.5	88.0	91.0	92.6	93.6	94.6	95.0	95.0	94.4	94.4	92.1	90.4	88.3	85.8	82.8	79.6	76.1	72.2	68.1
50° 86.5	88.7	90.5	92.0	93.0	93.8	93.9	93.7	93.2	92.1	90.7	89.0	87.0	84.4	81.4	78.4	74.9	71.2	67.3
55° 86.5	88.5	90.1	91.3	92.1	92.6	92.7	92.4	91.7	90.7	89.3	87.0	85.3	82.7	80.1	77.0	73.6	69.9	66.2
60° 86.5	88.3	89.6	90.5	91.1	91.4	91.3	91.0	90.7	89.0	87.6	85.0	83.6	81.2	78.5	75.5	72.1	68.7	65.0
65° 86.5	88.0	89.9	90.7	91.0	91.2	91.7	91.4	91.0	90.7	89.3	87.0	85.7	83.0	80.0	77.6	74.9	72.0	68.0
70° 86.5	87.7	88.4	89.0	89.8	90.4	90.9	91.6	92.0	92.6	93.0	93.4	93.7	93.7	93.7	93.7	93.7	93.7	93.7
75° 86.5	87.4	87.8	88.0	88.7	89.4	89.8	90.5	91.2	91.8	92.3	92.8	93.3	93.8	94.3	94.8	95.3	95.8	96.3
80° 86.5	87.1	87.3	87.1	86.7	86.2	85.4	84.4	83.1	81.7	79.9	78.1	75.9	73.5	71.0	68.2	65.3	62.1	59.0
85° 86.5	86.7	86.6	86.2	85.6	84.7	83.8	82.6	81.2	79.6	77.9	75.6	73.7	71.3	68.8	66.1	63.2	60.3	57.3
90° 86.5	86.4	86.5	85.3	84.4	83.3	82.1	80.7	79.2	77.5	75.6	73.6	71.4	69.0	66.6	63.9	61.2	58.4	55.3
95° 86.5	86.1	86.0	84.4	83.1	81.9	80.4	78.8	77.1	75.3	73.3	71.3	69.0	66.7	64.3	61.6	59.0	56.2	53.3
100° 86.5	85.9	84.7	83.4	81.9	80.3	78.6	76.8	75.0	73.0	71.0	68.8	66.7	64.4	61.9	59.0	56.2	53.1	51.3
105° 86.5	85.5	84.1	82.4	80.7	78.8	76.9	74.9	72.8	70.8	68.7	66.4	64.2	61.9	59.5	57.0	54.5	51.9	49.3
110° 86.5	85.2	83.8	81.6	79.5	77.3	75.1	72.9	70.7	68.5	66.3	64.0	61.8	59.5	57.0	54.7	52.1	49.7	47.3
115° 86.5	84.9	82.8	80.7	78.3	75.9	73.3	71.0	68.5	66.2	63.9	61.6	59.3	57.0	54.6	52.3	49.9	47.6	45.2
120° 86.5	84.6	82.3	79.8	77.1	74.4	71.6	69.0	66.4	63.9	61.5	59.1	56.8	54.5	52.2	50.0	47.7	45.5	43.1
125° 86.5	84.4	81.8	79.0	76.0	73.0	70.0	67.0	64.3	61.6	59.1	56.7	54.4	52.1	49.9	47.7	45.5	43.3	41.3
130° 86.5	84.1	81.2	78.1	74.9	71.6	68.4	65.3	62.2	59.5	56.8	54.4	52.0	49.8	47.6	45.5	43.5	41.4	39.4
135° 86.5	83.9	80.7	77.4	73.9	70.4	66.9	63.5	60.3	57.3	54.6	52.1	49.8	47.6	45.5	43.4	41.4	39.5	37.6
140° 86.5	83.6	80.3	76.7	73.0	69.2	65.5	61.9	58.5	55.3	52.5	49.9	47.6	45.4	43.4	41.5	39.6	37.8	36.0
145° 86.5	83.4	79.8	76.1	72.0	68.1	64.2	60.5	56.9	53.6	50.6	47.9	45.6	43.4	41.5	39.6	37.9	36.1	34.5
150° 86.5	83.3	79.5	75.5	71.4	67.3	63.3	59.3	55.6	52.1	48.6	46.1	43.6	41.6	39.6	37.9	36.3	34.7	33.1
155° 86.5	83.0	79.2	75.0	70.4	66.4	62.4	58.4	54.5	50.8	47.4	44.4	41.9	39.9	38.0	36.4	34.8	33.3	31.9
160° 86.5	83.0	78.9	74.6	70.1	65.9	61.7	57.6	53.6	49.9	46.3	43.1	40.4	38.3	36.5	35.0	33.5	32.1	30.8
165° 86.5	82.8	78.7	74.3	69.7	65.4	61.2	57.0	53.0	49.1	45.5	42.1	39.3	37.0	35.3	33.9	32.4	31.2	29.9
170° 86.5	82.7	78.5	74.0	69.4	65.0	60.8	56.6	52.5	48.6	44.9	41.5	38.5	36.1	34.4	33.0	31.6	30.4	29.3
175° 86.5	82.7	78.4	73.9	69.3	64.9	60.6	56.4	52.2	48.3	44.5	41.1	38.1	35.6	33.9	32.4	31.2	29.9	28.8
180° 86.5	82.7	78.4	73.8	69.2	64.8	60.5	5											



