

## **Art Deco meets green building**

In Hamburg, the Handelskammer Innovations Campus (HKIC) is attracting attention. The building, situated in a construction lot nestled between banks at Adolphsplatz in the Nikolai quarter, is asserting itself vis-à-vis the impressive late-classic front of the old stock exchange, where its builder, Handelskammer Hamburg, resides. One of the prominent features of the facade of the HKIC is the aluminium window elements.

The new building, constructed according to the designs of the architect Johann von Mansberg, adapts the classic feel of an Art Deco high-rise facade to a green-building concept. Facades dominated by pilasters are characteristic. The building has six upper floors, whose characteristic facade is dominated by glass and LED-illuminated, translucent pilasters.

The “anodised champagne” colour of the aluminium elements blends harmoniously into the ambience produced by the existing buildings nearby. Here, tradition and modernity are linked together. The same design concept is reflected in the warm-white tone of the back-lit glass pilasters. The demanding design and the energy concept were realised by the company responsible for the construction work by using strips of windows of the WICLINE 75 series from the aluminium system company WICONA, specially constructed for the building. The windows of the WICLINE 75 model range with concealed sash and tilt-first fittings (fittings that tilt before turning) harmonise perfectly with the facade construction. At a construction depth of 75 mm, the structural properties and high energy efficiency of this window system are so convincing that it can be used for a wide range of conditions, ranging from low-energy facades right to the demanding Swiss Minergie standard.

Based on the WICLINE 75 series, various special aluminium profiles were developed for the new construction of the HKIC, to satisfy the architectural specifications. The window elements were completely manufactured in the workshop, including window sashes and glazing. The high degree of prefabrication at the facade builder not only guarantees high, constantly reproducible quality of the elements themselves, it is also an important requirement for effective construction processes.

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