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EDITED BY SARAH DOBBS

Ski gets a lift

Move over, mountains – freestanding ski jumps have made you redundant



How do you build a world-class 134m ski jump without any Alps to rest it on? Oslo's answer: call in Belgian architect Julien de Smedt (left), whose other works

include the award-winning VM Mountain Dwellings and the Maritime Youth House, both in Copenhagen. His Holmenkollen jump, now being built, will host the 2011 World Ski Championship. The site has had jumps since 1892, but de Smedt's incorporates a ski slope, lift, and two-storey tower with a bar, royal box and outdoor viewing. "It will become a symbol of Oslo," he says, "like the Eiffel Tower for Paris." jdsarchitects.com SD



An architect's rendering of the dramatic artificial ski slope, just outside Oslo (main picture); above: the jump as it is today, under construction