OFFICES
FOR PRODUCTIVITY & CREATIVITY
Offices of the 21st century are designed towards the goal of sustainability. In a time of climate crisis, materials and resource consumption and management must consider their environmental impact. To design a building that is bioclimatic, sustainable and energy efficient, we use a methodology that’s based on environmental analysis, studies on integrated solutions, energy demand reductions, renewable energy incorporation, and zero-energy consumption of the building.

Our work method implements the acquisition of environmental certificates such as LEED or BREEAM to ensure that the project is built in accordance to performance expectations. It also makes use of other tools that permit precise planning, energy modeling, and multidisciplinary coordination such as the BIM methodology.

We’re living a paradigm shift in workspaces today. We’re moving towards the proliferation of co-working spaces where communication is enriched and where ideas and experiences are more easily exchanged.

In Estudio Lamela we embrace these challenges and strive to ensure that our offices adapt to present needs and meet the demands of the user with friendly materials, calm-inducing lighting in spaces where urgency usually abounds, and open designs where the worker is always in the center of the dialogue.

Carlos Lamela
Estudio Lamela
Project Locations

- Selected office projects
- Other projects
18 Most Recent Selected Projects

**Méndez Álvaro Office Complex**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 110,000 sqm
Est. Completion Date: 2022

**Airbus Central Offices Campus**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 50,840 sqm
Est. Completion Date: 2020

**Estudio Lamela HQ – Madrid**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 118,500 sqm
Est. Completion Date: 2025

**Nestlé Headquarters**
Warsaw, Poland
Total Area: 28,450 sqm
Est. Completion Date: 2014

**IMDEA Software Building**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 9,700 sqm
Completion Date: 2012

**Banco Santander Contact Center**
Querétaro, Mexico
Total Area: 93,600 sqm
Completion Date: 2008

**Discovery Building**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 15,190 sqm
Completion Date: 2017

**Cristalla Business Park**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 28,650 sqm
Completion Date: 2006

**Expo Zaragoza**
Zaragoza, Spain
Total Area: 164,200 sqm
Completion Date: 2013

**Nestlé Headquarters**
Warsaw, Poland
Total Area: 28,450 sqm
Completion Date: 2014

**Estudio Lamela HQ – Madrid**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 7,800 sqm
Completion Date: 2007

**John Deere Headquarters**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 4,300 sqm
Completion Date: 2009

**IMDEA Software Building**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 9,700 sqm
Completion Date: 2012

**Office Building on M-40**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 21,500 sqm
Completion Date: 2009

**Office Building in Pegaso City**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 31,400 sqm
Completion Date: 2011

**ADE Valladolid**
Valladolid, Spain
Total Area: 31,200 sqm
Completion Date: 2008

**Banco Santander Contact Center**
Querétaro, Mexico
Total Area: 93,600 sqm
Completion Date: 2008

**Discovery Building**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 15,190 sqm
Completion Date: 2017

**Cristalla Business Park**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 28,650 sqm
Completion Date: 2006

**Génova Office Building**
Madrid, Spain
Total Area: 17,600 sqm
Completion Date: 2005
The Méndez Álvaro office complex is the biggest one thus far to be built within M-30, the main motorway of the Spanish capital. It will be located halfway between Atocha Station and the middle of the M-30 along Méndez Álvaro, an area that has grown exponentially over the past years where several headquarters of some of the largest national and international corporations are located.

The development extends over two areas with very distinct identities: The first building is the so-called Méndez Álvaro Campus that occupies 90,000 buildable square meters, of which 60,000 sqm are dedicated to offices. It includes a 74-meter tower of 17 floors, next to another building of 9 floors.

In dialogue with the first, the second building called Méndez Álvaro II is an independent office tower of 20,000 square meters that will stand close to the new extension of the Atocha Station. It is expected to reach a height of 81 meters across 18 floors.

Altogether, the Méndez Álvaro undertaking sums up a buildable area of 110,000 square meters and conceives one of the most important office projects of the last decade in Madrid.
The “Canteen Building” is placed in an area of the plot where the service roads don’t interfere with life on the Campus: breakfasts in the coffee area, meals in the garden, informal meetings by the outdoor tables, team celebrations in an enclosed room, and special visits at the terrace.

The urban design weaves and unifies the buildings that make up the Campus through a track that serves as the backbone of the compound. It lends a unique vibe to the space between the buildings while evoking the movement produced during aircraft takeoffs.

The “P7 Parking”, the last of the five buildings, has been implemented as part of the transportation strategy.

The project and the work have been developed entirely in BIM. The buildings have received the pre-qualification of the BREEAM “Very Good” certification, where the final will be obtained upon the completion of the construction works.

The Airbus Central Campus springs from the need to strategically join the C.A.S.A. buildings in one area in Getafe to give Madrid an established and powerful image in the aerospace industry under the Airbus name.

Five buildings make up the entire project: The “Identification Building” doesn’t only allow entry into the campus, but it also serves as the access to the South of the factory. The “Central Office Building” is outstanding in that, besides having an underground parking and three office levels, its two large volumes are arranged in such a way that they ‘hug’ the visitors upon entering. From the entrance on the opposite side, the two volumes make up ‘binoculars’ towards the neighboring airstrips. The “Shared Resources Building” is like the younger brother of the second as it also has three office levels and an underground parking. Its distinctiveness lies in its one-prismatic volume where its large facade does two things: firstly, its inclined profile is like an opening door that draws people into the entrance. And secondly, it serves as a visual landmark on which the “AIRBUS” sign is mounted.
Since the 1970s, Kodak photography company had their headquarters in Las Rozas town, Madrid. The building is located in one of the plots of the project, a fact that enhances the site. In its heyday, in addition to offices, it also housed a school and offered photography workshops, all set on a landscaped background of the Lazarejo Natural Park. Currently, the building is in disuse.

The project is in dialogue with its environment and adapts to its terrain. The master plan includes residential and office projects, where buildings are terraced to comply with the land, thus altering it as little as possible.

For the offices, the project proposes a multifunctional, collective (adaptable to its “inhabitants”, as in a city), and a sustainable and healthy model that has the capacity to adapt to different work modes (private, shared, collaborative, and meetings). The residential blocks are based on a module of four homes per floor with as many levels as possible, all covered.
In the urban context of the project, it enhances its environment through improved urban flow and access. The elimination of architectural barriers, the careful consideration of lighting, the selection of materials, and the incorporation of efficient landscaping are all fundamental pillars of the project. Another of its main objectives is the improvement of the relationship with the surrounding environment and the city in general, through a dynamic and friendly image for the citizen.

This complete rehabilitation on Orense street in Madrid will give the headquarters of Generali insurance company a new dynamic and modern image.

A glass curtain wall with hidden profiles will give the old building a new skin, completely renewing its façade. The structure is made up of inverted L-shaped metal ribs that will be placed along the building’s exterior, renewing its personality altogether. Not only do they embody the essence of the new design, but they also protect the interior from excessive sunlight. The project incorporates landscaped terraces on different floors, freeing them from facilities for the employees’ enjoyment.

In commitment to sustainability, the building’s new design increases its energy efficiency by the renovation of facilities and the new thermal envelope. The quality of the interior office spaces also increases the user’s sense of wellbeing through improved thermal comfort, air quality, natural light, and acoustics, among others.
Astro Tower

The Astro Tower, located in the center of Brussels (Belgium), is the highest green building in Europe under the paradigms of energy consumption.

It’s a remodeled building constructed in 1974 that adapts to the demands of time, the 21st century, which caters to sustainability and energy efficiency – two characteristics that can’t be renounced. The result is a green building of the highest standard in Europe in terms of energy savings and consumption. In fact, it’s practically self-sufficient. Its numbers support it: it reduces energy consumption by up to 90% and reduces heating costs by 60%. In addition, it has the Bâtiment Passif certification 2014 and 2015.

From a formal perspective, the Astro Tower represents a major refurbishment yet it maintains the essence of one of the icons of Brussels. On its horizon, it reaches a height of 113 meters across 42 floors, of which 32 are offices which accommodate the headquarters of Actiris, the public body responsible for increasing the employment rate in its region. The identity of a friendly building, open to people and their future, has been one of the main considerations of Estudio Lamela during its renovation.
The headquarters of Caja Badajoz is a tribute to the nature and landscape of Extremadura, that’s why the square’s roof reinterprets its pastures.

The building is configured in two elements: a square for support uses —restaurant, auditorium, exhibition hall, etc. — and a vertical structure for the offices of the Caja Badajoz. The intention of the roof of the square is to recreate the pastures of Extremadura, paying homage to the characteristic landscape of this region. The idea for the tower is to be very diaphanous, looking for structural support in two independent cores. The facades use a double skin of large horizontal strips to mitigate the impact of the powerful Extremadura sun.
Expo Zaragoza

Location: Zaragoza, Spain
Client: Sociedad Estatal Expo Z. Empresarial
Total Area: 164,200 sqm
Completion Date: 2013

The intervention consists of the refurbishment of the whole complex of ‘multi-pavilion buildings’ created for the International Exposition of Zaragoza 2008 (Spain).

The project is carried out on the original created by the engineers IDOM after winning a public tender. It consists of the refurbishment of the whole complex of “multi-pavilion buildings” in a large business park which has become the largest in Spain. The project distinguishes between 3 sub-groups with pre-existing forms which had to be maintained: the Ronda buildings — more linear in shape, but with undulating facades, the Ebro buildings — shaped like a water droplet, and the Actur buildings. In all buildings, there are plans for intermediate floors to allow passage from two levels at a height of eight meters to four at four meters. There is also a “surgical” type operation to open spaces and relocate cores necessary for office use.
Situated and organized around an open patio, it’s a multidisciplinary office where offices and commercial spaces coexist. It stands out for its double-glass façade.

The Pacific office building is a multidisciplinary building with offices and retail spaces with 8 aboveground and 2 underground levels. It is composed of 3 blocks surrounding an open patio. It has a double-glass façade with lighting elements that makes the building stand for a modern architecture and some innovative technology solutions. The building is of A+ category and it’s in the process of certification for BREEAM Very Good.
The plan of Leitner Office Building adapts to the trapezoidal shape of its plot, adhering to its established terrain. From this stance, the building is designed as a pure and compact volume that responds to its function and purpose.

It is dedicated to production and contemplation where transparency and opacity intermingle through multiple strips of glass sheets and modules of metal sheets. Curtain walls of low-emission glass and aluminium make up the entire main façade, complemented by a decomposable concrete maintenance walkway. Collectively, they envelop the prism of changing shadows throughout the day. A double metal mesh skin on the west façade provides better sun protection for the building.

Its exterior features the contrast between the building’s pristine volume and the outdoor garden. On the ground floor, the structure is transformed — its pillars become illuminated walls, the garden merges the indoors with the outdoors — unexpected cuts and small dimensional changes highlight and embrace these variances.
John Deere Headquarters

A construction defined by its U-form that redeems the memories of the courtyard buildings of the Spanish culture, defines the headquarters of the agricultural machinery company John Deere.

The geometry of the U-shaped building is an attempt to evoke the buildings with courtyards of Spanish culture, in which everything revolves around one function, in this case the agricultural machinery products of John Deere. It is closed to the outside — to the city and the road — showing its more public façade and suggesting movement with its roof and non-orthogonal façade plans. About the U-shape (outside-inside) there are also three levels of approximation: a distant one, that of the city, another intermediate one, that of the movement of vehicles, and a third level (the one closest to the building) which is framed by the geometry of the paving and the emerging volumetry of the structure itself.
The IMDEA Software Building is a research building where less is more. It unifies all of the Institute’s offices into a single structure of 2 floors to facilitate the interaction between the researchers.

This project was awarded to Estudio Lamela through a restricted tender. It started out from the idea of bringing together all the research offices into a single two-floor piece to encourage contact and interaction between researchers.

The research space is an elevated, light and technological structure, which dominates and characterizes the Research Institute. The whole program which serves as support for the research space is located below this one and is in contact with the land, forming a structure of stepped terraces. The roofs of these terraces are plant gardens.

IMDEA Software Building

Location: Madrid, Spain
Client: Universidad Politécnica de Madrid / IMDEA Software
Total Area: 9,700 sqm
Completion Date: 2012
The Ebrosa Building stands like an imposing display window. The plated double skin above the highway gives its interior ample space for a garden. The north façade seeks velocity; the south, openness.

The conception of the project comes from its adaptation to its strategic location next to the M-40. The building stands like a huge shop window, exhibiting itself to the passing torrent of vehicles. The double skin is seen as a large screen onto the motorway, which contains within a large space-garden in which are arranged unusual access walkways which house the vertical communication cores. The north façade looks for exposure to the dynamic movement of the city, to speed. The south façade looks for openness, with its arms open to the visitor, and paused movement. This singular solution increases the feeling of a monumental structure and the building becomes the main feature of its surroundings.
The project looks for flexibility in its functional approach, as this is a building to be rented out. The choice was made to create a single core with a vertical communications system to maximize the division by floor according to the customer’s requirements. The formal aspect of the project responds to the concept of piling up in moveable horizontal bands. The façade uses a double skin, with the external one being of aluminium with stamped plates which allow good vision. The complex in which it is located is one of those with the brightest future in Madrid, with a development with great quality of construction and a very attractive setting.
The project is based on the articulation of two bodies through a large common atrium which unifies the whole and gives entity to the operation. The north block, which is higher, embraces the southern one, which is lower, via the quadruple height atrium. Both pieces are arranged on a base square which serves as shared parking and where the general spaces and public uses such as cafeteria, auditorium and restaurant are located. The common space serves as the axis of rotation of both bodies and welcomes visitors and users in a vestibule. The facade is formed of a double skin, the exterior one of horizontal strips and the interior one of glass from floor to ceiling.
The Banco Santander Contact Center was the first project completed by Estudio Lamela in Mexico. It is the most advanced Call Center in the world with a capacity for two thousand positions.

The approach adopted by the proposal is a clear separation between two elements: one is earth-bound and uses heavy materials, considering traditional Mexican architecture, and the other is raised and uses light materials which represent the present and the technological future. In order to incorporate natural light into such spacious floors, there are three large courtyards which perforate the building from top to bottom and provide the vertical communications. It has all kinds of annexed services: a training center, dining rooms, and a parking lot for 2,000 cars.
Discovery Building was a challenge from the start. The goal was to maximize the workspace with a compelling proposal of transparency and elegance in the transitional area of the building. The soul of our proposal lies in the total liberation of the building’s central area by dividing the elevator areas into two parts and locating them on the opposite far ends of the building.

Its transparency can easily be seen on the building’s main façade where it projects what its interior has to offer. The façade isn’t merely a glass plane but it’s also a powerful and full-bodied element that resolves the issue of cleaning and maintenance through well-researched exterior walkways. This façade, which is quite noticeable from Paseo de la Castellana in Madrid, becomes a reference of the building.

The building’s enclosure to the courtyard is subtle. It has a solar protection system which was conveniently studied for its orientation while considering the constraints of the open views. The rooftop terrace can be used as a place to unwind, and as it’s a part of the façade, it has landscaped areas and adequately protected facilities.

The main entry is a joyful surprise that leads into a lobby whose design is carefully thought through where a creative dialogue exists between the treated walls and a series of artwork, giving it a character of its own. The parking area that encompasses 100 slots is treated with equal relevance and great dedication. Different wall colors are used throughout the different levels for distinction and the signage used throughout has been carefully chosen.

The commitment to energy efficiency is deep. “Discovery Building” is LEED-NC Platinum certified. This certificate guarantees it’s been built with the highest sustainability criteria. This entails the selection of materials, the construction processes as well as the decisions made regarding the consumption of natural and energy resources. Also, it has the energy qualifications A and A+, the latter granted by the Spanish Association of Offices (AEO).
In the master plan for this project, the buildings are arranged around the perimeter, generating a large common green space. The whole is articulated to make the most of the favourable north-south orientation. The buildings have been sized as compact prisms, with a good distance between them. The internal space flows through generous porticoed floors, and only the boxes of the doorways touch the floor. In the search for greater internal openness, the pillars have been located on the internal axis of the façade, generating a transverse span of 18 metres. The porticoed floor is formed by sloping pillars of exposed concrete in the manner of sculptures.
Very rarely does one have the chance to redevelop one’s own project 30 years later. The new property, which is to be offered for rent, presented the possibility of gaining glass surfaces. The original project from 1974, in the middle of the oil crisis, looked for “natural air-conditioning and self-protection”, which took the form of sloping glass and the smallest sunlight exposure possible. Paying special attention to the environmental aspects, significant energy saving and control of light radiation was achieved. Our idea was to consider a “negative” of the first project by altering the space-span proportion but keeping the same concept and changing the colour tone. The interior facade was simplified by creating a vertical curtain wall with intermediate cleaning walkways.
AWARDS

**Astro Tower**
European Architecture Company of the Year 2018 & Best Belgium Building Rehabilitation & Renovation Project (Build Review • 2018)

**Pacific Office Building**
PLEBC Green Building Award 2016 (Poland • 2016)

**Banco Santander Contact Center**
“National Award for Electrical Energy Savings” (Secretaría de Energía. Comisión Federal de Electricidad, Mexico • 2012)

**“IMEI Award (Ing. Jorge Martínez Araya) for the Most Intelligent and Sustainable Building Avant-Garde Development” (Secretaría de Energía. Comisión Federal de Electricidad, Mexico • 2008)**

**John Deere Headquarters**
Light Façade Award. Honor Distinction (VETECO/ASEFAVE • 2010)

**Discovery**
ASPRIMA-SIMA 2019 Award for the “Best Initiative of Energy Efficiency in Real Estate Projects” (ASPRIMA-SIMA • 2019)

**Génova, 27**
Special Mention for Building C/ Génova 27 3rd Prize “The Best Spanish Promotion Property” Refurbishment & Restoration Category (La Gaceta de los Negocios, Madrid • 2006)

Ex Aequo Honorable Mention “Best Light Façade” (Veteco-Asefave Awards, Madrid • 2005)