GETTING TO MARKET

Commercial application is at the heart of Cornell Tech’s pedagogy. A corporate co-location building, The Bridge at Cornell Tech, provides a place for this to happen by housing established tech companies and fledgling startups side-by-side with academic researchers to bring tech to market faster.

Designed by New York City-based design practice Weiss/Manfredi and developed in partnership with Forest City Ratner Companies, The Bridge will be the first-ever building in New York City designed and built to leverage resources from a cutting-edge research university with those from industry. By removing barriers—both physical and psychological—to collaboration with the world’s most inventive companies, the building creates a model for bringing ideas to market. Tech companies and researchers are neighbors in the very same building, not down the street. It is just as likely that a student team might be working over lunch nearby a venture capitalist might be meeting with a startup company.

The building and the greater campus will have many opportunities for incidental interaction. Public spaces within the building will encourage collaboration, while acres of public open space and features like a café, where students can sit side-by-side with venture capitalists, will promote incidental interaction even more. The building is designed to promote visual connections between tenants and floors, as well as outward into the heart of the Cornell Tech campus and surrounding city beyond.

The architecture of The Bridge reinforces this incidental interaction. A glass façade melds inside and out, allowing those inside to draw inspiration from nature and the city beyond, as people outside can peek inside. The building is designed to promote connections between tenants and floors, as well as outward into the heart of the Cornell Tech campus and surrounding city beyond. The Bridge provides river-to-river views throughout the interior of the building, highlighting the New York City skyline. In addition to inspiring innovation with an awesome view, the expansive windows will help bring daylight into all the spaces of the building.

The Bridge is built to LEED Silver sustainability standards. The silhouette of the rooftop photovoltaic canopy unifies the campus’ architectural expression and is an iconic signature of Cornell’s commitment to sustainability. The energy generated from the roof will help offset the overall energy consumption of the Bloomberg Center, helping it achieve its low-energy goals.