

ETH ZURICH

Where the future begins





Content

ETH Zurich at a glance	2
Leading the way since 1855	4
Strength through diversity	6
First-class education	8
Pioneering research	10
Stimulating the economy	18
Strong partnerships with industry	20
Excellent national connections	22
Life at ETH Zurich	24
Serving society	26
Shaping the future	28



“By building on its strong foundations in education and research, ETH Zurich is helping to solve complex issues facing society.”

Prof. Dr. Ralph Eichler
President of ETH Zurich

ETH Zurich at a glance

ETH Zurich has come to symbolise excellent education, groundbreaking basic research and applied results that are beneficial for society as a whole. Founded in 1855, it today offers researchers an inspiring environment and students a comprehensive education as one of the world's leading universities for technology and the natural sciences.

ETH Zurich has more than 16,000 students from approximately 80 countries, 3,500 of whom are doctoral candidates. More than 400 professors teach and conduct research in the areas of engineering, architecture, mathematics, natural sciences, system-oriented sciences, and management and social sciences.

ETH Zurich regularly appears at the top of international rankings as one of the best universities in the world. 21 Nobel Laureates have studied, taught or conducted research at ETH Zurich, underlining the excellent reputation of the institute.

→ www.ethz.ch/about/index_EN



STATISTICS

	2000	2005	2010	Percentage women	Percentage international
Students (Headcount)	10,693	12,343	16,342	31%	35%
of which Bachelor students	n.a.	5,230	7,483	30%	19%
of which Master students	n.a.	513	4,233	31%	36%
Doctoral students (Headcount)	2,261	2,674	3,507	32%	63%
Professors (full-time equivalents)	333	349	413	8%	66%
Personnel (full-time equivalents)	5,464	6,159	7,284	31%	50%
of which scientific staff	3,390	3,614	4,479	27%	63%
of which technical-admin. staff	1,624	2,075	2,241	42%	23%
of which apprentices	117	121	150	36%	7%
Expenditure (CHF million)	1,059	1,157	1,359		
of which federal financial contribution	915	959	1,082		
of which third-party funding	144	198	277		

Figures rounded. Detailed statistics → www.fc.ethz.ch/facts

The rising student numbers show that a degree from ETH Zurich is highly sought-after. Programmes in English make study and research at Master and doctoral level especially attractive for international students. The mix of students is becoming increasingly more international.

Leading the way since 1855



High performers of the future: students of the Federal Polytechnical School at around 1870.



The building of the ETH dome in 1919/20 was both a reflection of the past and an indication of growing self-confidence.

Ever since it was founded in 1855 as the Federal Polytechnical School, ETH Zurich has been a national centre for education with international appeal, attracting talent from all over the world. The successful combination of a cosmopolitan outlook with national roots made the young educational institution one of the driving forces behind industrialisation in Switzerland: it brought the necessary expertise into the country, trained technical specialists and helped set up groundbreaking national infrastructures.

ETH Zurich was given its present name, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule), in 1911. Over the decades that followed, it entered into solid partnerships with the state and with industry and invested increasingly in both applied and fundamental research, which were gaining in importance in relation to education. The university grew steadily and in 1961 it embarked on the first stage of constructing its second site on the Hönggerberg, on the outskirts of Zurich.

In more recent times, global developments such as computer-assisted data processing and the far-reaching consequences of globalisation have placed ever-increasing demands on universities. ETH Zurich reacts to these new challenges by creating flexible organisational structures: new research units and programmes have emerged and the research itself is becoming more and more integrated and interdisciplinary. The long-standing tradition of ETH Zurich, combined with its ability constantly to adapt to new requirements, have brought great success to the university. Today, it ranks among the world's leading universities of science and technology.

→ www.ethz.ch/about/history/index_EN

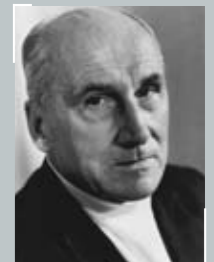


Thanks to its innovative strength, flexibility and competitiveness, ETH Zurich has always been a laboratory for the future.

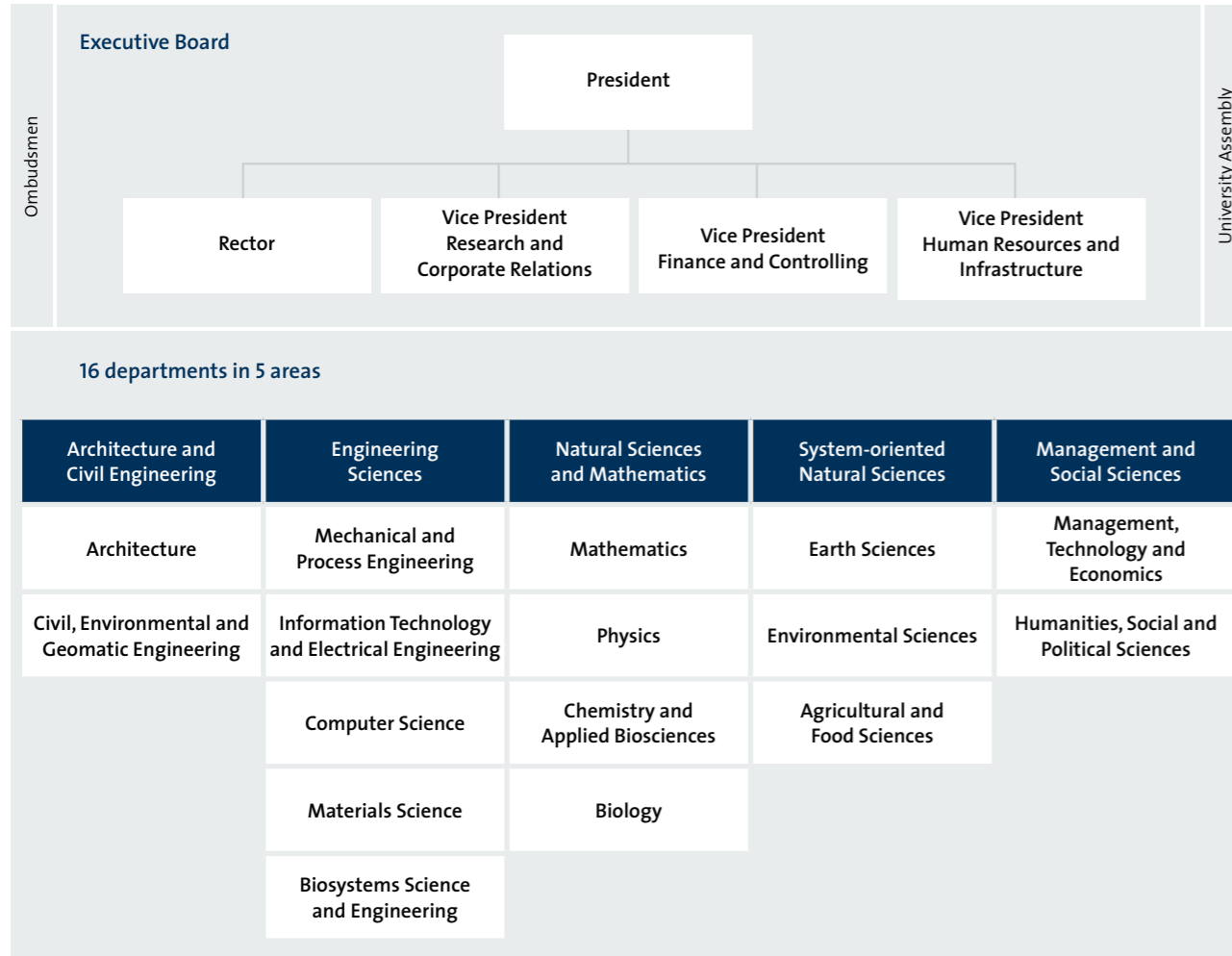
NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS – THE CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Numerous outstanding individuals have contributed to the global success of ETH Zurich, including 21 Nobel Prize laureates.

1901	Physics	Wilhelm Konrad Röntgen
1913	Chemistry	Alfred Werner
1915	Chemistry	Richard Willstätter
1918	Chemistry	Fritz Haber
1920	Physics	Charles-Edouard Guillaume
1921	Physics	Albert Einstein
1936	Chemistry	Peter Debye
1938	Chemistry	Richard Kuhn
1939	Chemistry	Leopold Ruzicka
1943	Physics	Otto Stern
1945	Physics	Wolfgang Pauli
1950	Medicine	Tadeusz Reichstein
1952	Physics	Felix Bloch
1953	Chemistry	Hermann Staudinger
1975	Chemistry	Vladimir Prelog
1978	Medicine	Werner Arber
1986	Physics	Heinrich Rohrer
1987	Physics	Georg Bednorz / Alexander Müller
1991	Chemistry	Richard Ernst
2002	Chemistry	Kurt Wüthrich



Strength through diversity



As a university of science and technology, ETH Zurich is committed to providing a breadth of subjects which allows knowledge to be shared and combined in new ways. With its sixteen departments, it covers an extremely diverse academic spectrum.

→ www.ethz.ch/about/organisation/index_EN

Strategic initiatives, competence centres and networks encourage cross-disciplinary cooperation. ETH Zurich thus deliberately promotes an interlinked, interdisciplinary way of thinking, which is what is required for solving complex social issues.

→ www.ethz.ch/research/centres/index_EN

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

ETH Zurich maintains partnerships with leading universities around the world and promotes international cooperation in all areas of research and education. This cooperation serves two main strategic goals: to strengthen its role as a first-class institution of higher education and to build on its position as a leading technical and scientific research university of global

renown. It is a member of international alliances such as the IDEA League, the Alliance for Global Sustainability (AGS), the Global Alliance of Technological Universities (GlobalTech), the Global University Leaders Forum (GULF) and the International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU).

→ www.global.ethz.ch



ETH Zurich attracts students and top researchers from all over the world who further enhance its outstanding reputation.

First-class education



ETH Zurich conveys knowledge with a long half life, for tackling fundamental issues in mathematics, natural sciences and engineering, and sparks its students with enthusiasm for these subjects.

All programmes at ETH Zurich are closely linked to current research. This guarantees that the curricula reflect the latest technical and scientific knowledge. Many programmes also involve external practical training. This combination of a solid scientific foundation and practical application guarantees that ETH graduates are ideally equipped for a career in a global environment – be it in academia, business and industry or as entrepreneurs.

ETH Zurich offers study programmes leading to a Bachelor, Master or doctoral degree, as well as a range of continuing education programmes. The degree structure is internationally compatible with three-year full-time Bachelor programmes (180 ECTS credits) followed by Master programmes lasting one and a half or two years (90 to 120 ECTS credits).

Gaining a doctorate degree usually takes three to four years. Students can take a doctorate in any of the fields of research at ETH Zurich. The doctoral programmes are conducted in English.

A wide range of continuing education programmes (MAS, MBA, DAS, CAS) offers specialists and managers the opportunity to broaden their academic training. The programmes cover the core areas of ETH Zurich such as architecture, mathematics, engineering sciences, natural sciences and economics, as well as the interfaces between technology, law, management and social sciences.

→ www.ethz.ch/studies/index_EN

→ www.ethz.ch/continuing/index_EN

	Bachelor	Master
Architecture and Civil Engineering		
Architecture	•	•
Civil Engineering	•	•
Environmental Engineering	•	•
Geomatic Engineering and Planning	•	•
Spatial Development and Infrastructure Systems		•

	Bachelor	Master
Engineering Sciences		
Mechanical Engineering	•	•
Process Engineering		•
Micro and Nanosystems		•
Nuclear Engineering		•
Robotics, Systems and Control		•
Electrical Engineering and Information Technology	•	•
Biomedical Engineering		•
Energy Science and Technology		•
Biotechnology	•	•
Computer Science	•	•
Computational Biology and Bioinformatics		•
Materials Science	•	•

	Bachelor	Master
System-oriented Natural Sciences		
Earth Sciences	•	•
Applied Geophysics		•
Atmospheric and Climate Science		•
Environmental Sciences	•	•
Agricultural Science / Agroecosystem Science	•	•
Food Science	•	•

	Bachelor	Master
Natural Sciences and Mathematics		
Mathematics / Applied Mathematics	•	•
Statistics		•
Quantitative Finance		•
Computational Science and Engineering	•	•
Physics	•	•
High Energy Physics		•
Neural Systems and Computation		•
Chemistry	•	•
Chemical Engineering	•	
Chemical and Bioengineering		•
Interdisciplinary Sciences	•	•
Pharmaceutical Sciences	•	•
Medicinal and Industrial Pharmaceutical Sciences		•
Biology	•	•
Human Movement Sciences (until 2013)		•
Health Sciences and Technology (MSc from 2014)	•	•

	Bachelor	Master
Management and Social Sciences		
Management, Technology and Economics		•
Comparative and International Studies		•
History and Philosophy of Knowledge		•
Public Policy (Professional Officer of the Swiss Armed Forces)	•	

Language of instruction

- German
- English

Pioneering research

10



A team of researchers from ETH Zurich, the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) and the California Institute of Technology has succeeded in transforming water and carbon dioxide into fuel using solar energy. To do this, the scientists developed a reactor in which highly concentrated solar radiation is used to trigger a stable and rapid thermochemical process.

ETH Zurich prioritises research in areas that are relevant to society. It has identified seven strategic fields in which it can make valuable contributions to the economy, policy making and society – through fundamental research geared towards generating new knowledge and through application-oriented research. These strategic research fields are: energy and climate change, cities and development, security and risk, life and health, materials and processes, atoms and the universe, and information and intelligence.

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Today's global energy system, which is predominantly based on conventional fossil fuel resources, is not sustainable for a growing world population that is living in increasing prosperity. Energy research at ETH Zurich is therefore geared towards the aim of creating a 1-ton CO₂ society (1 t CO₂ per person per year). To achieve this goal energy efficiency, the use of renewable energies and electrification are necessary. Researchers from the fields of engineering, natural sciences and social sciences, working together within competence centres, are developing innovative solutions – such as using energy from the wind, the sun and biogenic synthetic fuels or achieving more efficient energy consumption in, for example, buildings or means of transport.

ETH Zurich is part of the “Climate Knowledge and Innovation Community” (Climate-KIC), an international network of academic institutions and public as well as private partners. The aim is to develop science-based principles and strategies for adapting to climate change or preventing it. This requires not only technical solutions, but political ones as well: ETH Zurich researchers are therefore working on establishing an important evidence base for decision-makers at home and abroad by analysing social, economic and environmental data.



The disruption that humans have caused to the global carbon cycle is having an effect on the climate. ETH researchers are monitoring the consequences, for example in changes to marine ecosystems.

Pioneering research

CITIES AND DEVELOPMENT

Cities are cultural centres and the driving force behind the local and global economy. However, in their present form they are not sustainable, from either an ecological, social or economic point of view. Pollution, rising temperatures, a lack of resources and criminality all pose a threat to urban quality of life. Cities also make a major contribution towards global warming.

The ETH Future Cities Laboratory is concerned with the development of new cities and the transformation of existing ones, with the greatest challenges lying in parts of the world such as Asia and Africa. This is why ETH Zurich, together with local partners, has set up a research centre for global sustainability in Singapore. ETH has also helped to set up an Institute for Urban Development at the university in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

Researchers regard cities as dynamic systems through which resources, energy and people flow. These flows are studied at three levels – building technology, urban planning and spatial planning – with a view to finding out how they can be controlled in the interests of sustainability. In their work, the researchers sometimes use real construction projects as laboratories for new developments. This enables them to put innovations directly into practical use.

SECURITY AND RISK

In a closely networked world, risks can quickly assume global dimensions. Risks of this magnitude can only really be countered by taking a universal, contextual approach. That is why ETH Zurich has organised its risk research into competence centres that draw together different disciplines. This makes it possible to combine models, computer simulations, data analyses and experiments in entirely new ways.

From traffic jams and their environmental consequences to how wars begin: ETH Zurich researchers study cascade effects in socio-economic systems and the associated systemic risks. Understanding the risks connected with glaciers and hydraulic engineering helps create a safer environment. Researching risks also makes students more aware of the links between climate change and natural hazards. The ETH RiskLab carries out quantitative risk management, which combines mathematics with expertise in finance and insurance, to produce new guidelines for banks and insurance companies. The findings obtained from the research on risks relevant to society are made available to the general public in a variety of ways. A whole range of publications and advisory services are available to support both professionals working in this field and government departments in Switzerland and abroad.



Climate change, food shortages and financial crises: nowadays, potential risks are plenty. With its Centre for Risk Management, ETH Zurich seeks to contribute towards a better understanding of the interrelations between the vast diversity of risks in modern society.



Sustainable development of urban districts must take account of both technical and social aspects and be adapted to suit local circumstances. ETH Zurich is working with the University of Addis Ababa to create living spaces even for the very poorest.

Pioneering research

LIFE AND HEALTH

Researchers at ETH Zurich are studying molecular principles in order to understand neurological and metabolic diseases such as Alzheimer's and diabetes. Systems biology offers a new approach by looking at the dynamics and interactions of entire biological systems. The knowledge gained in this way makes it possible to develop more targeted methods of diagnosis and treatments with fewer side effects. With its innovations in robotics and imaging technologies, ETH Zurich is also contributing towards the development of new procedures for analysis and rehabilitation.

The ageing society and the problem of feeding a growing world population on a sustainable basis are major challenges for the whole world. For this reason ETH Zurich is setting up a new "World Food System" competence centre and a new Department of Health Sciences and Technology. The advancement of medical technology through new professorships and infrastructure and the collaboration with the University of Zurich and the University Hospital pave the way for creating an internationally leading center for research in this field.



The ageing population not only presents society with economic and social challenges, but also calls for new technical solutions. Research at ETH Zurich is based on a targeted combination of biological and engineering sciences.

MATERIALS AND PROCESSES

New, low-energy materials and processes are essential for using resources sustainably. Materials research at ETH Zurich has a strong focus on micro- and nanotechnology. Controlling and manipulating processes on a nano-scale makes it possible to produce new polymers, superconductors, functional surfaces and biocompatible materials which can lead to new applications in the fields of information technology, energy and medicine. The Micro and Nano Science Platform comprises over forty research groups studying the atomic principles of materials and developing solutions for high-tech applications. Close cooperation with industry results in targeted research and efficient knowledge transfer.

In addition to studying the functions and effects of new materials, ETH Zurich also investigates the processes required to manufacture and integrate these materials. It draws on its great expertise in the core disciplines of mechanical and process engineering. However, while new materials can lead to a higher standard of living, they may also bring new risks. This is why ETH Zurich is concentrating on forward-thinking development. It plays a pioneering role in researching the effects of materials and technology on man and the environment.



Micro- and nano-research at ETH Zurich benefits from an excellent infrastructure. For example, the clean-room laboratory in the FIRST Center provides perfect working conditions for researchers and students.

Pioneering research

ATOMS AND THE UNIVERSE

To solve the great mysteries of the universe, you first have to understand the laws of nature on the smallest scale and the principles of elementary particles. ETH Zurich is playing a leading role in large projects in particle physics at CERN, as well as in experiments with partners in Europe and Japan.



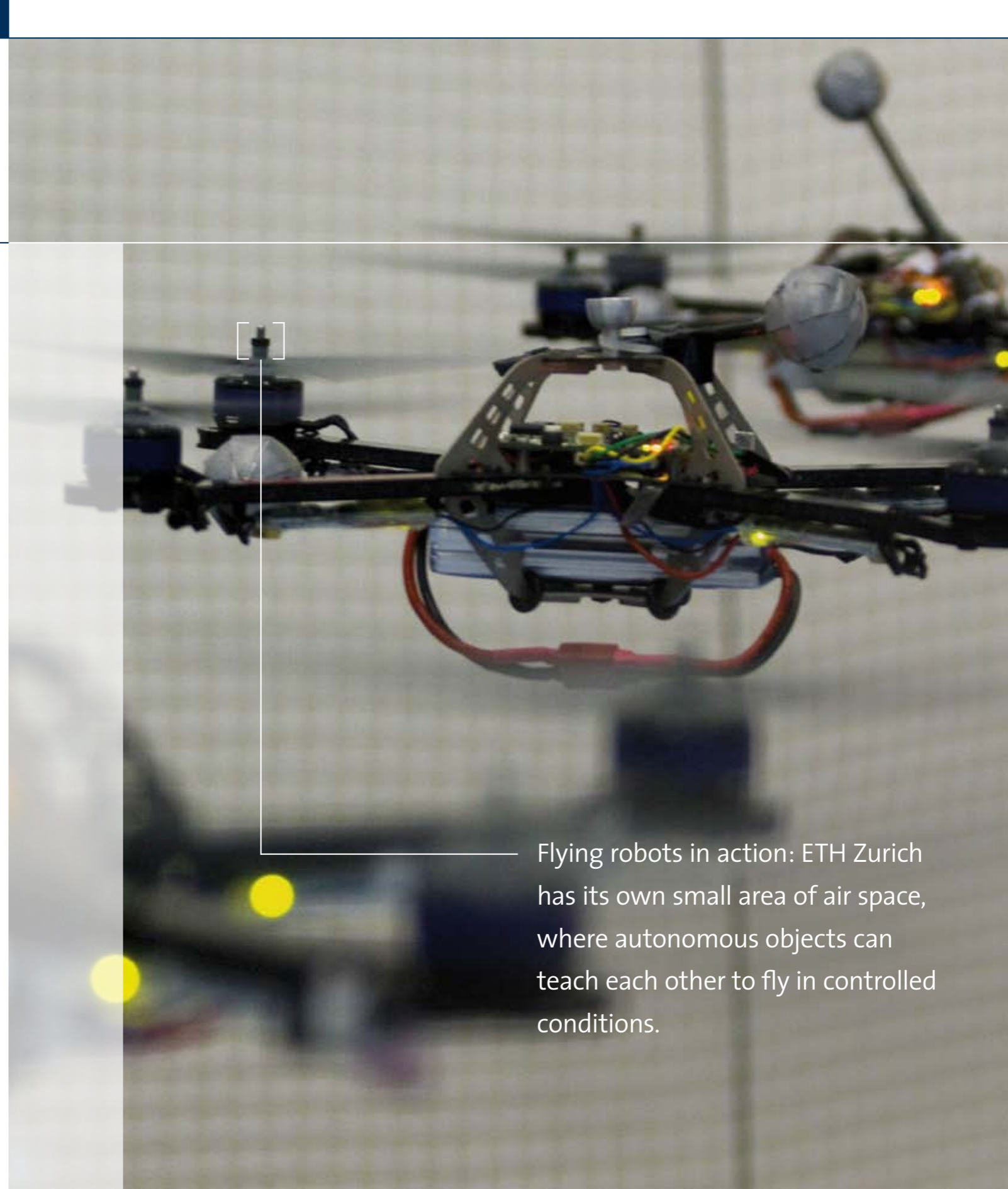
The universe fascinates young people and sparks their interest in science and technology. At ETH Zurich, questions relating to the composition and origin of matter are the driving force behind its internationally competitive fundamental scientific research.

The scale and complexity of these experiments demand innovative technologies. That is one of the particular strengths of ETH Zurich. With sophisticated techniques, the dynamic functioning of fundamental atomic building blocks can be made visible to the eye. It is then possible to observe and control fast processes and groundbreaking discoveries can be made for use in energy and materials research and in new applications. The interdisciplinary sharing of knowledge in quantum sciences creates ideal conditions for this research. ETH Zurich is also working with its partners on the further development of telescopes for use on Earth and in space. Together with leading observatories and the European Space Agency, it is researching the evolution of the universe and how stars and planets were formed. The ultimate aim is to understand more about the conditions in which life began.

INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE

These days, data can be processed at unprecedented speeds. At the same time, the information technology required is becoming smaller and cheaper and is penetrating more and more spheres of life – including automation, where it enables the construction of intelligent machines. To understand how computers could process even unorganised data and cope with the complexity of our world, ETH researchers are looking at machine intelligence and perception. For example, they are exploring the boundaries of autonomous systems, to find out how human productivity could be extended with the help of intelligent machines. To do this, ETH Zurich is using a model-based approach, a broad, interdisciplinary research portfolio and a new generation of supercomputers.

“Smart” information technology can help save energy or, when incorporated in RFID tags, simplify supply chains in trade. Intelligent systems are increasingly able to operate autonomously. However, this increases the risk that software problems could penetrate the physical world and cause severe damage. ETH Zurich is working on infrastructures to link the virtual and the physical worlds together not only efficiently, but also safely and securely.



Flying robots in action: ETH Zurich has its own small area of air space, where autonomous objects can teach each other to fly in controlled conditions.

Stimulating the economy

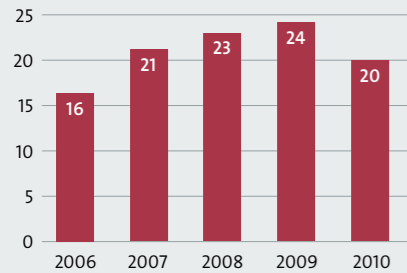
18

Expertise and scientific findings from universities are an important source of technological developments which lead to the creation of innovative products and therefore to new jobs in Switzerland. Year after year, hundreds of new ETH graduates feed the latest knowledge into society and the economy. In countless collaboration projects involving industry and research groups from ETH Zurich, new technologies are being researched, which our partners in industry convert into products and services.

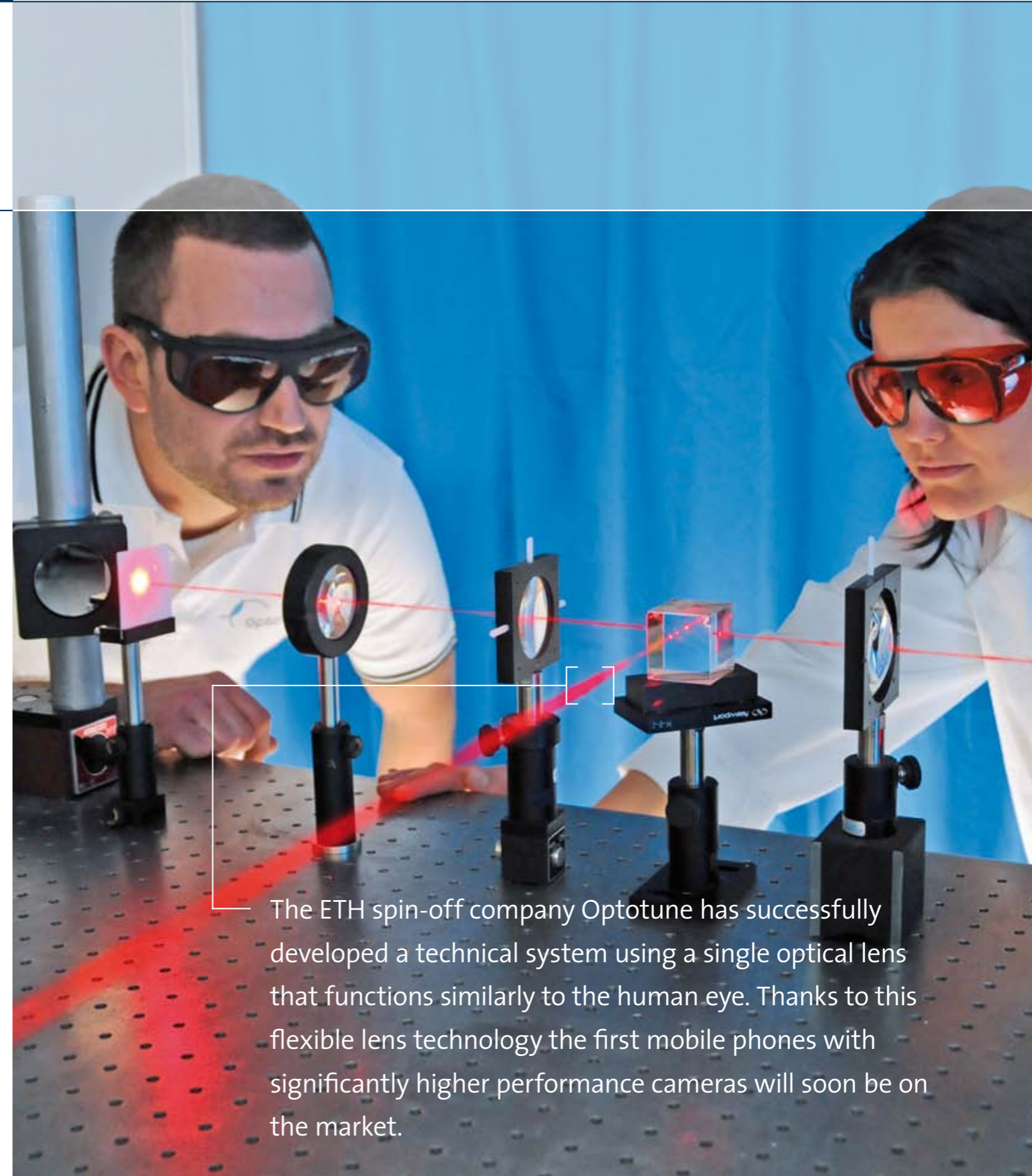
Based on the research results ETH Zurich applies for about 80 patents each year. Many of these patents are then used by the inventors themselves when they establish spin-off companies to bring their innovative technologies to market. Studies have confirmed that these companies are extremely successful; nearly 90% of ETH spin-offs survive for more than five years after they have been established. Since 1998, 1500 jobs have been created in this way, both directly and indirectly, thus representing another significant contribution of ETH Zurich to the Swiss economy.

Since the mid 1990s, the university's internal technology transfer office, ETH transfer, has been linking the university and industry. The team of experts helps academics and industry work together on a number of levels. ETH transfer supports researchers in their dealings with cooperation and licensing partners in industry and advises them on all aspects relating to inventions, patents and founding of spin-off companies.

→ www.spinoff.ethz.ch/index_EN



Between 2006 and 2010, over a hundred spin-off companies emerged from ETH Zurich.



The ETH spin-off company Optotune has successfully developed a technical system using a single optical lens that functions similarly to the human eye. Thanks to this flexible lens technology the first mobile phones with significantly higher performance cameras will soon be on the market.

Strong partnerships with industry

20

Its cutting-edge fundamental research with a clear applied focus makes ETH Zurich an important partner for industry and business. With its “Industrial Relations Program”, launched in 2008, ETH Zurich actively brings together industry and academia to stimulate visionary research activities. Each year, major national and international companies take part in this programme, which was set up by the technology transfer office ETH transfer, and cooperates closely with the ETH Zurich Foundation.

If a company is interested in closer cooperation with ETH Zurich, then, in the first stage, ETH transfer uses a customised competence analysis process to indicate which research groups and experts would be appropriate for such a partnership. The companies can take part in a lab tour to make the initial contact with the researchers. Further discussions may take place in the context of an interdisciplinary brainstorming session, an Ideas Lab workshop. This gives the experts from ETH Zurich and those from the partner company the opportunity to discuss relevant research questions in greater depth.

Additionally, ETH Zurich is also interested in approaching small and medium sized companies. On the “ETH Production Technologies” platform it offers practical solutions to the manufacturing industry in fields such as production systems, prototyping, analytics and microtechnology. The companies thus benefit from the high-tech equipment and state-of-the-art infrastructure at ETH Zurich.

→ www.transfer.ethz.ch/index_EN

→ www.ethz-foundation.ch

IBM and ETH Zurich are working together to develop energy-saving and environmentally-friendly high-performance computers and computing centres. The supercomputer Aquasar is cooled with hot water and the heat that is extracted is carried directly into the building's heating system.



Disney Research Zurich is a joint research initiative involving the Walt Disney Company and ETH Zurich. Digitising human faces and their expressions is an important element of modern computer-animated film production. Modelling of faces with a 3D scanner is designed to make it easier and more cost-effective.

Excellent national connections

22

ETH Zurich regards itself as an institution which has regional and national roots, but which is fully integrated in the international academic community. It is the driving force behind Swiss research projects of strategic importance. It maintains intensive partnerships with numerous other educational and research institutions in Switzerland. The relationships are particularly close at the ETH sites in Zurich, Basel and in the Ticino: Basel is home to the Department of Biosystems Science and Engineering, while in the Ticino ETH Zurich runs the Swiss National Supercomputing Centre CSCS.

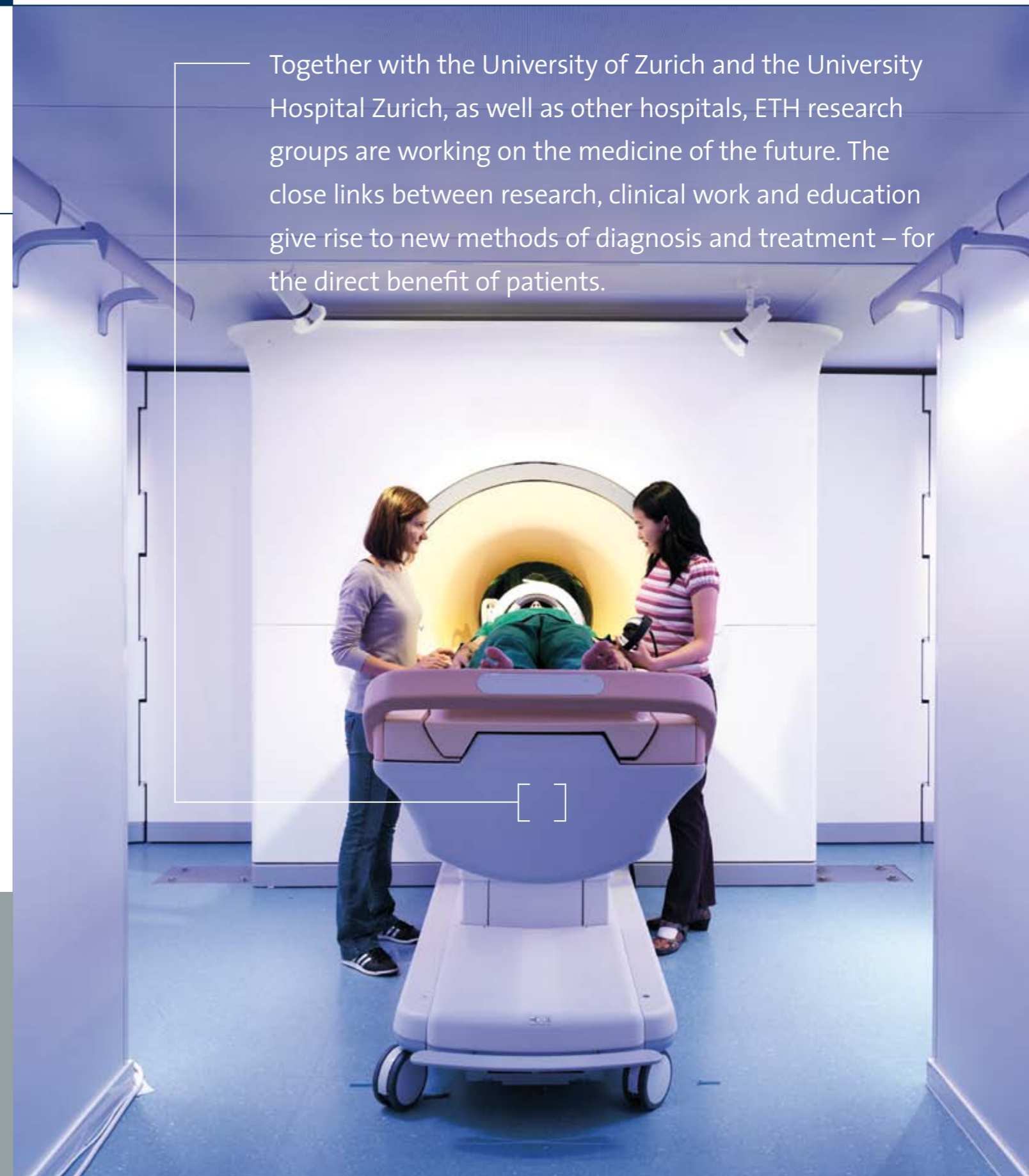
Together with EPFL in Lausanne and the four research institutions (Eawag, WSL, Empa and PSI), ETH Zurich makes up the "ETH Domain". The close cooperation within this network, which is funded by the federal government, puts Swiss research into a leading position internationally: joint centres of competence in the areas of energy and mobility, the environment and sustainability, and materials science and technology create the necessary critical mass for first-class research in these fields. There are also over twenty jointly financed professorships in the areas of greatest interest, which thus benefit from an outstanding infrastructure. For example, the Synchrotron Light Source and the Spallation Neutron Source at the PSI are central facilities for ETH researchers.

Zurich has unique potential as a knowledge centre: ever since they were first established, ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich have cultivated a close partnership, with many joint professorships. There are also other partners in the Zurich area, such as the university hospitals, private clinics, universities of applied sciences and research institutions belonging to industrial and business partners. ETH can count on close cooperation, especially in the field of life sciences: for example, with the University of Zurich it runs a joint centre for neurosciences, a competence centre for systems biology and metabolic diseases, and a joint doctoral programme. In medical technology, there are partnerships with various clinics and renowned medical institutions.



Chilled samples for diabetes research: thanks to its close cooperation with other universities and pharmaceutical companies, ETH Zurich is in a position to drive forward fundamental research.

Together with the University of Zurich and the University Hospital Zurich, as well as other hospitals, ETH research groups are working on the medicine of the future. The close links between research, clinical work and education give rise to new methods of diagnosis and treatment – for the direct benefit of patients.



Life at ETH Zurich

24

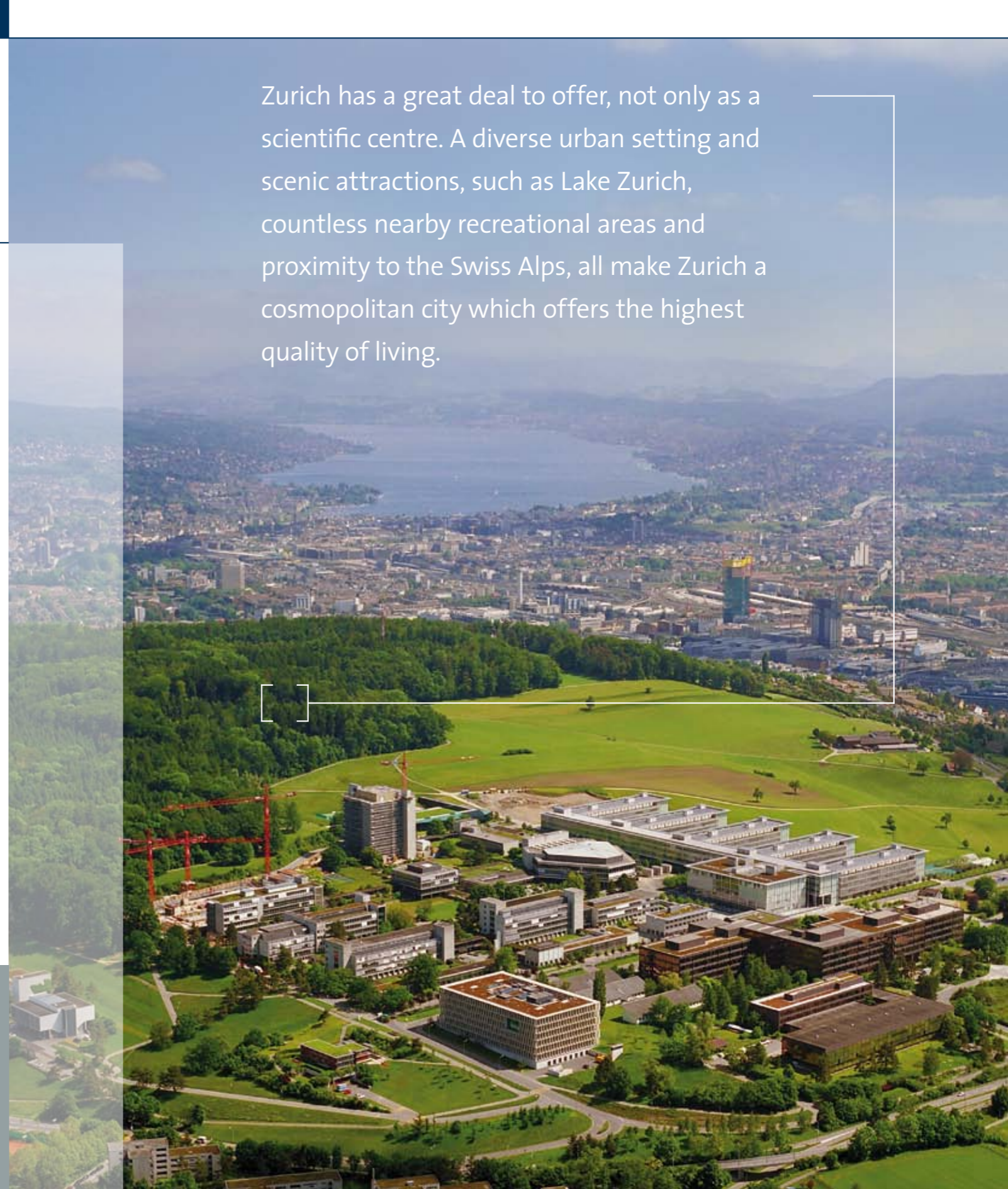
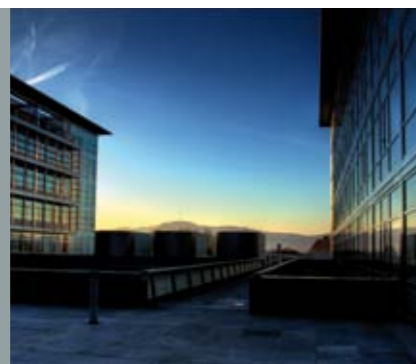
As a leading educational institution for science and technology, ETH Zurich has state-of-the-art facilities. The ETH campuses also offer plenty of scope for a rich university life.

- The historic Main Building in the centre of Zurich and the state-of-the-art Science City campus on the edge of the city offer researchers and students an excellent infrastructure and attractive working conditions.
- Numerous canteens and cafeterias provide lively meeting places and cater for the staff and students' physical well-being.
- Every year, the Academic Sports Association based at ETH Zurich welcomes over a million visitors. It offers some 80 different sports, from aikido to windsurfing.
- For anyone interested in music, there are countless groups to join – be it orchestras, jazz bands or vocal groups.

- Clubs and associations for students, research staff and ETH graduates make starting life at university and in a professional career easier and enhance interaction within the university and with people with a shared interest.

- www.asvz.ch
- www.vseth.ethz.ch
- www.aveth.ethz.ch
- www.alumni.ethz.ch

Zurich has a great deal to offer, not only as a scientific centre. A diverse urban setting and scenic attractions, such as Lake Zurich, countless nearby recreational areas and proximity to the Swiss Alps, all make Zurich a cosmopolitan city which offers the highest quality of living.



Serving society

26



The SED is installing a seismometer in the Gotthard Base Tunnel.



The holdings of the ETH-Bibliothek comprise about 7.4 million printed and electronic documents.

ETH Zurich places the results of its education and research at the service of society. For business and industry, it makes an indispensable contribution towards securing Switzerland's international competitiveness. It also performs other services on behalf of the federal government which promote safety and quality of life in Switzerland.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH

The Swiss Institute for Business Cycle Research KOF at ETH Zurich supplies well-founded information. Its forecasts are an important aid in the decision-making processes of the federal government and the private sector. The KOF works closely with experts from other countries.

→ www.kof.ethz.ch

SWISS SEISMOLOGICAL SERVICE

The Swiss Seismological Service (SED) at ETH Zurich is responsible for monitoring and investigating earthquakes in Switzerland, but is also internationally renowned. As the federal government's centre of expertise, the SED monitors earthquake activity using a national surveillance system and draws up hazard maps to evaluate seismic risk.

→ www.seismo.ethz.ch/index_EN

HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING

ETH Zurich operates the Swiss National Supercomputing Centre (CSCS) on behalf of the federal government. CSCS is working to implement a supercomputing system which will serve all Swiss universities as a national centre of competence and provide computing services to industry.

→ www.cscs.ch

LIBRARY

The ETH-Bibliothek is the largest scientific library in Switzerland and one of the leading scientific and technical libraries in Europe. As a public library, it serves not only researchers, university staff and students but also companies and interested members of the public.

→ www.library.ethz.ch/en/



For ETH Zurich, an important part of social responsibility is maintaining an open dialogue, because complex issues require the sharing of information between science, business and society. Another duty is to make socially relevant topics of research accessible to a broader public.

Shaping the future

28

ETH Zurich will continue to play its role in providing solutions for the major challenges of society in Switzerland and the world at large, and thus strengthen the international reputation of Switzerland as a centre for education, research and science. Shaping our living environment in a sustainable way, using resources sparingly and dealing with issues of world nutrition and health sciences are all areas in which ETH Zurich can make an important contribution thanks to its tremendous expertise. In the years to come, it will expand these key research areas with additional professorships and resources, competence centres and infrastructure.

As a university of international standing, ETH Zurich is attracting more and more students from Switzerland and all over the world, especially at Master level. The Swiss economy and ETH Zurich have long benefited from its well-trained graduates, from both home and abroad. However, this positive trend also generates a need for action: if ETH Zurich wants to continue to offer places to more talented students and maintain its research-focused training at a high level, it needs more lecturers, and also new buildings with lecture theatres, laboratories and places for students to work.

Excellent results in education, research and knowledge transfer require financial resources which allow for qualitative growth. This is where private individuals, namely ETH graduates, as well as companies and organisations, are making an increasingly important contribution. Their donations to the ETH Zurich Foundation, an independent foundation under private law, help ensure that ETH Zurich will still be able to respond flexibly to challenges in the future, and continue to set new benchmarks.

→ www.ethz-foundation.ch



IMPRESSUM

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