Ceramic Facade Systems
The In-house Planning Department or certifications are just two of many good reasons.

As specialist for architectural ceramics, AGROB BUCHTAL offers an extensive portfolio of products and services for modern and future-oriented building and designing with ceramics. The company’s history already started in the 18th century. Today, AGROB BUCHTAL is a global player deeply rooted in Germany as traditional location.
Colors. The enormous selection of colored glazes includes the harmoniously co-ordinated SpectraView color families as well as a wide range of design surfaces, as glazed or unglazed variants. On request, special colors are also developed to ensure maximum freedom of design.

Freedom of design. Additional possibilities associated with individual facade design arise from the use of various formats and surface finishes. Textured facade panels can loosen up expansive areas, for example, and emphasise the character of an entire building.

Sustainability. Ceramics is harmless in terms of building biology. It scores well on account of its unlimited useful life and can be fully recycled.

Surface finishes. The innovative HT surface coating prevents the formation of algae, moss and microbes while the self-washing effect ensures permanently clean facades.

Special solutions. More than 20,000 glaze formulations, digital printing technology and precise water-jet cuts open up unlimited possibilities for design – for new buildings and in stylish renovations of protected buildings.

Economic feasibility. Perfect substructures guarantee efficient panel installation. The low panel weight offers advantages in terms of statics, transport and handling.

Certifications. All systems are tested by the Buildings Inspectorate. Specialized product information supporting the auditors facilitates and accelerates certifications in accordance with LEED, DGNB and BREEAM.

In-house Planning Department. Specific relief of routine tasks opens up creative scope for specialists who convince in the form of their solution competence and offer technical building consulting on site.

BIM. The provision of BIM-compatible planning optimizes the exchange of information between everyone involved in the building. This makes the planning process more productive – with positive effects on costs, quality and loyalty to deadlines.

Digital print. Modern technology creates facades in line with individual requirements. Accordingly, apart from wood or stone looks evoking a natural effect, metallic glazes are also possible which are resistant to environmental factors.

Experience. The innovative strength of AGROB BUchtal is based on know-how gleaned by several generations – extending as far back as the 18th century. By offering ceramic facade systems, the specialist for architectural ceramics has been making a name for itself all over the world for more than 40 years.

Ceramics. As a building material which has proved its value for thousands of years, ceramics displays ideal properties: it is non-combustible, resistant to chemicals, light-fast, resistant to pressure, impact and scratches, easy-care and hygienic.

Made in Germany. Modern production facilities, expertly-trained employees and efficient Quality Management are the basis for high-quality products. Ceramic facade systems offered by AGROB BUchtal are subject to on-going inspections and are manufactured exclusively in Germany. For guaranteed “Quality made in Germany”.

Innovative strength of AGROB BUchtal is based on know-how gained by several generations – extending as far back as the 18th century. By offering ceramic facade systems, the specialist for architectural ceramics has been making a name for itself all over the world for more than 40 years.

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More than 50 colors as well as numerous material looks and metallic glazes.
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Ceramic facades for more than 40 years

A facade is far more than just the protective shell of a building. Its design not only characterizes the building itself, but also influences – often visible from far away – the urban environment.

As leading ceramics manufacturer, AGROB BUCHTEL has extensive know-how in all fields of Architectural Ceramics. With this background, the company has been developing and producing ceramic facade systems setting standards for more than four decades: functionally, aesthetically and by their product quality “made in Germany”. Curtain-type, rear-ventilated facades optimizing the energy efficiency and economical balance of buildings play a central part in this context. High competence in building physics results in technically sophisticated substructures, which ensure an efficient mounting and a safe fastening of the panels. These constructions are the connecting element from the wall – via the insulating layer – to the facade cladding and support the realization of creative ideas. The In-House Planning Department is permanently further developing the various systems and accompanies the implementation of individual concepts world-wide – on request also on location at the construction site.

Polytechnikum (polytechnic institute), Hongkong, China / Architect: Messrs. Palmer & Turner

Museé d’Arte Moderne, St. Etienne, France / Architect: Didier Guichard

IMAX, Berlin, Germany / Architect: Renzo Piano
The company
Projects all over the world

Thanks to the variety of colors, sizes and surface finishes, supplemented by fastening systems making installation efficient and safe even on complex bases, ceramic facade systems offered by AGROB BUCHTAL have been popular all over the world for decades.

On all inhabited continents, from Canada to Brazil, from Northern Sweden to South Africa, from Russia to China and Australia, the systems comply with various architectural design concepts in a wide variety of cultures and climate zones around the world, whereby special productions are often used for artistic facade design. The range of projects includes hotels, office buildings and hospitals, residential buildings, sports facilities, railway stations and airports. A special part is played by 3D facade ceramics as a means of providing shade in tropical heat.
Office building Sky, Unterföhring, Germany

Airport, Assuan, Egypt

Business Center, Jekatarinburg, Russia

Clarion Hotel, Helsinki, Finland

Pretoria Tower, South Africa

Lee Shan Building, Hong Kong, China

Microsoft Campus, Shanghai, China

Adventist Hotel, Sydney, Australia
Ceramics: a raw material of architecture

Already for more than 2,000 years, ceramics has been a “raw material of architecture”. Colored tiles and ceramic decorations were already used by the Etruscans in their buildings. The definition of ceramics stands for all inorganic non-metallic materials which are first shaped and fired afterwards.

Clay is the main component of ceramic tile masses and developed as a result of the weathering of rock containing feldspar (e.g. granite) due to exposure to wind, water and the seasonal temperature differences. This weathering took place millions of years ago in the Tertiary period. It is composed of fine-grained minerals, with the clay minerals (sheet silicates) lending the clay its plastic properties. Due to the special requirements that have to be met with regard to the ceramic manufacturing process and also the product itself, other raw materials such as, for example, feldspar (15-25 %), chamotte (10-20 %) and kaolin (0-10 %) must be added to the clays (50-70 %). The preparation comprises the homogeneous mixing of all components.

The obtained mass is further processed in the ceramic manufacturing process.

Concerning the shaping of tiles, basically two methods can be distinguished: on the one hand, the dry-pressing, and on the other hand, the extrusion. In the shaping process, the prepared mass – as granulate or in plastic state – is pressed in or through a mould under very high pressure. The choice of the respective shaping method depends on the desired properties of the finished product. AGROB BUCHTAL uses both methods.
The perfect solution: curtain-type, rear-ventilated ceramic facades

Aesthetics, economic efficiency and sustainability: the combination of these three factors is the basis for the growing success of curtain-type, rear-ventilated ceramic facades. The decisive reason for the technical superiority of these systems is the structural separation of the functions of heat insulation and weather protection.

The ventilated cavity between the ceramic panels and insulating material regulates the building’s moisture balance, directing moisture outwards and guaranteeing swift drying of damp exterior walls. The insulating material stays dry and fully functional while the indoor climate is improved. Regardless of the building height and utilisation, mineral insulating materials in heat conduction groups 040 or 035 are usually used for rear-ventilated ceramic facades. As the system permits installation of any thickness of insulation material, the specifications of the Energy Savings Ordinance can also be easily met. The permanently safe connection between ceramic panels and supporting outer wall is ensured by the substructure where sophisticated constructions make for efficient installation and compensate for uneven surfaces on the walls.

In addition, aluminium substructures play a key role when it comes to lightning protection. As an indestructible material, ceramics not only offers optimum protection from rain and snow – panels and special pieces in a contemporary range of colors also characterise the outer appearance of the building and support the architect in realising his ideas. With their great variety of colors, formats and surface textures, the curtain-type, rear-ventilated facade systems offered by AGRO BUCHTAL represent an ideal basis and maximum freedom of design when planning new buildings or renovating existing ones. And those on the lookout for something special will also find what they are looking for here, as individual special productions are one of the company’s strong points.
System: structure and function

Thanks to the air space between the outer facade cladding (ceramics) protecting the building against snow and rain and the insulation (mostly mineral wool), curtain-type, rear-ventilated facade systems improve the indoor climate, save heating costs and conserve natural resources.

1 Moisture is carried away
2 Anchoring base
3 Mineral insulation
4 Rear ventilation ≥ 2 cm
5 Wall bracket
6 AGRO BUCHTAL ceramics
7 Bearing profile
Sustainability and conservation of resources also play an increasingly important role when it comes to planning and designing facades. Ceramic curtain-type, rear-ventilated facade systems are practically unbeatable in this area. As the panels are resistant to frost, light- and color-fast, non-combustible and very impact-proof, they have a practically unlimited useful life. Whether glazed or unglazed, the highly-resistant surface made of fired ceramics makes them resistant to extensive soiling such as graffiti. And the Hytect surface with its self-washing effect also reduces cleaning requirements. When the time comes to demolish the building, all components of the facade cladding – ceramics, mineral wool and the aluminium used for the substructure – can be easily sorted and redirected to the respective material circuits. On the basis of these material properties, ceramic curtain-type, rear-ventilated facade systems are eminently suitable for use in sustainable construction projects aiming for Green Building certificates such as LEED, BREEAM or DGNB – especially considering that AGROB BUCHTAL provides the architects with support during the certification process in the form of documents for auditors which are specially designed for this purpose.
### Varieties of Design

Curtain-type, rear-ventilated facades permit facade design which is independent of the building grid. With a wide selection of materials and sizes and an extensive range of harmoniously co-ordinated colors in various surface finishes, planners and architects have plenty of scope for implementing their ideas. Accordingly, the function and character of the building can be emphasised, attention drawn to significant components or surrounding colors integrated in the design.

### Protection against Heat and Cold

In combination with mineral insulating materials and an innovative substructure, curtain-type, rear-ventilated facades can achieve any U-value. This ensures good insulation and low heat loss in winter yet good indoor climate conditions in summer. Energy requirements for heating and cooling are reduced. Furthermore, ceramics displays practically no temperature-induced linear expansion – unlike other materials such as metal or composites.

### Replacing Individual Panels

In the event of damage or for any other reason, individual or several panels can be easily removed and replaced without any major effort.

### Light- and Color-Fast

Fired at high temperatures of over 1,200 °C, environmental factors such as heat, cold and solar radiation (UV light) do not have any lasting effect on surface appearances. Colors remain unchanged even after several decades.

### Anti-Graffiti

Facade ceramics by AGROB BUCHTAL meet the requirements on cleaning according to ReGG III of the Gütegemeinschaft Anti-Graffiti e.V., whereby the maximum performance class is achieved. This has also been confirmed by an independent test institute.

### Sun and Visual Protection

Solar protective equipment mounted on the outside is most effective in reducing the energy input via translucent layers. Rear-ventilation also offsets surface heating.

### Less Waste on Site

As the ceramic elements are robust and resistant to weathering factors such as rain and frost, they do not require complex packaging but are secured on standard pallets for delivery to the building site. This accelerates on-site processes and means that little waste is incurred which, in turn, needs to be disposed of.

### Sustainability

Ceramic facades are suitable for both new buildings and renovations, and permit a lengthy useful life or extend the useful life of existing buildings. The Hytect surface with a self-washing effect supplied by AGROB BUCHTAL ensures a low cleaning effort and improves the quality of air in the vicinity of the building. All components can be easily recycled after de-construction.

### Economic Feasibility

The curtain-type, rear-ventilated facade design protects the components underneath against a wide variety of environmental factors. This results in a long useful life on the part of the entire construction, low susceptibility to damage, comparably low maintenance costs, cost stability during the planning phase, and installation independent of the weather.
Fire safety

Fire safety experts rate curtain-type, rear-ventilated facades as very safe in terms of technical fire safety. Free selection of the system components makes it possible to meet all technical fire safety requirements. As a general rule, the following applies: all components of curtain-type, rear-ventilated facades must be made of non-combustible materials. The DIN 18516-1 in conjunction with Annex 2.6/4 of MLTB regulate fire safety for curtain-type, rear-ventilated facades. Detailed information on measures, precautions and rules can also be found in the applicable state construction laws of the 16 German states (LBO), in the general DIN and VDE provisions as well as in the information provided by building supervision.

Resistance to frost

Extruded stoneware panels are fired at a firing temperature of approx. 1,260 °C and are extremely resilient. This also includes frost resistance in accordance with DIN ISO 10545-12. In test procedures, the panels are saturated with water before testing for soundness under vacuum after 100 frost-thaw cycles.

Earthquake-safe

All products are constantly tested at recognised material testing institutes in Germany and abroad. Specific national certificates governing earthquake stability, for example, are available. On request, copies of these certificates and approvals can be made available at any time.
Safety first

The ceramic facades offered by AGROB BUCHTAL are not only efficient and inexpensive to install, they also meet even increased requirements on safety in their capacity as sophisticated systems – in both new buildings and renovations.

Ceramic facade elements score particularly well when it comes to meeting fire safety specifications: this external wall cladding corresponds with the highest classification of “non-combustible” and also meets the additional requirements governing smoke production and flaming droplets/particles as specified by the DIN EN 13501-1 standard. Even in the case of a fire, no vapours or toxic gases are released. As a building material, facade ceramics is regarded as displaying a recognised and stable performance in terms of its reaction to fire as it does not contain any organic material. When planners or contractors choose non-combustible mineral insulation and consider installing fire barriers, the result is an overall construction offering maximum fire safety. Not that any compromises need to be made in terms of design either: based on its material, ceramics already complies with the “non-combustible” requirement with the result that the extensive range of colors, sizes, surface finishes and ceramic special pieces is available in full for creative solutions with a high degree of individuality and design quality.

Design loads
As a static link, the substructure absorbs all loads and directs them safely into the anchor base. The cladding fastenings secured to the substructure link the system components without technical restraint and transfer all loads.

Lightning protection
The system has also proved its worth during thunder and lightning storms. The metal substructures conduct lightning strikes away or can be combined with lightning protection devices. Accordingly, lightning is conducted to earth and also forms an electromagnetic shield protecting the electronics inside the building.

Noise protection
Curtain-type, rear-ventilated facades not only reduce thermal loss; they also protect the building interior against noise immisions. Thanks to the great absorption capacity of the mineral insulating materials combined with the extensive external cladding, a sound reduction index can be achieved which is up to 14 dB higher.
Ceramic tiles for sustainable buildings

All building certification systems give building materials high priority at the assessment. For builders, this means that already the choice of the appropriate material may have a positive influence on a certification process and thus also on the sustainability performance of a building.

The factor “material” is relevant in all of the four cycle phases, i.e. during the manufacturing, the construction, the operating and the deconstruction phase of the building. In the manufacturing phase, the question is how sustainably the respective building materials are extracted and/or produced or with which energy input they are transported to the respective construction site. In the operating phase, the focus is above all on the influence of materials used on the health and the well-being of the users of the building as well as on technical and energy-related properties.

Making all relevant product properties transparent is advantageous already during the certification. Because the simpler and clearer all the information is prepared, the easier is it for the auditor to assess the material with regard to its effects on the building. That is why AGROB BUCHTAL has compiled separate auditors’ information for the internationally established certification systems LEED, BREEAM and DGNB in a brochure.

LEED

This green building label enjoys the greatest international popularity. LEED-certified buildings can be found in 135 countries around the world. Almost 54,000 buildings world-wide are certified or at least registered in accordance with the LEED standard, of which more than 44,000 are in the USA. Around 48 per cent of all new American construction projects are developed as green LEED buildings. The American sustainability label is also extremely successful abroad: in the People’s Republic of China, for example, more than 1,100 buildings comply with the LEED standard while there are over 800 in the United Arab Emirates and more than 600 in Brazil. In Germany, many property owners also rely on the LEED label with almost 300 LEED-certified buildings scattered between northern Germany and Lake Geneva in the south. The rating system involves points with 69 criteria in seven categories: Sustainable construction sites, Water efficiency, Energy and atmosphere, Materials and resources, Air quality and buildings, Innovative design and Regional priority. Many large international corporations have made LEED certifications obligatory for new rentals or construction of new company buildings.

DGNB

The certification system applied by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Nachhaltiges Bauen (German Sustainable Building Council, DGNB) was launched in 2007. This masterpiece of German engineering science raises the benchmark for some – especially technical – criteria when compared to the British label. It is more exact which means it is practically impossible to achieve a 100 % rating. Overall assessment incorporates five segments: Ecological quality, Economic quality, Socio-cultural and functional quality, Technical quality and Process quality. For each application, the certificate also demands a comprehensive analysis of life cycle costs in accordance with standardised criteria, a life cycle assessment and a decommissioning concept.

BREEAM

The mother of all sustainability labels for property although meanwhile overtaken by LEED in terms of popularity. Around 250,000 buildings world-wide comply with the requirements of the British sustainability catalogue, most of which can be found in the home of the BREEAM label, Great Britain, where the astonishing success of climate-friendly property is also largely due to state regulations: all new residential buildings must satisfy the BREEAM Code for Sustainable Homes. In Germany, too, the BREEAM label is often the green building standard of choice. Developed for rating entire properties, the BREEAM In-Use Certificate evaluating the environmental compatibility of existing property has also been available on the German market since 2012 with ratings being awarded in the following categories: Energy, Water, Land use and ecology, Health and well-being, Transport, Materials and Pollution.
Green Life Headquarters Banca Crédit Agricole, Parma, Italy / Architect: Frigerio Design Group / Photo: Frigerio Design Group / LEED PLATINUM

The Viridian, Boston, USA / Architect: Bruner/Cott & Associates / Photo: Fred Clements / LEED GOLD

Orchard Hotel, Nottingham, Great Britain / Architect: RHWL Architects / Photo: Martine Hamilton Knight Photography / BREEAM EXCELLENT

Transport de Montréal, Montreal, Canada / Architect: Lemay / Photo: Marcin Wozniak / LEED GOLD

Finchley Memorial Hospital, London, Great Britain / Architect: Murphey Philipps Architects / Photo: Benedict Luxmoore / BREEAM EXCELLENT

Alterszentrum Sonnenhof (old people’s home), Wil, Switzerland / Architect: Meier Hug Architekten / Photo: Adriano Faragula / MINERGIE-STANDARD
Ceramic facades with self-washing effect

This is how the self-washing effect of Hytect works: when it rains, a thin water film forms on the surface of the Hytect ceramics, which infiltrates dirt and finest dust particles.

1. The surface tension of the water is overcome. A fine film of water is formed.
2. The effects of light activate oxygen as a catalyst. Microorganisms, algae, fungi and moss are decomposed.
3. When it rains, dirt and microorganisms are simply infiltrated and removed thanks to the self-washing effect.

The Hytect technology helps to keep facades and surfaces clean. In addition, they are very resistant. Graffiti can be easily removed with appropriate means without leaving any damage to the surface. All glazed facade panels of AGROB BUCHTAL are provided with Hytect surfaces as standard.
Downing Students City Village, Belgrade Plaza, Coventry, Great Britain / Architects: Simpson Haugh and partners group / Year: 2017 / Products: KeraTwin® (K20) / Photos: Simon Hadley
For everlasting beautiful facades

Hytect ceramics is sustainable, economical and efficient on facades. Among other things, because Hytect facades basically clean themselves.

The self-washing effect of Hytect facades has a long-term effect in terms of costs. However, it also increases the visual attractiveness of buildings – because they are simply always clean. Just as important: Hytect facades are almost indestructible. They are easy to install and can be combined with various types of thermal insulation. All this makes their use financially attractive and sustainable for the environment. Rain and moisture usually have a negative effect on conventional facades. In the case of Hytect facades, the opposite is true. Because when it rains on them, the natural self-washing effect of Hytect starts. Dirt is infiltrated and simply washed away by the rain. By photocatalysis, a particularly great amount of active oxygen is produced on the surface of the ceramics. Moss, algae, fungi etc. are thus prevented from growing on the facade. This also saves cleaning costs. In addition, Hytect facades are resistant to frost, wind and weather. Because they are practically indestructible. Renovations thus become superfluous – and the economic efficiency increases.

1. Pollutant molecules such as formaldehyde and nitric oxides come into contact with the ceramic surface.
2. The activated oxygen transforms pollutants into harmless compounds.
3. These harmless compounds are released into the air.
A clean solution for cities and people

Facades can also contribute a lot to make our cities cleaner.

Hytect neutralizes nitrogen to a degree which should not be underestimated. We checked that again, and we found out that 1,000 m² of Hytect facade neutralize approximately the NOx emissions of a Euro 5 car over a distance of 10,000 kilometres every year.

By the way, we Germans drive our car 35 kilometres a day on average. Thus, the facade neutralizes the average daily drives of around 286 persons in Germany – of course again in Euro 5 vehicles. If one calculates with the newer Euro 6 vehicles, the distance even increases to 22,000 kilometres – or the daily drives of 628 persons.

Thus, Hytect facades indeed can be a contribution to sustainably improving the air quality in cities. They definitely also are a contribution which benefits the environment. Because Hytect facades rarely have to be cleaned. This also helps to protect the environment, because the use of chemical agents or electrically operated cleaning equipment simply is not necessary.

1,000 m² of Hytect facade neutralize the NOx of 1,000 driven distances of 10 km per year.

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Protecting buildings against atmospheric influences is one of the classic functions of any facade cladding. Today, in consideration of the climate and natural resources, demanding energetic standards also need to be complied with and can be best met with curtain-type, rear-ventilated facades. This not only applies for new buildings, but also for the renovation of existing buildings worth conserving.

With the three systems KeraTwin®, KerAion® and KeraShape® – all of them made of extruded ceramics – AGROB BUCHTAL offers the planning architect the possibility to achieve his individual solution. KerAion®, the classic among ceramic facade systems, has been installed successfully all over the world for decades. Apart from the well-known advantages of ceramics as a material, it is above all the sophisticated technique which speaks in favour of this system: KerAion® facades conform to standards and official approvals and, thanks to their practically unlimited useful life, are also very economical. With their well-balanced range of colors, variety of sizes, and project-specific special productions, they also lend buildings with large surfaces an individual look. And the square large-size formats ranging from 80 x 80 cm to 90 x 90 cm with a panel thickness of only 8 mm offer additional design possibilities.

Developed as an economical and design alternative to KerAion®, KeraTwin® is convincing thanks to its architectural versatility and visual variety. Apart from the great selection of sizes with standard heights of 15 to 60 cm and lengths of up to 180 cm, a wide and varied range of harmoniously co-ordinated colors is also available – and rounded off by vivid contrasting colors. Furthermore, the system offers various fastening and design options with installation possible in joint cuts, with or without joint profiles. The panels can be arranged horizontally, vertically and in various bond patterns. Installation is possible on practically any base, including ceilings, in a single panel geometry and a single panel thickness.

AGROB BUCHTAL supplies architects with a versatile product in the form of KeraShape®: the rectangular tubes, lamellar elements and corner profiles can be used as sun or visual protection, for the aesthetic design of corners and projections.
KeraTwin®

The particularly efficient laying and practically unlimited application possibilities thanks to diverse fastening systems speak in favour of KeraTwin®.

Further system advantages:

- great variety of sizes up to large formats of 60 x 180 cm
- particularly wide and varied range of colors
- panels available both glazed and unglazed
- easy to clean and environment friendly thanks to Hytect

KeraShape®

With its diverse profiles, KeraShape® fulfils numerous functions – from the protection against the sun and view to the three-dimensional design of facades.

Further system advantages:

- suitable for horizontal and vertical mounting
- wide range of colors, glazed and unglazed
- ideal for the execution of corners and projections
- elements in lengths of up to 180 cm

KerAion®

The classic, which has proved itself for decades, also offers square formats and lends large-size facades a characteristic look.

Further system advantages:

- great variety of sizes up to the large format of 90 x 90 cm
- wide range of colored glazes with Hytect
- advanced technique developed in the course of decades
- statically advantageous thanks to low panel weight
KERATWIN®
CERAMIC SYSTEM
With its variety of colors, formats and surface finishes, KeraTwin® offers the architect enormous freedom of design. And as diverse fastening alternatives ensure technical and structural versatility, this system offers the appropriate solution to any challenge – even on difficult bases.

As a facade system with the widest variety of colors, KeraTwin® enables any architect to realise his creative ideas. Therefore, apart from the “SpectraView” range of colors comprising nine harmoniously co-ordinated color families and contrasting colors, the “Natura unglazed”, “Design unglazed” and “Design glazed” color systems are also available. On request, the panels are also supplied with profiles which, due to their three-dimensional texture, can make large facades appear less monotonous and lend an entire building a distinctive character. The joints are realised in such a way that the construction is optimally protected against driving rain. With their relatively low weight of 32 kg/m², the panels are easy to transport and install.

The KeraTwin® system variants essentially differ in terms of their fastenings which depend on the requirements of the specific project. The vertical K20 system rail, for example, offers extensive freedom of design and a wide range of accessories. As the panels are simply hung on the system rail, no additional tools are required for installation. Even faster and more efficient laying is possible using the innovative K20 T-profile which requires fewer individual components in the substructure. The vertical K20 Omega profile has proved itself as a specialist for efficient installation on difficult bases, e.g. walls with post-and-beam construction. The system variants OmegaS and OmegaV offer further possibilities: large panels of up to 60 x 180 cm can be mounted vertically or in any bond patterns.

Orchard Hotel, Nottingham, Great Britain / Architect: RHWL Architects / Products: KeraTwin® / Photo: Martine Hamilton Knight Photography
Exceptional nuances

The Telegraph Works project in Greenwich literally stands on a site, which has made history. Already in the times of Queen Elizabeth I, the gunpowder for the fight against the Armada was stored there. In 1850, the first transatlantic telegraph cable was produced there. Starting in 2014, almost 300 new, high-quality apartments have been built on this historic site in London.
Alford Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM) is a London-based architecture firm with offices in Bristol and Oklahoma. The firm founded in 1989 was responsible, for example, for the furnishing of the Saatchi Gallery in London in 2008. According to its own information, more than 500 people work at AHMM today. Within the framework of the Telegraph Works project – also known as Precision – the firm was able to assert itself with an aesthetically impressive idea.

Managed by the London team, a total of 272 new apartments were built on Greenwich Peninsula in five buildings with seven to 18 floors. They are just a stone's throw away from the Thames and in the immediate vicinity of Millenium Leisure Park.

Light-flooded rooms can be guessed when looking at the facades of the individual houses. Open, clear forms characterize the aesthetic approach. And it certainly also is the subtly used color code which gives the Telegraph Works project its unique look. The designers at Alford Hall Monaghan Morris used fine color nuances here and realized them on the facade by means of high-quality ceramics. It creates fantastic accents because up to 10 different shades were used on each building.

Precision – this is not only the name of the Telegraph Works project. Precision definitely was also required at the production of the ceramics. “A technically very demanding project” – that's how the partner of AGROB BUCHTAL and market leader for special facades in England, OCL Facades Ltd., described it. And a successful implementation.
FUNCTIONAL BUILDING WITH HIGH ARCHITECTURAL QUALITY

Main fire station Regensburg, Germany / Architect: Diezinger Architekten / Year: 2019 / Products: KeraTwin® (K20) / Photos: Atelier Bürger
The main fire station in Regensburg impressively demonstrates that functional buildings with high architectural quality can also be realized. There, a particular strength of AGROB BUCHTAL came in useful: the comprehensive range includes numerous ceramic solutions for interior and exterior use – an advantage which enables holistic concepts.
The main fire station forms a large inner city building ensemble. A core element is the block visible from Greiflingerstraße, which consists of three connected buildings which house, among other things, emergency vehicles and functional rooms. The right-hand section will remain, the middle section is to be extensively renovated in the next few years. The left-hand section consists of a new building which was put into operation in autumn 2019 and amazes both inside and out with its high design quality.

For the facade of this new building, the architects chose the system KeraTwin from AGROB BUCHTAL with a differentiated color gradient of finely matched shades, which were specially developed and individually manufactured for this project. This graded color canon structures the functionally quite powerful building and makes it appear filigree and noble. The gentle rhythm of the facade is to be continued in a coming construction phase at the already mentioned renovation of the middle section, so that a coherent structure will then be created, which captivates through homogeneity and materiality.

The high standards are continued inside in the sanitary and shower rooms, changing rooms, corridors, the canteen kitchen and the mudroom. There, too, ceramic tiles from AGROB BUCHTAL act as an architectural link and identity-forming elements: vivid color accents in yellow and red are in an exciting dialogue with neutralizing white and anthracite shades. In addition, all ceramic surfaces in the outdoor and indoor areas are provided with the photocatalytic Hytect coating.
Living is very popular in downtown Manhattan. Perhaps the hippest district is the former industrial quarter of Tribeca. One of the most exciting projects there is the "91 Leonard", which was completed in 2019. 19 storeys high and with a total of 16,500 m², it was built according to the plans of the New York architecture firm SOM, which was also responsible for the construction of the One World Trade Center.

“Our primary design goal was to create a building which relates to and respects the surrounding historic urban structure, while at the same time providing a modern addition to the quarter”, says SOM Director Kim Van Holsbeke. This has been achieved through a finely structured facade with large windows – a reference to the old warehouse buildings and lofts with brick and natural stone facades in the neighbourhood. Regularly placed double windows are framed by a grid structure of square ceramic rectangular tubes from the KeraShape® system. The areas between this grid structure and the recessed window openings consist of facade tiles of the rear-ventilated ceramic facade system KeraTwin® K20. In this way, a picture rich in details and contrast is created. The elegant, matt black glaze of the ceramics creates a respectful interaction with neighbouring buildings – quasi as a contemporary interpretation of the typical Tribeca materials cast iron and stone.

If one stands in the spacious lobby, the fine furniture and the extensive glazing with a view of the leafy inner courtyard reveal that luxury is at home here – just as in the flats between 50 and 250 m² in size, on the roof terrace, in the cinema hall or in the spa area. Already from the outside, the facade designed with great precision and handcrafted sensuality also makes it clear that a special building has been created here.
Earthy and airy

Rachel Haugh, one of the name-givers of Simpson Haugh, has noted that there are two vital requirements for the design of a high-rise. One is to ensure it is well-connected on street level, and the other that it adds something to the skyline.
This might be true in general, but in the case of the 20-storey complex of Belgrade Plaza in Coventry, it is equally important what happens architecturally in between the bottom and the top. The complex Haugh and Ian Simpson designed as part of the urban regeneration of the area near the Belgrade Theatre is situated in the northwestern part of the centre of Coventry. The city has endured a massive destruction during the Second World War and has subsequently been rebuilt in the 1950s and 60s in a tepid, reconciliatory style, combining concrete and brick.

The Belgrade Plaza complex contains retail space on street level, 49 apartments and a variety of different types of housing for 600 students.

This complex obviously stands out due to its height in a predominantly low-rise cityscape, which is determined by the elevated ring road and the postwar reconstruction architecture of the centre of Coventry itself. In the direct surroundings of Belgrade Plaza there is not only the theatre but also some scattered detached and semi-detached housing that has survived the bombing in the 1940s. Simpson and Haugh have managed to blend in their intervention in this rather disparate mix of buildings that forms the context they had to work in, and with. To mitigate the change of scale imposed by the high-rise, the foot of the tower consists of additional low- and mid-rise volumes, with a gridded pattern to further break up their mass. The facades of these lower volumes are cladded with KeraTwin® facade ceramics of earthy shades, harmonizing with the brick buildings in the area. The tower is finished in light-blue, glazed terra-cotta tiles with a glossy coating. The effect of these light-hued ceramics and their reflective finish is that it makes the tower appear lighter, and lighting it up, adding a welcome brightness to Coventry.

The cladding of the projections attributing the facade its characteristic structure required special customised production. Hence, AGROB BUCHTAL not only designed special panels and cross-sections: assembly was also based on an individual and detailed solution featuring a combination of K20 clamps and K20 system profiles. Based on detailed drawings, the arrow-shaped panels for the intersections were cut precisely in the factory in various sizes.
The prefabrication of components is an increasingly important issue. This is because they can be produced under ideal conditions and enable an efficient and space-saving installation on building sites. The White City Campus project has also shown that the prefabrication of a ceramic facade cladding is a holistic process.

For this purpose, all the 1.5 m wide and 3.25 m high elements were already completed in Germany. Already in the run-up to the project, the elements and the interconnected system were thoroughly tested for the required properties such as air and water tightness or sound insulation. Following a logistically sophisticated system, the completed elements were then delivered to London by well over 100 truckloads in a carefully timed flow of materials. They were inspected on site, lifted by crane into the appropriate position and fixed.

The design of the architects from PLP Architecture in London included a wide range of different colors of the ceramics, different sizes and diverse surface variants. AGROB BUCHTAL fulfilled this explicit requirement with specially manufactured facade tiles in three lengths of up to almost 150 cm and a height of 29.7 cm each, as well as in other special formats. A special variant of the "Omega" profile of the modern KeraTwin® fastening system was developed for fastening the facade ceramics. A relevant issue with regard to the statics of a building also is the weight of facade claddings. KeraTwin® elements can score with approximately 32 kg per m², because this value is comparatively low for a ceramic variant, without compromising the stability.

The White City Campus of Imperial College London is an impressive ensemble. Especially the 140 metres high residential tower characterizes the skyline. It was fitted with a total of approximately 2,400 prefabricated facade elements. They are cladded with glass, ceramics or a combination of both materials. In terms of ceramics, a salmon-colored terracotta shade in three differentiated nuances and with two types of surface finish was required.
Green Life is the name of the newly expanded Crédit-Agricole Campus in Parma. It is located south-west of the old town. And the three buildings erected there by the Frigerio Design Group perfectly harmonize with the existing buildings of the 80s of Vico Magistretti. They are energy-efficient, 2019 LEED Platinum certified and they use sustainable materials – such as the KeraTwin® K20 ceramic facade system.

The heart of “Green Life” is the single-storey forum (2,100 m²) with a surrounding glass facade and green roof. It is a reception building, meeting point and company restaurant. The pent roof superstructure of the new office blocks is full of PV panels. Sustainability obviously is an integral part of the concept there. “Green Life” is also sustainable because of its diverse spaces for smart working. On the bright south side of the office buildings there are open spaces with lounge areas. In the north there are closed offices. Greened inner courtyards provide daylight. Glazed facades allow solar gains. The north, east and west facades cladded with the KeraTwin® K20 curtain-type and rear-ventilated facade system are, on the other hand, rather closed to minimize heat losses. In general, the ceramic shell creates a uniform image – as a visual re-interpretation of the existing buildings. This is achieved through comparable color and surface qualities: ochre bricks meet unglazed ceramic tiles. According to the design office, the aim is “to use durable and recyclable materials which reduce the maintenance requirements.” KeraTwin® facade tiles are a perfect solution. They consist of natural raw materials. In addition, their Hytect surface improves the air quality, counteracts the growth of algae and moss and ensures that the facades clean themselves every time it rains. These innovative properties earned the project additional LEED certification points.

“Slow architect” or “storyteller” - that’s what the Italian architect Enrico Frigerio was called. Consequently, the Frigerio Design Group founded by him has also really committed itself to his philosophy of slow architecture. The Genoese team is always trying to find the perfect balance between sustainability and smart working. The new HQ of Crédit-Agricole Italia is a prime example for this.
Ceramic facade systems for sustainable renovation

The world-wide trend towards urbanization is unbroken. New city dwellers need housing space, but areas for new buildings are hardly available. That is why densification and modernization have been gaining importance for years. In this situation, ceramic facade systems offer decisive advantages.

The renovation of existing buildings opens up new opportunities for future-oriented urban planning: previously neglected districts are becoming attractive living areas, and after energy-efficient renovation, even historical buildings meet the increased demands made on the energy balance. For this reason, the renovations already exceed the volume of new buildings in many places. A sustainable solution with energy-efficient and aesthetic advantages is offered by ceramic facade systems, which are applied to the old facade like a second shell. In this way, different energy-saving requirements can be met, because the space between the old and the new facade provides space for insulation layers of any thickness. In addition, curtain-type facades create ideal conditions for the visual enhancement of buildings, because they also allow a building grid which is independent of the original building fabric. And the positive effects on the quality of living also speak for this form of renovation. Because the decoupling of the outer skin from the building body keeps the living spaces cool in summer and warm in winter.

Town hall, Schwarzenfeld, Germany / Year: 2018 / Products: KeraTwin®

Residential building c/Juan Bautista Uribarri, Bilbao, Spain / Year: 2015 / Products: KeraTwin®
Town hall, Schwarzenfeld, Germany / Year: 2018 / Products: KeraTwin®
Surfaces, colors and formats for KeraTwin®

The KeraTwin® system offers additional options in terms of surface finish. In addition to the glossy, silky-matt or unglazed surfaces, panels are now also available which benefit from the new technical possibilities offered by digital printing in order to create even more natural and lively facade areas or to achieve highlights.

For example, stone or wood looks can be realised which intimate great depth while this method sees the advantages of ceramics as a material being retained in full. The same also applies for the new metallic surface finishes which open up incredible design options for ceramic facades.
KeraTwin® K20

- Panel with irregular grooves (cross-section 8)
- Grooved panel (cross-section 1)
- Grooved panel positive (cross-section 2)
- Shed profile (cross-section 4)
- New Wave (cross-section 7)
- Smooth (standard)
- Stripy pattern (cross-section 3)
- Sine wave (cross-section 6)
- Brushed surface KeraTwin® – special color sandstone sandstone glazed (cross-section 5)
KeraTwin® “Extruded Ceramic Panels, Precision, with an average water absorption of $3\% < E \leq 6\%$, group All$_{a}$, part 1, annex B, glazed (GL) and unglazed (UGL)”

KeraTwin® “Extruded Ceramic Panels, Precision, with an average water absorption of $6\% < E \leq 10\%$, group All$_{b}$, part 1, annex D, glazed (GL) and unglazed (UGL)”

Lengths of up to 1,800 mm (in 1 mm steps)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of up to 900 mm</th>
<th>up to 1,200 mm</th>
<th>up to 1,500 mm</th>
<th>up to 1,800 mm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Height</td>
<td>150 mm</td>
<td>200 mm</td>
<td>250 mm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Schematic diagram: production-related deviations possible in individual cases; exact panel cross-section on request.

In addition to the variants shown, other, individual developments are possible on request.

The technical realization of the color design partly depends on the cross-section geometry. We will check this on request.

Due to the different panel cross-sections, the choice of the fastening system depends on the individual case. Furthermore, color deviations compared to the standard variants can not be excluded.
SpectraView glazed, silky-matt

Contrasting colors glazed, glossy

Natura unglazed
In addition to the variants shown, the production of individual articles is also possible. After a short check of the individual case for technical and economical feasibility, we will be pleased to provide you with project-specific information.
KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening with vertical system rail K20

System description

The KeraTwin® K20 facade panels are simply hung in the vertical system rail with the holding grooves on the reverse side. For mounting the panels, no additional tools are required. The compression spring and removal protection integrated in the system rail prevents clattering and constraining forces in the case of alternating wind loads and also the easy removal of panels. The position of the panels is secured either by means of a joint profile adjusted to the joint width or by means of spacers.

Pay attention to profile butt joint!

1 Facade panel KeraTwin® K20
2 Vertical system rail K20, article 620
3 A4 stainless steel screw, article 659-1 (alternatively, fastening with Al blind rivet, article 658, is possible), fixing necessary under each fastening hook!
4 Vertical bearing profile (basic substructure) Minimum width 80 mm / recommended width 100 mm
5 Wall bracket (basic substructure)

A profile butt joint of the vertical bearing profiles behind a panel is not allowed! See standard technical detail drawings.
Mounting instructions for KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening by means of vertical system rail K20

Substructure

The mounting of the substructure must be carried out according to project-specific, static calculation. The general approval Z-10.3-844 of the construction supervisory authority serves as basis.

- The profiles of the basic substructure have to be mounted perpendicularly and in a flush way. (T-profile width ≥ 80 mm; recommended width ≥ 100 mm)
- The system rails K20 (Art. no. 620, 625, 630) have to be precisely aligned horizontally and fastened at the provided holes by means of screws (Art. no. 659-01) or rivets (Art. no. 658).
- The distance of the system rails K20 in horizontal direction must correspond to the longitudinal grid of the panels.
- The length of the vertical profiles must be divisible by the height of the panel format and should not exceed the height of a storey of the building.
- A profile butt joint behind a panel is not allowed.
- In case of open vertical joints, one joint spacer per panel (Art. no. 645) is inserted in a centric extrusion hole of the panel.
- In case of closed vertical joints, the joint profile (Art. no. 640 in case of single-span girder; plug-in joint profile, Art. no. 647, in case of single-span girder with jibs) must be used.

Basic substructure

Fasten system rail with Al blind rivet (Art. no. 658) or A4 stainless steel screw (Art. no. 659)

Click in the joint profile (for closed joints)

Hang in the KeraTwin® panels

Alternative to the joint profile: spacer, Art. no. 645 (for open joints)
Accessories: KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening with vertical system rail K20

Article 620
System rail, painted*
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black, RAL 7021, for installation with joint spacer K20/8

Article 625
System rail, bright*
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), unpainted, for installation with joint profile K20/8

Article 630
System rail, external angle*
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), unpainted, for installation of mitre-cut panels and external angle profiles

Article 635
Embrasure profile*
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), unpainted, dimensions and grid according to project-specific requirements

Article 640
Joint profile K20/8
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black, RAL 7021, RAL-color-painted on request.

Article 645
Joint spacer K20/8
Weight: 0.5 kg / box
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
Box contents: 250 pieces painted black, RAL 7021

Article 658
Al blind rivet, bright
Weight: 1.3 kg / box
Nominal dimensions: 4.8 x 10 mm
Box contents: 500 pieces for system rail installation

Article 659-01
A2 stainless steel screw, bright
Weight: 2.8 kg / box
Nominal dimensions: 4.8 x 16 mm
Box contents: 1,000 pieces + 1 bit for system rail installation

Article 650 / 652 / 654
External angle profile Square / Sword / Negative
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black, RAL 7021, RAL-color-painted on request.

Article 647
Plug-in joint profile K20/8
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black, RAL 7021, RAL-color-painted on request. For installation in case of single-span girder with jibs
Length: 1496 mm

Article 682R
R-clamp
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black

Article 684R
R-clamp
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black

Article 683R
R-clamp
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black

Article 657
A2 stainless steel screw, black head, RAL 7021, for fastening of R-clamp

* legally protected

Profile lengths available:
- Grid of 15 cm, 60 cm: 2992 mm
- Grid of 17.5 cm: 2967 mm - Grid of 20 cm, 25 cm, 30 cm, 37.5 cm, 50 cm: 2992 mm
- Grid of 22.5 cm, 32.5 cm: 2917 mm - Grid of 27.5 cm: 3017 mm
- Grid of 35 cm, 40 cm: 2792 mm - Grid of 55 cm: 3292 mm
- Grid of 45 cm: 2692 mm

System rail K20 available for panel grids of 15 cm - 17.5 cm - 20 cm - 22.5 cm - 25 cm - 27.5 cm - 30 cm - 32.5 cm - 35 cm - 37.5 cm - 40 cm - 45 cm - 50 cm - 55 cm - 60 cm. Other grids on request.

Important: The use of silicone caoutchoucs must be absolutely avoided, because silicone fluids segregate and effect sticky surfaces on which dirt adheres. Therefore, only use the system components mentioned (foamed pieces, EDPM rubber profile, neoprene rubber washer) and pointing, bonding and sealing materials recommended by us. We will be pleased to inform you in detail. The usual final cleaning after completion of the construction works is still required. A warranty for the system KeraTwin® K20 in the scope of the general approval no. Z-33.1-1175 of the construction supervisory authority only applies if the system components shown on these pages are used.
Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec, Canada / Architect: Lemay architecte / Year: 2015 / Photo: Adrien Williams

Sonaville Appartementencomplex, Nijmegen, the Netherlands / Architect: Molenaar en Co Architecten / Year: 2016 / Photo: Marcel van der Burg

Apartment buildings, Basel, Switzerland / Architect: Koechlin Schmidt Architekten AG / Year: 2019 / Photo: Felix Odermatt

Swindon NHS Health Centre, Swindon, Great Britain / Architect: Roberts Limbrick Architects / Year: 2017 / Photo: Simon Hadley, Pershore

Orangerie de Soussie, Morocco / Architect: JLA Studio / Year: 2016 / Photo: Sife Elamine
KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening with vertical T-profile K20

System description
The KeraTwin® K20 facade panels are simply hung in the vertical T-profile K20 with the holding grooves on the reverse side. For mounting the panels, no additional tools are required. The compression spring and removal protection integrated in the T-profile K20 prevents clattering and constraining forces in the case of alternating wind loads and also the easy removal of panels. The position of the panels is secured either by means of a joint profile adjusted to the joint width or by means of spacers for closed or open vertical joints.

A profile butt joint of the vertical bearing profiles behind a panel is not allowed! See standard technical detail drawings.
Mounting instructions for KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening by means of vertical T-profile K20

Substructure

The mounting of the substructure must be carried out according to project-specific, static calculation. The general approval Z-10.3-844 of the construction supervisory authority serves as basis.

- Mount the T-profiles K20 (Art. no. 695) perpendicularly and in a flush way.
- Exactly align the T-profiles K20 horizontally.
- Open vertical joints with T-profile K20 (Art. no. 695Q) with spacer (Art. no. 645).
- In the case of closed vertical joints, the joint profile (Art. no. 640Q in case of single-span girder, plug-in joint profile, Art. no. 647, in case of single-span girder with jibs) must be used.

Basic substructure

Mount the T-profile with approved fastening means

Hang in the KeraTwin® panels

Alternative to T-profile with joint profile: spacer, Art. no. 645 (for open joints)
Accessories: KeraTwin® K20 – 
Fastening by means of vertical T-profile K20

Profile lengths available: Grid of 60 cm: 2992 mm · Grid of 17.5 cm: 2967 mm · Grid of 20 cm, 25 cm, 30 cm, 37.5 cm, 50 cm: 2992 mm · Grid of 22.5 cm, 25 cm, 27.5 cm: 2917 mm · Grid of 30 cm: 3017 mm · Grid of 35 cm, 40 cm: 2792 mm · Grid of 55 cm: 3292 mm · Grid of 45 cm: 2692 mm

T-profile K20 available for panel grids of 17.5 cm - 20 cm - 22.5 cm - 25 cm - 27.5 cm - 30 cm - 32.5 cm - 35 cm - 37.5 cm - 40 cm - 45 cm - 50 cm - 55 cm - 60 cm. Other grids on request.

Important: The use of silicone caoutchous must be absolutely avoided, because silicone fluids segregate and effect sticky surfaces on which dirt adheres. Therefore, only use the system components mentioned (foamed pieces, EDPM rubber profile, neoprene rubber washer) and painting, bonding and sealing materials recommended by us. We will be pleased to inform you in detail. The usual final cleaning after completion of the construction works is still required. A warranty for the system KeraTwin® K20 in the scope of the general approval no. Z-33.1-1175 of the construction supervisory authority only applies if the system components shown on these pages are used.
KeraTwin® | Fastening systems

Apartment complex The Viridian, Boston, USA / Architect: Bruner/Cott & Associates, Cambridge / Year: 2015 / Photo: Fred Clements, cb-products

Riomer University, Vilnius, Lithuania / Architect: Arch. Irmantas Gudavičius Statybos projektų valdymas / Year: 2015 / Photo: Nedas Bobinas, cb-products

Registered office CR PROJECT SERVICE S.R.L., Viterbo Italy / Architect: NOU SFERA LAB / Year: 2020 / Photo: Andrea Pietroni, VM Group

Apartment Building “Islington Square, Studd Street”, London, Great Britain / Architect: CZWG architects, London / Year: 2020 / Photo: John Cave
KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening with vertical Omega profile K20

System description

The Omega profile stands out due to its simple and efficient installation on difficult bases such as e.g. walls with post and beam construction. Horizontal bearing profiles are fixed at the posts. The vertical Omega profiles can then be arranged independent of the distance between the posts, and the panel lengths can be freely planned. The complex system structure with dowel, wall bracket and vertical bearing profile is not required. The subsequent laying of the ceramics is carried out as in the case of the system rail K20. The KeraTwin® K20 facade panels are simply hung in the vertical Omega profile with the holding grooves on the reverse side. No additional tools are required for mounting the panels. The compression spring and removal protection integrated in the Omega profile prevents clattering and constraining forces in the case of alternating wind loads and also the easy removal of panels. The position of the panels is secured either by means of a joint profile adjusted to the joint width or by means of spacers.

A profile butt joint of the vertical bearing profiles behind a panel is not allowed! See standard technical detail drawings.
Mounting instructions for KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening by means of vertical Omega profile K20

Substructure

The mounting of the substructure must be carried out according to project-specific, static calculation. The general approval Z-10.3-844 of the construction supervisory authority serves as basis.

- The profiles of the basic substructure have to be mounted perpendicularly and in a flush way (top-hat or alternatively Z-profile).
- The Omega profiles K20 (Art. no. 624, 627, 633) have to be precisely aligned horizontally and be fixed through the long holes provided on the edge by means of screws (Art. no. 659-01) or rivets (Art. no. 658). (Pay attention to fixed and sliding point execution!)
- The distance of the rails in horizontal direction must correspond to the longitudinal grid of the panels.
- A profile butt joint behind a panel is not allowed.
- In case of open vertical joints, one joint spacer per panel (Art. no. 645) is inserted in a centric extrusion hole of the panel.
- In case of closed vertical joints, the joint profile (Art. no. 640 in case of single-span girder; plug-in joint profile, Art. no. 647, in case of single-span girder with jibs) must be used.

Basic substructure

Fasten Omega profile with Al blind rivet (Art. no. 658) or A4 stainless steel screw (Art. no. 659) (Pay attention to fixed and sliding point)

Click in the joint profile (for closed joints)

Hang in the KeraTwin® panels

Alternative to the joint profile: spacer, Art. no. 645 (for open joints)
**Accessories: KeraTwin® K20 –**

**Fastening by means of vertical Omega profile K20**

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**Article 624**
Omega profile, painted*  
Material: AlMg3 H22  
(EN AW-5754), painted black, RAL 7021, for installation with joint spacer K20/8

**Article 627**
Omega profile, bright*  
Material: AlMg3 H22  
(EN AW-5754), unpainted, for installation with joint profile K20/8

**Article 633**
Omega profile, external angle*  
Material: AlMg3 H22  
(EN AW-5754), unpainted, for the installation of mitre-cut panels and external angle profiles

**Article 658**
Al blind rivet, bright  
Weight: 1.3 kg / box  
Nominal dimensions: 4.8 x 10 mm  
Box contents: 500 pieces for Omega profile installation

**Article 659-01**
A4 stainless steel screw, bright  
Weight: 2.8 kg / box  
Nominal dimensions: 4.8 x 16 mm  
Box contents: 400 pieces + 1 bit for Omega profile installation

**Article 647**
Plug-in joint profile K20/8  
Material: AlMg3 H22  
(EN AW-5754), RAL-color-painted on request for installation in case of single-span girder with jib  
Length: 1496 mm

**Article 640**
Joint profile K20/8  
Material: AlMg3 H22  
(EN AW-5754), RAL-color-painted on request

**Article 645**
Joint spacer K20/8  
Weight: 0.5 kg / box  
Material: AlMg3 H22  
(EN AW-5754)  
Box contents: 250 pieces painted black, RAL 7021

**Article 650 / 652 / 654**
External angle profile  
Square / Sword / Negative  
Material: AlMg3 H22  
(EN AW-5754), painted black, RAL 7021, RAL-color-painted on request

**Article 682R**
R-clamp  
Material: AlMg3 H22  
(EN AW-5754), painted black

**Article 683R**
R-clamp  
Material: AlMg3 H22  
(EN AW-5754), painted black

**Article 684R**
R-clamp  
Material: AlMg3 H22  
(EN AW-5754), painted black

**Article 657**
A2 stainless steel screw, black head, RAL 7021, for fastening of R-clamp

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Profile lengths available:  
Grid of 15 cm, 60 cm: 2992 mm  
Grid of 17.5 cm: 2967 mm - Grid of 20 cm, 25 cm, 30 cm, 37.5 cm, 50 cm: 2992 mm  
Grid of 22.5 cm, 25.5 cm: 2917 mm - Grid of 27.5 cm, 3017 mm  
Grid of 35 cm, 40 cm: 2792 mm - Grid of 55 cm: 3922 mm  
Grid of 45 cm: 2692 mm

Omega profile K20 available for panel grids of 15 cm - 17.5 cm - 20 cm - 22.5 cm - 25 cm - 27.5 cm - 30 cm - 32.5 cm - 35 cm - 37.5 cm - 40 cm - 45 cm - 50 cm - 55 cm - 60 cm. Other grids on request.

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Important: The use of silicone caoutchous must be absolutely avoided, because silicone fluids segregate and effect sticky surfaces on which dirt adheres. Therefore, only use the system components mentioned (foamed pieces, EDPM rubber profile, neoprene rubber washer) and painting, bonding and sealing materials recommended by us. We will be pleased to inform you in detail. The usual final cleaning after completion of the construction works is still required. A warranty for the system KeraTwin® K20 in the scope of the general approval no. Z-33.1-1175 of the construction supervisory authority only applies if the system components shown on these pages are used.
Private villa, Romania / Architect: Victor Gota / Year: 2016

Raiffeisen Forum, Mödling, Austria / Architect: arge x42 / Year: 2014 / Photo: Rich Hiebl

Edificio Residenziale Via degli Schiavoni, Fano, Italy / Architect: Studio Zandri Via de Borgogelli / Year: 2019 / Photo: VM Group

University, Bologna, Italy / Architect: Raffaele PANNELLA / Year: 2015 / Photo: Lorenzo Rimondi

SNAC, Southampton, Great Britain / Architect: CZWB Architects / Year: 2015 / Photo: Norbert Lindner
**KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening with OmegaV profile for laying in bonds**

**System description**

The OmegaV profile was developed to enable installation of KeraTwin® K20 panels in various bonds while availing of all of the advantages offered by the K20 system. The horizontal bearing profiles are fastened to a basic construction at the desired height grid. Then the OmegaV profiles can be hung from the horizontal bearing profiles and with the requisite spacing (length grid) before being secured to the two top suspension brackets using A4 stainless steel screws. The KeraTwin® K20 facade panels are simply hung in the preassembled OmegaV profiles using the holding grooves on the reverse side. No additional tools are required for mounting the panels. The compression spring integrated in the OmegaV profile prevents clattering and constraining forces in the case of alternating wind loads as well as the easy removal of panels. The position of the panels is secured either by means of a joint profile adjusted to the joint width or using spacers.

**System illustration**

1. KeraTwin® K20 facade panel
2. OmegaV profile, Article 700
3. Horizontal supporting profile, Article 597-01
4. Vertical bearing profile (basic substructure)
5. Wall bracket (basic substructure)
Mounting instructions for KeraTwin® K20 – with OmegaV for laying in bonds

Substructure

The mounting of the substructure must be carried out according to project-specific, static calculation. The general approval Z-10.3-844 of the construction supervisory authority serves as basis.

- The profiles of the basic substructure have to be mounted perpendicularly and in a flush way.
- Fix the horizontal supporting profiles (Art. no. 597) at the pre-installed vertical substructure by means of the supplied fastening materials.
- Hang in the OmegaV profiles exactly at horizontal grid distance.
- The distance of the profiles in horizontal direction must correspond to the longitudinal grid of the panels.
- The position of the OmegaV profiles is secured at the suspension brackets on the left and the right by means of screws (Art. no. 659-01).
- In case of open vertical joints, one joint spacer per panel (Art. no. 645) is inserted in a centric extrusion hole of the panel.
- In case of closed vertical joints, the joint profile OmegaV (Art. no. 707) must be used.
- In case of single-span girder, the plug-in joint profile OmegaV (Art. no. 712 in case of single-span girder with jibs) must be used.
Accessories: KeraTwin® K20 – OmegaV fastening on horizontal supporting profile

Article 597-01
Horizontal supporting profile, perforated
Standard length: 2995 mm
Nominal dimensions: 05/90 x 25 mm
Material: EN AW 6063 T66 unpainted

Article 700
OmegaV, painted*
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
painted black, for installation with joint profile OmegaV K20/8

Article 701
OmegaV, bright*
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
unpainted, for installation with joint profile OmegaV K20/8

Article 705 OmegaV, external angle, bright*
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
unpainted, for the installation of mitre-cut panels and external angle profiles

Article 707
Joint profile OmegaV K20/8
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
painted black, RAL 7021
RAL-color-painted on request

Article 712
Plug-in joint profile OmegaV K20/8
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
painted black, RAL 7021, RAL-color-painted on request.

Article 645
Joint spacer OmegaV K20/8
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
painted black, RAL 7021
RAL-color-painted on request.

Article 658
AL blind rivet, bright
Weight: 1.3 kg / box
Nominal dimensions: 4.8 x 10 mm
Box contents: 500 pieces for Omega profile installation

Article 684R
R-clamp
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black

Article 683R
R-clamp
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black

Article 682R
R-clamp
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black

Article 657
A2 stainless steel screw, black head
RAL 7021, for fastening of R-clamp

OmegaV profiles and joint profiles OmegaV available for all standard grids over 20 cm (see page 53). Other grids available on request.

Important: The use of silicone caoutchoucs must be absolutely avoided, because silicone fluids segregate and effect sticky surfaces on which dirt adheres. Therefore, only use the system components mentioned (foamed pieces, EDPM rubber profile, neoprene rubber washer) and painting, bonding and sealing materials recommended by us. We will be pleased to inform you in detail. The usual final cleaning after completion of the construction works is still required. A warranty for the system KeraTwin® K20 in the scope of the general approval no. Z-33.1-1175 of the construction supervisory authority only applies if the system components shown on these pages are used.
Naabtal-Realschule (secondary school), Nabburg, Germany / Architect: Architekturbüro Schönberger / Year: 2016 / Photo: Atelier Bürger

KUBEZ (cultural and meeting centre), Dietach, Austria / Architect: Team M Architekten ZT GesmbH / Year: 2018 / Photo: Roland Reuter, Absam

Naabtal-Realschule (secondary school), Nabburg, Germany / Architect: Architekturbüro Schönberger / Year: 2016 / Photo: Atelier Bürger

KUBEZ (cultural and meeting centre), Dietach, Austria / Architect: Team M Architekten ZT GesmbH / Year: 2018 / Photo: Roland Reuter, Absam

Brofestebygget, Alesund, Norway / Architect: Slyngstad Aamlid Arkitekter / Year: 2015

Thurston Road, London, Great Britain / Architect: ECE Architecture / Year: 2015 / Photo: Alice Jenner

Naabtal-Realschule (secondary school), Nabburg, Germany / Architect: Architekturbüro Schönberger / Year: 2016 / Photo: Atelier Bürger

KUBEZ (cultural and meeting centre), Dietach, Austria / Architect: Team M Architekten ZT GesmbH / Year: 2018 / Photo: Roland Reuter, Absam

Brofestebygget, Alesund, Norway / Architect: Slyngstad Aamlid Arkitekter / Year: 2015

Thurston Road, London, Great Britain / Architect: ECE Architecture / Year: 2015 / Photo: Alice Jenner

Naabtal-Realschule (secondary school), Nabburg, Germany / Architect: Architekturbüro Schönberger / Year: 2016 / Photo: Atelier Bürger

KUBEZ (cultural and meeting centre), Dietach, Austria / Architect: Team M Architekten ZT GesmbH / Year: 2018 / Photo: Roland Reuter, Absam

Brofestebygget, Alesund, Norway / Architect: Slyngstad Aamlid Arkitekter / Year: 2015

Thurston Road, London, Great Britain / Architect: ECE Architecture / Year: 2015 / Photo: Alice Jenner
KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening OmegaS with Omega profile and supporting profile

System description

Omega profile and OmegaS supporting profile permit vertical installation of the KeraTwin® facade panels. Secured to the vertical supporting structure, the OmegaS profiles arranged horizontally carry off wind loads and the dead weight of the panels is carried off by the supporting profile mounted in the height grid. The KeraTwin® K20 facade panels are simply hung horizontally in the Omega profiles using the holding grooves on the reverse side. No additional tools are required for mounting the panels. The compression spring integrated in the Omega profile prevents clattering and constraining forces in the case of alternating wind loads. Each KeraTwin® panel is secured using two securing angles to prevent it from slipping out. The horizontal joints can be open or closed with joint profiles.

1 KeraTwin® K20 facade panel
2 Omega profile K20, Article 627
3 Supporting profile OmegaS, Article 710
4 Securing bracket, Article 711
5 Vertical bearing profile (basic substructure)
6 Wall bracket (basic substructure)

A profile butt joint of the Omega profiles behind a panel is not allowed! See standard technical detail drawings.
Mounting instructions for KeraTwin® K20 – OmegaS with Omega and supporting profile

Substructure

The mounting of the substructure must be carried out according to project-specific, static calculation. The general approval Z-10.3-844 of the construction supervisory authority serves as basis.

- The profiles of the basic substructure have to be mounted perpendicularly and in a flush way.
- Fix the horizontal K20 Omega profiles (Art. no. 627) at the pre-installed vertical substructure by means of the supplied fastening materials. The vertical distance depends on the panel length - single-span girder (= 1/2 of panel length), with jibs on both sides (= 1/4 of panel length).
- Mount the supporting profiles according to the height grid (panel length + 8 mm).
- Position the securing brackets (Art. no. 711) at both Omega profiles and fix them.

Basic substructure with K20 Omega profiles
OmegaS with Omega and supporting profiles
Fixed and sliding point execution
Panel mounting
Securing of the position of the panels at the K20 Omega profiles (with securing brackets)

Mounting instructions as video film: www.agrob-buchtal.de
Accessories: KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening with OmegaS supporting profile for vertical mounting

**Article 627**
Omega profile, bright*
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), unpainted

**Article 684R**
R-clamp
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black

**Article 688**
Joint profile
Material: EN AW 6063 T66, painted black, RAL 7021, RAL-color-painted on request
Length: 1496 mm

**Article 689**
Holding clip for joint profile
Material: AlMg1 (EN AW 5005 A), unpainted
Box contents: 100 pieces

**Article 659-01**
A4 stainless steel screw, bright
Weight: 1.4 kg/box
Nominal dimensions: 4.8 x 16 mm
Box contents: 500 pieces + 1 bit for the fastening of Omega profile, OmegaS and position securing bracket

**Article 658**
Al blind rivet, bright
Weight: 1.3 kg / box
Nominal dimensions: 4.8 x 10 mm
Box contents: 500 pieces for Omega profile installation

**Article 657**
A2 stainless steel screw, black head, RAL 7021, for fastening of R-clamp

**Article 710**
OmegaS supporting profile painted
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754) painted black RAL 7021

**Article 711**
Position securing bracket, bright
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754) unpainted
Box contents: 50 pieces

**Article 657-01**
A4 stainless steel screw, bright
Weight: 1.4 kg/box
Nominal dimensions: 4.8 x 16 mm
Box contents: 500 pieces + 1 bit for the fastening of Omega profile, OmegaS and position securing bracket

**Article 682R**
R-clamp
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black

**Article 683R**
R-clamp
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black

**Article 684R**
R-clamp
Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754), painted black

* legally protected

Omega profiles and OmegaS supporting profile available for all standard grids (see page 53). Other grids available on request.

Important: The use of silicone caoutchoucs must be absolutely avoided, because silicone fluids segregate and effect sticky surfaces on which dirt adheres. Therefore, only use the system components mentioned (foamed pieces, EDPM rubber profile, neoprene rubber washer) and painting, bonding and sealing materials recommended by us. We will be pleased to inform you in detail. The usual final cleaning after completion of the construction works is still required. A warranty for the system KeraTwin® K20 in the scope of the general approval no. Z-33.1-1175 of the construction supervisory authority only applies if the system components shown on these pages are used.
Höxter Markt, Höxter, Germany / Architect: msp architekten GmbH / Year: 2015 / Photo: Mark Wohlrab

Administrative building, Groningen, the Netherlands / Architect: SKETS architectuurstudio / Year: 2015 / Photo: Marcel van der Burg

Green Nest (Foleja e Gjelbër) / Architect: PRG˚B R architektur, Düsseldorf / Tirana (Germany / Albania) / Year: 2019 / Photo: Lorenzo Rimondi

Children’s Hospital, Helsinki, Finland / Architect: Sarc Architects / Year: 2017

Pauley Pavilion UCLA University of California, Los Angeles, USA / Architect: NBBJ, Los Angeles, USA / Year: 2012 / Photo: RMA Photography Inc.
KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening with clamp system K20

Horizontal installation

System description
The KeraTwin® K20 facade panels with a maximum panel format of 135 x 50 cm are fixed by means of the clamps K20, which laterally engage with the channels of the facade panel. The compression spring integrated in the clamps prevents clattering and constraining forces in the case of alternating wind loads.

Vertical installation

1 Facade panel KeraTwin® K20, max. panel format: 135 x 50 cm
2 Twin-clamp K20, article 680
3 Stainless steel blind rivet, article 675-01, alternatively stainless steel drilling screw, article 657
4 Vertical bearing profile (basic substructure)
5 Wall bracket (basic substructure)
6 Joint tape, black, article 506
7 Edge-clamp K20, article 681
8 Horizontal bearing profile (basic substructure)

A profile butt joint of the vertical bearing profiles behind a panel is not allowed! See standard technical detail drawings.
Mounting instructions for KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening with clamp system K20

Substructure

The mounting of the substructure must be carried out according to project-specific, static calculation. The general approval Z-10.3-844 of the construction supervisory authority serves as basis.

- The profiles of the basic substructure have to be mounted perpendicularly and in a flush way.
- The distance of the bearing profiles (profile width ≥ 60 mm) in horizontal direction must correspond to the longitudinal grid of the panels.
- The length of the vertical profiles must be divisible by the height of the panel format and should not exceed the height of a storey of the building.
- A profile butt joint behind a panel is not allowed.
- In the vertical joints, the black joint tape (Art. no. 506) can be applied.
- The clamps (Art. no. 680, 681, 682, 683, 684) must be fastened with at least 2 rivets (Art. no. 675-01) or 2 screws (Art. no. 657).
- For the processing of the rivets (Art. no. 675-01), an extended rivetting tool (25 mm) is required.
- In the area of the clamp fastening, the joints can be closed with the joint profile (Art. no. 688) and one holding clip for joint profile (Art. no. 689) per panel.
Accessories: KeraTwin® K20 – Fastening by means of clamp system K20

**Article 680**
Twin-clamp K20*
- Weight: 45 kg / 1,000 pieces
- Perforation: 2 x 3.3 mm Ø
- Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-6063 T66)
- painted black, RAL 7021

**Article 681**
Edge-clamp K20*
- Weight: 24 kg / 1,000 pieces
- Perforation: 4 x 3.3 mm Ø
- Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-6063 T66)
- painted black, RAL 7021

**Article 682**
Edge-clamp K20, left
- Weight: 24 kg / 1,000 pieces
- Perforation: 4 x 3.3 mm Ø
- Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-6063 T66)
- painted black, RAL 7021

**Article 683**
Edge-clamp K20, right
- Weight: 24 kg / 1,000 pieces
- Perforation: 4 x 3.3 mm Ø
- Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-6063 T66)
- painted black, RAL 7021

**Article 684**
Single-clamp K20
- Weight: 45 kg / 1,000 pieces
- Perforation: 2 x 3.3 mm Ø
- Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-6063 T66)
- painted black, RAL 7021

**Article 687**
A2 stainless steel screw, black head, RAL 7021
- Box contents: 500 pieces

**Article 685**
Stainless steel blind rivet, black
- Weight: 1.05 kg / box
- Nominal dimensions: 3.2 x 9.5 mm
- Box contents: 500 pieces extended mandrel (58 mm)

**Article 686**
Joint tape, black
- Weight: 0.5 kg / roll
- Nominal dimensions: 40 mm wide, 50 m
- self-adhesive, weather-resistant

**Article 688**
Joint profile
- Material: EN AW 6063 T66
- painted black, RAL 7021
- RAL-color-painted on request
- Length: 1496 mm

**Article 689**
Holding clip for joint profile
- Material: AlMg1 (EN AW 5005 A)
- unpainted
- Box contents: 100 pieces

* legally protected

**Important:** The use of silicone capuchons must be absolutely avoided, because silicone fluids segregate and effect sticky surfaces on which dirt adheres. Therefore, only use the system components mentioned (foamed pieces, EDPM rubber profile, neoprene rubber washer) and pointing, bonding and sealing materials recommended by us. We will be pleased to inform you in detail. The usual final cleaning after completion of the construction works is still required. A warranty for the system KeraTwin® K20 in the scope of the general approval no. Z-33.1-1175 of the construction supervisory authority only applies if the system components shown on these pages are used.
Mikrovisata, Kaunas, Lithuania / Architect: G. Natkevicius ir partneriai, UAB / Year: 2015 / Photo: Leonas Garbačauskas

Piliamiestis, Kaunas, Lithuania / Architect: UAB Kita kryptis / Year: 2016 / Photo: Leonas Garbačauskas

Bowhuis Zoetermeer, Netherlands / Architect: Klunder Architecten / Year: 2006 / Photo: Rob Hoekstra


Ufa, Russia / Architect: Bashkirgrazdanprojekt, Pavel Mazin / Year: 2015 / Products: KeraTwin®
Detail solutions for KeraTwin®

For ensuring the visual and technical perfection of corners and borders as well, AGRO BUCHTAL has developed standard technical details, which can be adapted to the project-specific requirements as needed – also as special production.

This includes, for example, terminations at windows, doors and the corresponding embrasures, both horizontal and vertical. In addition, mitre-cut panels for corner solutions and practical corner profiles (rectangular or rounded) facilitate the convincing design of problematic facade details.

Beijing Airport Industrial Park / Peking, China / Architect: Perkins + Will
Corner solution with mitre-cut panels

Corner panel, left

Corner panel, right

Mitre-cut panel for fastening with system rail K20, Omega profile K20, OmegaV K20 and T-profile K20

Corner solution with mitre-cut panels / undercut

Corner panel, left

Corner panel, right

Mitre-cut panel / undercut for clamp fastening K20

Corner profile 90 *

Cross-section of corner profile 90

3D profile *

Cross-section of 3D profile

* product-specific details, project-related on request
With its extensive bandwidth, “KeraShape®” is primarily aligned towards setting highlights and supporting architects in realising individual concepts. Apart from their function as elements of architectural design, these special pieces also serve entirely practical purposes as visual and sun protection.

The standard range comprises rectangular tubes with cross-sections of 50 x 60 mm and 60 x 60 mm in lengths of up to 1,800 mm, with lengths of up to 1,500 mm for the 50 x 100 mm variants. These are complemented by rounded lamellar elements in 140 x 60 mm with a maximum length of 1,200 mm. Using special fastening sets, the individual elements can be merged to form compact units or extended practically infinitely.

Even these standard items – which are perfectly co-ordinated to the other facade systems offered by AGROB BUCHTAL – permit numerous design variants. Furthermore, individual special shapes and sizes are possible depending on the respective building. After a brief examination of the individual case, experts at AGROB BUCHTAL are delighted to provide a technical and economic feasibility analysis.

This also applies to individual fastening concepts deviating from standard fastening variants. As the special pieces – glazed or unglazed – are supplied in practically any color nuance also available for facade panels, there is nothing to stand in the way of tone-in-tone design. But contrasting colors are also a popular option as they open up numerous possibilities for making large facades appear less monotonous. The same also applies to the special pieces themselves when used to achieve a visual rhythm.
Vocational College Live, Espoo

The Vocational College Live in Espoo is the largest special needs education institution in the Helsinki metropolitan area. It is located in the lively Turuntie district. This striking new building is a major feature of Turuntie’s cityscape. Ceramic KeraShape® elements give the Vocational College its unique look. Because they support the striking design of the architects.
The Vocational College Live in Espoo was planned and realized by LINJA ARCHITECTS – one of the largest architecture firms in Finland. On 11,000 m², space was created there for the work of the special education teachers. Already the shape of the building is aesthetically striking and impressive. In an aesthetic sense it virtually crosses the rocky slope next to the Turuntie district. The solid mass follows the terrain, thus forming a protected inner courtyard. The shell-like facade on the south and the west side is designed with large ceramic elements. Even the windows visually disappear behind this striking element.

“The color range and the look blend in well with the surrounding green district. The urban planning committee of Espoo also liked the idea of the ceramic facade as a natural material”, says the architect Juha Kujanpää, Design Director of LINJA ARCHITECTS. The ceramic facade also performs a number of functional tasks: it filters sunlight which is reflected from outside to inside. It also mixes it with the artificial light inside. This makes the daily activities easier for the partially visually impaired pupils. The ceramic tubes of the facade also provide protection against too much sunlight and have a cooling effect.

A total of 20,000 metres of KeraShape® special pieces were used on the outer facade of this project. In different colors (red, ochre and salmon-red), they give the building an almost tangible plasticity and massive aesthetic presence for the viewer. Paired with the natural wood on the facade of the inner courtyard side, an organic overall picture is created. Another special feature: while the wood will slowly turn into grey over the years – as the architects have planned – the colors of the facade ceramics will definitely remain unchanged.
Sustainable realisation of a colorful vision

The unique color concept of Finchley Memorial Hospital in London integrates the new building in the green, low-rise surroundings while simultaneously creating an agreeable ambience for staff, patients and visitors alike. An integral component of this concept is represented by the facade ceramics by AGROB BUCHTAL.

This three-floor complex with around 10,000 m² of useful space is to replace an ensemble of older predecessor buildings over the long term. It is distinguished by its immediate vicinity comprising therapeutic gardens, playgrounds and public greens. In order to harmoniously integrate the new clinic in this ambience, Murphy Philipps Architects collaborated with the color designer Frances Tobin to develop a color concept envisaging clearly-defined transitions from the outside in: the dominating shades of blue and green appear in the facades first before continuing – in declining degrees of saturation – into the internal orientation system as well as into the treatment and patients’ rooms.

In designing the building shell, the architects relied on products from AGROB BUCHTAL: the facade cladding comprises 3,500 slim ceramic panels and 2,000 ceramic rectangular tubes with a cross-section of 60 x 60 mm which were installed in front of the curved glass facades of the access areas. One of the particular features of these filigree elements 120 cm in length is the glaze applied on four sides, whereby the aim was to comply with high requirements which not only demanded absolutely uniform surface quality, but also color co-ordination between the two-dimensional ceramic panels, despite various manufacturing techniques. While developing the six color shades defined exactly by the planners, AGROB BUCHTAL took advantage of its many decades of experience with project-specific customised solutions and carried out extensive series of tests. The fact that such tasks are among the core competencies of the company is proven by its stock of more than 20,000 formulations for special colors in its in-house glaze laboratory.
The entire project was determined by individuality and an attention to detail: apart from its pixeled colorfulness, the elements of only 15 cm height are characteristic for the facade panels mounted swiftly and subtly using concealed clamps thanks to the modern KeraTwin® K20 fastening system. Accordingly, the various lengths of between 63 and 120 cm, the six glaze colors and various mitre-cut profiles on the edges of the building gave rise to 84 different items, all of which were produced and cut precisely in the Schwarzenfeld plant in Bavaria. Against the backdrop of the subtly elegant architecture, the play by these color surfaces lends the new hospital its unique charm.

Environmental responsibility also played a central role when planning and realising the new building. This is also confirmed by the BREEAM certificate of sustainability awarding a top grade of “Excellent”. Permanently fired into the ceramics, the Hytect coating by AGROB BUCHTAL also contributes to this award. It ensures that rainwater infiltrates dirt as a thin film and simply washes it away. Furthermore, Hytect has an antibacterial effect and prevents the development of moss and algae – highly efficiently and without chemicals, i.e. permanently clean, free of charge and environmentally neutral. And if that was not enough: Hytect-coated facades even break down industrial and car fumes.
Sustainable building for scientists

The Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation in the Argentinian capital of Buenos Aires is the first of its kind in Latin America – and it also sets architectural standards. Its shining white exterior and energetic optimisation are made possible by a rear-ventilated KeraTwin® facade by AGRO BUCHTAL.
The Minister for Science Lino Barañao, whose department is housed in the new building complex along with research institutes and scientific organisations, regards the centre as a bridge between the past and the future of science in Argentina. The past – which rewarded the country with three Nobel Prizes in scientific areas – is also present in the form of some historical structures nearby: encompassing almost 45,000 m², the Centre was built on the site of a once famous winery which had fallen into disrepair over the years. Meanwhile, the buildings have not only been restored on the outside – they have also been practically integrated in the Science Centre.

The plans for the second construction phase lead the way into the future and will include an interactive science museum, a library, a media centre and auditoriums. This project is linked to an aspiration to provide knowledge to solve national problems, strengthen industrial productivity and create a new basis for social integration.

Sustainability plays a key role in the plans by the Argentinian architect Juan Carlos Angelomé. Water consumption, for example, was reduced by 50 per cent thanks to a treatment plant for process water. And solar thermal elements on the roof ensure the supply of hot water. Sustainability was also the clincher when selecting the KeraTwin® ceramic facade system by AGROB BUCHTAL. In total, approx. 8,000 square metres of white ceramic panels measuring 35 x 120 cm and 14 kilometres of rectangular tubes glazed on three sides were used as a rear-ventilated facade which covers all walls exposed to the sun. This construction enables the effects of solar radiation during the hot season to be reduced by more than 95 per cent – accompanied by the corresponding savings in air-conditioning. A key bonus for the architect Angelomé was also represented by the Hytect coating which generates a self-washing effect every time it rains, thereby guaranteeing that the building retains its shimmering white appearance.
Ministerio de Ciencia, Buenos Aires, Argentina / Architects: Arch. Juan Carlos Angelomé / Year: 2011 / Products: KeraTwin®, KeraShape®
A bank with style

Although the Raiffeisenforum Mödling sets some significantly contemporary highlights, it integrates seamlessly into the historic surroundings of the old town. This new building is also distinguished by manifold use and shines a spotlight on the topic of sustainability.

The curtain-type, rear-ventilated facade comprising KeraTwin® panels attributes the building an excellent energy footprint while simultaneously supporting the aesthetic concept pursued by the architects. Graded nuances of sand and filigree, three-dimensional ceramic elements in the area of the light strips attribute texture to the building while also picking up on the detailed design of its environment. In giving the building its cubic shape, there was a focus on the technical advantages of the ceramic system. Vertical wall and inclined roof areas were therefore possible throughout, which was an express request in Mödling. The construction without an offset in levels was possible by using various system profiles for the roof and walls.

Despite all of this clarity and modernity, the architecture still boasts an attention to detail, apparent in the special snow guard hooks on the sloping roofs which are significantly less conspicuous than conventional snow guards, but just as effective. When viewed from the street, they also represent a visual attraction.

And finally, this new building in the small town on the outskirts of Vienna also makes a key contribution to sustainability: the ceramic facade system is extremely weather-resistant and color-fast. Thanks to Hytect coating, each rain shower can be seen as a free wash preventing algae and moss from gaining a foothold. Furthermore, the facade also helps to keep the air clean by breaking down gaseous pollutants.

The jury for the Construction Prize of Lower Austria was sufficiently impressed by its architectural quality and skilful realisation to award it third place among 100 contestants.
Eden Business Park Grotte Portella, Rome-Frascati, Italy / Architect: Daniela Capulli, Rome / Year: 2012 / Products: KeraTwin® K20, KeraShape®
Breathing building

The Eden Business Park in the Via Grotte Portella was planned and realized according to strict targets set with regard to energy efficiency. A part of the concept also was the curtain-type, rear-ventilated facade as well as the shade-producing elements in front of the window areas, for which a total of eleven kilometres of rectangular tubes were installed.
Forms, colors and formats for KeraShape®

Whether as protection against view and sun or for giving large facade surfaces a rhythm – KeraShape® elements are extremely versatile and set visual accents. They are available as rectangular tubes with three or four glazed sides in three different cross-sections and lengths of up to 180 cm as well as in rounded lamellar form. The great variety of colors comprises the SpectraView range with its harmoniously matched color families with silky-matt glaze and glossy glazed contrasting colors as well as the unglazed Natura shades. On request, a special production according to individual specifications is also possible.
KeraShape® forms and formats

KeraShape® “Extruded Ceramic Panels, Precision, with an average water absorption of 3 % < E ≤ 6 %, group AII, part 1, annex B, glazed (GL) and unglazed (UGL)”

KeraShape® “Extruded Ceramic Panels, Precision, with an average water absorption of 6 % < E ≤ 10 %, group AII, part 1, annex D, glazed (GL) and unglazed (UGL)”

In addition to the variants shown, the production of individual articles is also possible. After a short check of the individual case for technical and economical feasibility, we will be pleased to provide you with project-specific information.

Matching rubber spacers available on request.
Mounting instructions for KeraShape®

Substructure

The mounting of the substructure must be carried out according to project-specific, static calculation.

- For horizontal laying, the mounting sets (Art. no. 606, 607) can be used.
- One has to decide whether only base plates with hole and counterbore or also with M5 thread in addition have to be used.
- The “supports for mounting parts” must be fixed in the special pieces by means of polyurethane adhesive.
- For vertical laying, the clamps (Art. no. 685, 686, 687 and 685R, 686R, 687R respectively) can be used.
- The clamps can be fastened with stainless steel screws (Art. no. 659-01).
SpectraView glazed, silky-matt

6201 cream 1
6202 cream 2
6203 cream 3
6204 cream 4
6205 cream 5
6211 yellow 1
6212 yellow 2
6213 yellow 3
6214 yellow 4
6215 yellow 5
6221 apricot 1
6222 apricot 2
6223 apricot 3
6224 apricot 4
6225 apricot 5
6231 salmon-red 1
6232 salmon-red 2
6233 salmon-red 3
6234 salmon-red 4
6235 salmon-red 5
6241 pink 1
6242 pink 2
6243 pink 3
6244 pink 4
6245 pink 5

Contrasting colors, glazed, glossy

150 lemon-yellow
151 orange
152 apple-green
153 violet
154 contrasting red

Natura unglazed

407 white*
410 cream*
411 ochre
412 salmon
396 salmon-red
414 light-grey
409 iron-grey
415 vulcan-grey*
419 black*
416 smoky-blue*

* Not available as lamellar element special piece.
Due to production reasons, color deviations compared to the KeraTwin® panels as well as slight differences in nuances can not be excluded.
KeraShape®
with horizontal laying

System description
Three-dimensional ceramic special pieces in natural colors or also in glazed version are used for making large facade surfaces less monotonous or for producing shade at buildings. For developing individual, project-related fastening proposals, please contact us. Information about the standard fastening systems is to be found in the respective technical details. Fastening sets are available for the horizontal laying.

Accessories: KeraShape® with horizontal laying
Fastening sets:
The sets comprise: 1 built-in unit, 1 angular insert, 1 base plate, 1 securing clip (black)

Article 606
For rectangular tube 60 x 50, 60 x 60 and lamellar element
Securing clip (black)
Base plate optionally available with M5 thread
Weight: 0.14 kg / set

Article 607
For rectangular tube 50 x 100
Securing clip (black)
Base plate optionally available with M5 thread
Weight: 0.21 kg / set

Built-in unit also available as continuous profile on request
**KeraShape®**
**with vertical laying**

**System description**

Rectangular tubes in various dimensions and colors in unglazed or glazed version can also be vertically installed. For developing individual, project-related fastening proposals, please contact us. Special fastening clamps are available for all standard variants of the ceramic rectangular tubes (joint width: 10 mm).

**Accessories: KeraShape® with vertical laying**

**Fastening clamps:**

1. **Article 685-50100-01**
   - Twin-clamp for 50 mm width in case of rectangular tube 50 x 100
   - Perforation: 2 x 4.9 mm
   - Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
   - Painted black
   - Weight: 35 kg / 1,000 pcs.

2. **Article 685R-50100-01**
   - Terminal-clamp for 50 mm width in case of rectangular tube 50 x 100
   - Perforation: 2 x 4.9 mm
   - Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
   - Painted black
   - Weight: 20 kg / 1,000 pcs.

3. **Article 686-6060-01**
   - Twin-clamp for 60 mm width in case of rectangular tube 60 x 60 and 60 x 50
   - Perforation: 2 x 4.9 mm
   - Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
   - Painted black
   - Weight: 35 kg / 1,000 pcs.

4. **Article 685R-6060-01**
   - Terminal-clamp for 60 mm width in case of rectangular tube 60 x 60 and 60 x 50
   - Perforation: 2 x 4.9 mm
   - Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
   - Painted black
   - Weight: 20 kg / 1,000 pcs.

5. **Article 686-10050-01**
   - Twin-clamp for 100 mm width in case of rectangular tube 50 x 100
   - Perforation: 2 x 4.9 mm
   - Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
   - Painted black
   - Weight: 45 kg / 1,000 pcs.

6. **Article 685R-10050-01**
   - Terminal-clamp for 100 mm width in case of rectangular tube 50 x 100
   - Perforation: 2 x 4.9 mm
   - Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
   - Painted black
   - Weight: 24 kg / 1,000 pcs.

7. **Article 686-100100-01**
   - Twin-clamp for 100 mm width in case of rectangular tube 50 x 100
   - Perforation: 2 x 4.9 mm
   - Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
   - Painted black
   - Weight: 90 kg / 1,000 pcs.

8. **Article 685R-100100-01**
   - Terminal-clamp for 100 mm width in case of rectangular tube 50 x 100
   - Perforation: 2 x 4.9 mm
   - Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
   - Painted black
   - Weight: 48 kg / 1,000 pcs.

9. **Article 686R-6060-01**
   - Twin-clamp for 60 mm width in case of rectangular tube 60 x 60 and 60 x 50
   - Perforation: 2 x 4.9 mm
   - Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
   - Painted black
   - Weight: 24 kg / 1,000 pcs.

10. **Article 685R-10050-01**
    - Terminal-clamp for 100 mm width in case of rectangular tube 50 x 100
    - Perforation: 2 x 4.9 mm
    - Material: AlMg3 H22 (EN AW-5754)
    - Painted black
    - Weight: 48 kg / 1,000 pcs.

11. **Article 659-01**
    - A4 stainless steel screw, bright
    - Weight: 2.8 kg / box
    - Nominal dimensions: 4.8 x 16 mm
    - Box contents: 500 pieces + 1 bit
KERAION®
CERAMICS IN
LARGE FORMAT
Designing with colors

Used world-wide for decades, the KerAion® facade system also offers – besides low weight – alternatives to the otherwise quite usual board formats. In addition to rectangular panels, square panels in the large formats of 60 x 60 cm and 90 x 90 cm are also available, which are particularly suitable for the facade design of big buildings.

All versions and formats received the general approval of the construction supervisory authority and also prove themselves in case of a statically demanding building structure. A high degree of creative freedom is ensured by the color range. Just as in the case of KeraTwin®, it is based on SpectraView, the range of nine color families matched to each other and several contrasting colors, which was developed by the color designer Peter Zoernack. It is completed by the “Design glazed” colors in different looks such as cement, stone or metal.

The only 8 mm thin KerAion® panels with the very low weight of 18 kg/m² are fastened by means of clamps, and the color of the clamp lips is matched to the design of the ceramic panel. Optionally, safety tapes are available for all formats, which are applied to the panel reverse side already in-plant and prevent larger pieces from falling down if a panel is damaged. A system with many advantages and well thought-out system components, both on metal and wooden substructure.
Expressive pattern

The contractor Frans Haks, who was Museum Director at the time, and the architect and designer Alessandro Mendini created a true monument of post-modernism in the water of the connecting canal on the edge of Groningen city centre.

The decoration on the section developed by Mendini himself is blatantly obvious in the form of the pattern on the facade (Philippe Starck and Coop Himmelb(l)au were also responsible for sections of the museum). This pattern harks back to the embellishments on Mendini’s most famous armchair design – the Proust Armchair in 1978 – in which the decoration is based on enlargements of a pointillist painting by Paul Signac. (There is hardly any better proof of the fact that originality is concealed by intelligence in post-modernism than simply by referring to the past.) When the museum was built in the early 1990s, this pattern was photo-printed onto laminate. The effects of sunlight however caused the print to all but practically fade. During the course of recent renovations of the museum building, a colorful alternative was chosen comprising ceramic tiles manufactured by AGROB BUCHTAL in collaboration with Koninklijke Tichelaar in Makkum. Tichelaar is a well-known Dutch company which not only manufactures special decorative stoneware, often collaborating with outstanding artists and designers, but is also involved in all kinds of building projects. In this case, the Signac pattern by Alessandro Mendini, the leading architect of the museum building, was realised in a silkscreen glaze on large-format tiles (KerAion system) measuring max. 1.28 x 1.28 metres and manufactured by AGROB BUCHTAL. Enabling the Signac pattern to once again undergo a metamorphosis.

A decorative interest is meanwhile being displayed by many designers. For example: Branimir Medić and Pero Puljiz from de Architekten Cie, who have used specially developed facade elements in various larger projects. Originally from Croatia, Medić and Puljiz have been active in the Netherlands since the 1990s and it is exactly this background which gives them such a keen eye for what is typically Dutch. One of their projects features the bright orange traditionally used for sun shade systems in the Netherlands while they have reinterpreted the typical blue of Delft in another project. The facade of the power station in Enschede is clad in panels featuring motifs based on a design by the artist Hugo Kaagman, who has often lent the traditional blue of Delft a new pep over the course of his career.
Thanks to its great variety of colors, formats and finishes, the KerAion® system offers plenty of scope for individual concepts. The modular formats rely on large-sized squares and rectangles.

The silky-matt glazed “SpectraView” color range with its nine harmoniously co-ordinated color families and five glossy glazed contrasting colors is complemented by aesthetic design surface finishes. The glazed panels with Hytect surfaces are available in stone, cement, metal and wood designs.
Surfaces for KerAion®

Elegant look

With their smooth, silky-matt surface, KerAion® panels lend every facade an elegant look. Individual design concepts are supported by the wide color range.

KerAion® K8

Safety tapes

With the safety tapes, AGROB BUCHTAL optionally offers a safety system specially matched to the KerAion® facade panels. The safety tapes applied to the panel reverse side in-plant prevent larger pieces from falling down if panels are damaged mechanically.
Formats for KerAion® K8

Extruded Ceramic Panels, Precision, DIN EN 14411, group Al₆₅, glazed (GL), (large-size stoneware panels), 8 mm thick, 18 kg/m²

Standard sizes: 60 x 60 cm / 592 x 592 mm, 60 x 90 cm / 592 x 892 mm, 90 x 90 cm / 892 x 892 mm

Other sizes available on request.

Clamp fastening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
<th>Size (cm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K100HK</td>
<td>60 x 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K104HK</td>
<td>60 x 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K416HK</td>
<td>90 x 90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mymall, Limassol, Cyprus
In addition to the variants shown, the production of individual articles is also possible. After a short check of the individual case for technical and economic feasibility, we will be pleased to provide you with project-specific information.

The colors “Design glazed” can be supplied for the system KerAion® up to a panel width of 60 cm.
KerAion® K8 with visible clamp fastening

System description

The KerAion® facade panels are fixed on the substructure by means of the stainless steel clamps K8. The color of the clamp lips is matched to the panel design. To prevent clattering and constraining forces in the case of alternating wind loads, the facade panels are installed on the substructure in a nonrigid way by means of foamed pieces or alternatively with polyurethane.

A profile butt joint of the vertical bearing profiles behind a panel is not allowed! See standard technical detail drawings.
Mounting instructions for KerAion® K8 with visible clamp fastening

Substructure
The mounting of the substructure must be carried out according to project-specific, static calculation. The general approval Z-10.3-776 of the construction supervisory authority serves as basis.

- The profiles have to be mounted perpendicularly and in a flush way.
- The length of the profiles must be divisible by the height of the panel format and should not exceed the height of a storey of the building (approx. 3 m).
- A profile butt joint of the vertical profiles behind a panel is not allowed.
- The stainless steel clamps K8 (Art. no. 545, 546, 547, 548, 549) must be fastened with stainless steel rivets (Art. no. 675-01).
- For the nonrigid installation of the panels, foamed pieces or, alternatively, PUR or MS polymer bonding materials have to be used. Suitable products on request.

Accessories for KerAion® K8 with visible clamp fastening

**Article 545**
Twin-clamp K8
Weight: 20 kg / 1,000 pieces
Perforation: 4 x 3.3 mm Ø
Base plate: painted black
Lips: painted similar to panel color
Material: 1.4571

**Article 546**
Edge-clamp K8
Weight: 20 kg / 1,000 pieces
Perforation: 4 x 3.3 mm Ø
Base plate: painted black
Lips: painted similar to panel color
Material: 1.4571

**Article 547**
Edge-clamp K8, left
Weight: 20 kg / 1,000 pieces
Perforation: 4 x 3.3 mm Ø
Base plate: painted black
Lips: painted similar to panel color
Material: 1.4571

**Article 548**
Edge-clamp K8, right
Weight: 20 kg / 1,000 pieces
Perforation: 4 x 3.3 mm Ø
Base plate: painted black
Lips: painted similar to panel color
Material: 1.4571

**Article 675-01**
Stainless steel blind rivet, black
Weight: 1.05 kg / box
Nominal dimensions: 3.2 x 9.5 mm
Box contents: 500 pieces
extended mandrel (58 mm)

**Article 506**
Joint tape, black
Weight: 0.5 kg / roll
Nominal dimensions: 40 mm wide, 50 m
Self-adhesive, weather-resistant

* Alternatively, nonrigid installation is also possible with PUR or MS polymer bonding materials. Suitable products on request.

Important: The use of silicone caoutchoucs must be absolutely avoided, because silicone fluids segregate and effect sticky surfaces on which dirt adheres. Therefore, only use the system components mentioned (foamed pieces, EDPM rubber profile, neoprene rubber washer) and pointing, bonding and sealing materials recommended by us. We will be pleased to inform you in detail. The usual final cleaning after completion of the construction works is still required.
KerAion® detail solutions

Critical corners and terminations of all types can also be perfectly executed with KerAion® with regard to aesthetics and building physics. Rectangular corner profiles, 3D profiles and radial corner pieces offer safety and design freedom at the same time. For window and door reveals, special solutions with invisible fastening by means of clasps are available. All detail solutions are adapted to the project-specific requirements as special production if required.
Corner profile 55 *

Cross-section of corner profile 55

3D profile *

Cross-section of 3D profile

Radial corner piece *

Cross-section of radial corner piece

* product-specific details, project-related on request.
Ceramics is a building material which has proved itself for thousands of years. However, it experienced its heyday in Germany in the 50s, during reconstruction. As a result, many planners and architects in Germany still associate building ceramics with this period. Rightly - and also wrongly.

Because with the further development of ceramic thermal insulation composite systems (ETICS), a true renaissance for ceramics has begun. Experts even assume that new guidelines for facade insulation will increase the importance of ETICS in the coming years. With KeraJoin®, such as e.g. the Craft series, exceptionally aesthetic ceramic products are available to architects and planners today, which also exhibit excellent energy efficiency properties. It permits great creative freedom. Because KeraJoin® offers an almost inexhaustible range of colors, a wide variety of gloss levels and diverse possibilities for project-specific individual solutions.
A special feature of KeraJoin® are its three-dimensional surfaces. They lend both new and renovated buildings character. This is shown, for example, by the Vivendra Foundation project, for which the Swiss L3P office is responsible. Depending on the incidence of light and the position of the observer, the three-dimensional elements of the Craft series again and again put the building renovated in 2015 in a surprisingly new light.

The small-sized strip tile look of KeraJoin® visually ties in with the aesthetics of brick facades, which is very popular today. Thus, it is no wonder that the architect Mareike Beumer from the L3P office even secured her choice of material by visiting historic tile facades in Hamburg. Of the numerous advantages of the versatile building material ceramics, sustainability, longevity, aesthetics as well as color and light fastness were particularly relevant for her.
Residential and commercial building Badstrasse, Switzerland / Architects: Schoop Architekten AG, Baden, Switzerland / Year: 2014 / Products: Craft / Photo: Adriano Faragulo
Apartment building Leopold, Sursee, Switzerland / Architect: GKS Architekten Generalplaner AG / Year: 2018 / Products: Craft / Photos: Adriano Faragulo
De Korenbloem, Kortrijk, Belgium / Architect: Sergison Bates architects Atelier Kanal / Year: 2019 / Products: Craft / Photos: Marcel van der Burg

Sonnenhof, Wil, Switzerland / Architect: Meier Hug Architekten AG, Wil, Switzerland / Year: 2014 / Products: Craft / Photos: Adriano Faragulo
AGROB BUCHTAL sees its most important task in offering architects and planners the design scope which they need for the realization of their creative ideas.

With approximately 20,000 glaze color recipes and an enormous variety of formats and surface structures, the company meets this requirement in most of all cases. However, AGROB BUCHTAL shows its true strength whenever innovative architectural concepts require an individual production. For the Design Department, the Product Management and the In-House Planning Department, the development of project-specific special solutions in co-operation with architects as partners is part of the core business.

This not only applies to special formats or colors corresponding to the ideas of the planner – or the CD specifications of a company. Innovative techniques such as the precise water-jet cutting as well as photographic and screen printing methods, which permit the transfer of complex artworks onto ceramics, open up new horizons for creative facade design. Artists which – in agreement with the architect – wish to actively participate in the realization of their creations are welcome at AGROB BUCHTAL. And also special solutions which have not been mentioned here (so far) are checked for their feasibility in an unbureaucratic manner – as soon as the creative concept of an architect requires new solutions.
Queen Elizabeth Hospital London, Great Britain / Architect: Penoyre & Prasad LLP
Year: 2015 / Products: KeraTwin®, special colors / project-specific individual production / Photo: Tim Crocker
Colorful everyday life

In Örnsköldsvik on the Gulf of Bothnia in northern Sweden, the architect Gert Wingårdh has developed a soaring residential complex in the town. Wingårdh is regarded as one of Sweden’s most interesting architects.

On top of the old town hall, originally a rough concrete block, the architect has arranged a playful building with “birdhouses” on the outside and windows facing in three directions. The facade features bright green, red, yellow and white KeraTwin® tiles mounted on a metal substructure. The color range is inspired by the Swedish expressionist painter Bengt Lindström of international renown. The “birdhouses” project at various lengths from the main building and create a shadow effect similar to the reliefs in Lindström’s paintings. The sculptural and dramatic residential complex in the otherwise low-rise architecture on the Gulf of Bothnia is a colorful example of everyday architecture.
A place to eat and meet

Grimshaw’s transformation of Duke University’s West Campus Student Union building in Durham, North Carolina, USA, is one of the eight shortlisted projects for the “AJ100 Building of the Year Award 2017”.

This competition is organised by the Architect’s Journal. Grimshaw’s project comprises the careful renovation of an existing neo-gothic building, designed in the late 1920s by Julian Abele from the Horace Trumbauer office, and an expansion, which forms the core of the complex. The central part is an atrium made of glass, steel and ceramic elements manufactured by AGROB BUCHTAL.

The West Union building contains community facilities for Duke University’s students, faculty and alumni, with a large dining space as its social epicenter. This environment to “eat and meet”, in the parlance of the university, hosts 13 different kitchens and operates as an upscale, academic version of the food court usually found in shopping malls. This social hub of the campus was designed by Grimshaw Architects, a global practice, founded by Nicholas Grimshaw in 1980. This project was designed at Grimshaw’s New York office, with facade consultancy from Front Inc.

The most prominent part of this extensive project is a transparent atrium which has replaced the central part of the original building. The glass, steel and ceramics of the atrium are perfectly in scale with the existing building, which forms a U-shaped embrace of it. Architecturally speaking, the atrium is completely different in its expression from West Union’s sturdy yet elegant neo-gothic design, which was a preferred style for American university buildings well into the twentieth century. The new addition in no way resembles the existing architectural landscape, but despite its distinctive expression, it manages to blend in naturally.

Instead of opting for total transparency, which would have maximised the contrast with the existing neo-gothic brick and stone massiveness, Grimshaw has opted to delicately trim it back, by framing the glass in steel and ceramics. The ceramic elements are a relatively small part of the new building, yet they play a particularly crucial one in its overall effect. From many perspectives, these terracotta elements seem to close the side elevations, which only completely open up when viewed straight on. Open yet visually closed, the architecture of the facades is an apt metaphor for how this transformation manages to balance old and new.
Creating space for art

At the modernization of the Tate St. Ives Art Gallery by Jamie Fobert Architects in 2017, the color focus of the extension building, which is only minimally visible, just as the upper floors of Peacock House primarily was on blue shades which pick up the changeable weather in Cornwall and the colors of the sea behind it.
The firm of Jamie Fobert Architects was commissioned to carry out a comprehensive renovation of the museum, which was designed in 1993 by the architects Evans & Shalev, and to extend it with a new gallery for contemporary art, an administrative wing with offices and training rooms as well as transition areas. Due to the highly competitive and sought-after location, a large part of the new building was set in the rocks, and only a relatively small part of the building – the smallest of the recent AGROB BUCHTAL projects – can be seen from the outside: the administrative wing with delivery zone for objects of art. In homage to the famous ceramic artists of St. Ives such as Bernard Leach, oblong, horizontally placed ceramic tiles from AGROB BUCHTAL adorn the outer shell of the building. Their glaze causes the extension building, which is visible from the city, to almost disappear in the sunlight.
Tate St. Ives Gallery, St. Ives, Great Britain / Architect: Jamie Fobert Architects, London, Great Britain / Year: 2017 / Products: KeraTwin® / Photos: Simon Hadley Photography, Pershore
Buildings which set standards can only evolve if the service is as good as the product. AGROB BUCHTAL has been committed to this idea for generations.

One of the best examples is represented by the In-house Planning Department which has been offering sound consulting and handling of routine tasks for more than 60 years and in partnerships based on collaboration, enabling architects and planners to concentrate fully on their creative tasks.

A quick summary of which facade system is suitable for which application is provided by the system overview on the following pages, supplying basic information on the possible applications for ceramic facade systems offered by AGROB BUCHTAL. Whether it’s about the possible type of installation, suitability for certain bases or the accessories available – all of the details are summarised here and can be taken in in only a few glances.
## System description

- Flexible pre-assembled height grid
- Very good assembly and adjustment possibilities thanks to separate basic and system profiles
- Wall connections (bracket or struts) can be used to achieve thermal and static requirements
- Used to achieve the required energy savings
- Overhead assembly possible thanks to additional panel securing

## Possible installation methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>System profile</th>
<th>T-profile</th>
<th>Omega profile</th>
<th>OmegaV profile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>System description</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Possible installation methods</strong></td>
<td>Horizontal, offset formation, overhead installation possible</td>
<td>Horizontal, offset formation, overhead installation possible</td>
<td>Horizontal, offset formation, overhead installation possible</td>
<td>Horizontal, free formation, overhead installation possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Particularly suitable for the following wall structures</strong></td>
<td>Fastening level: - Solid wall constructions, e.g. masonry, concrete</td>
<td>Fastening level: - Solid wall constructions, e.g. masonry, concrete</td>
<td>Fastening level: - Skeleton constructions, e.g. studded partition walls, sandwich panels</td>
<td>Fastening level: - Skeleton constructions, e.g. studded partition walls, sandwich panels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advantages for facade designers</strong></td>
<td>- Very good assembly and adjustment possibilities thanks to separate basic and system profiles</td>
<td>- No basic profile required as the fastening elements are already integrated in the K20 T-profile height grid</td>
<td>- Flexible fastening to smooth surfaces is possible</td>
<td>- Tension-free assembly of the horiz. support profile thanks to oblong holes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Fastening elements in the height grid are already integrated in the system profiles</td>
<td>- Exact assembly of the K20 T-profiles required</td>
<td>- Fastening elements are already integrated in the K20 Omega profile height grid</td>
<td>- Flexible positioning of the K20 OmegaV profiles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Easy assembly at connection points, e.g. corners, soffits etc.</td>
<td>- Very fast assembly of panels</td>
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<td>- Very fast assembly of panels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Very fast assembly of panels</td>
<td>- Easy to replace or subsequently install individual panels</td>
<td>- Very fast assembly of panels</td>
<td>- Easy to replace or subsequently install individual panels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Approvals

- Z-10.3-844

## Accessories available

- System profiles, joint profiles, corner profiles, soffit profiles, joint spacers, fastening elements (screws or rivets)
- T-profiles, joint profiles, corner profiles, soffit profiles, joint spacers
- Omega profiles, joint profiles, corner profiles, soffit profiles, joint spacers, fastening elements (screws or rivets)
- OmegaV profiles, horizontal supporting profiles, joint profiles, corner profiles, soffit profiles, joint spacers, fastening elements (screws or rivets)
**OmegaS**

- Flexible pre-assembled height grid
- Wall connections (bracket or strut) can be used to achieve thermal and static requirements
- Used to achieve the required energy savings
- K20 Omega profiles mounted in the single-beam element with cantilever arms
- Exact horiz. alignment by OmegaS profiles
- Overhead assembly possible thanks to additional panel securing

**Clamp system**

- Wall connections (bracket or strut) can be used to achieve thermal and static requirements
- Used to achieve the required energy savings
- Vert. installation of panels to max. format of 50 x 135 cm
- Overhead thanks to safe clamp fastening

**K8 clamp fastening**

- Wall connections (bracket or strut) can be used to achieve thermal and static requirements
- Used to achieve the required energy savings
- Lightweight panels
- Can be mounted on metal and wooden substructures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vertical</th>
<th>Horizontal, vertical, offset formation, overhead</th>
<th>Horizontal, vertical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Fastening level:**

- Skeleton constructions, e.g. studded partition walls, sandwich panels
- Solid wall constructions, e.g. masonry, concrete

- K20 Omega profiles mounted on vert. supporting structure
- Exact alignment of the horiz. joints using OmegaS profiles
- Safe fastening thanks to securing bracket
- Very fast assembly of panels
- Easy to replace or subsequently install individual panels

- Easy fastening with well-conceived clamp system
- Flexible fastening as each hole in the panel can be used
- Slight “pulling” or “pushing” of the grid is possible
- Easy to replace or subsequently install individual panels

**Fastening level:**

- Skeleton constructions, e.g. studded partition walls, sandwich panels
- Solid wall constructions, e.g. masonry, concrete

- Tried-and-tested panel assembly, low weight, can be cut on site using basic tools (glass cutter)

**Fastening level:**

- Skeleton constructions, e.g. studded partition walls, sandwich panels
- Solid wall constructions, e.g. masonry, concrete

**Z-10.3-844**

**Z-10.3-844**

**Z-10.3-776**

**Omega profiles, joint profiles, joint spacers, securing brackets, OmegaS supporting profile, fastening elements (screws or rivets)**

**Clamps, joint profile, fastening elements (rivets, screws), joint tape**

**K8 clamps, joint tape, fastening elements (rivets)**
Facade design is a complex challenge which besides aesthetic aspects also raises many technical and physical questions – in addition to the unavoidable bureaucracy. The In-House Planning Department of AGROB BUCHTAL, which was already established more than 60 years ago, offers professional support, so that architects can exclusively concentrate on their creative ideas. As AGROB BUCHTAL supplies high-quality products and competent services, planners and architects using the products can benefit from the know-how of a committed team of qualified technicians, engineers, designers and color experts, which ensure a quick and problem-free realization of individual concepts. This also includes the concrete advice regarding application techniques, upon request on location. In addition to their advisory capacity, these experts also carry out routine tasks, which would only be disturbing at the development of architectural visions. They include laying plans, determinations of quantities, detailed estimates and also the preparation of texts for bidding purposes.
Technical data and test reports of our products as well as standards and regulations for façade claddings with ceramic panels you will find on our website at:

https://facade.agrob-buchtal.de/en/downloads
You will find contact names for other countries on the internet at:

www.agrob-buchtal.de