## HIMACS Brings Innovative Storage Designs to Life at Rycotewood College



Looking for a material to test their creativity, **Rycotewood College** turned to **HIMACS**, a versatile and visually stunning solid surface material. With the help of **James Latham Ltd**, the sole HIMACS distributor in the UK, students were challenged to create storage designs that incorporated curves and vibrant colours as part of the 2022 students' competition.

Over the course of a 10-week period, students worked with HIMACS and other materials to craft their unique designs. The winning entry, a cool and contemporary bar cabinet, featured a striking s-shaped curve that showcased the material's seamless joints and consistency.

**Yuchen Liu,** one of the joint winners, was impressed with HIMACS' ability to hold a better shape and surface definition than bent, laminated wood.

Yuchen's cool and contemporary bar cabinet is a true celebration of HIMACS, using its bright orange tone complemented with stained European oak, to create a visually arresting piece of furniture.

What made his piece stand out for the judges was the originality in its use of HIMACS, and the way in which he had formed the surface to create a seamless s-shaped curve. This feature ran across the top of the cabinet before cascading down its side and tapering off to create a multi-level effect.

Yuchen comments, "The beauty of HIMACS is you can create invisible joints. To look at the surface, few would guess it had been formed from four separate pieces, and it was great to be able to apply the same woodworking skills for timber to a completely different material."

This competition was a resounding success, inspiring and encouraging the students at Rycotewood College to push their creativity and design skills to the limit. The use of HIMACS provided a level of versatility and consistency that other materials simply cannot match, making it a popular choice for designers and architects in commercial, residential, and public space projects.

With the 2023 edition of this award scheme already in the works, it is clear that HIMACS, James Latham and Rycotewood College will continue to push the boundaries of storage design and beyond.



HIMACS

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#### **Project Information**

Design: Yuchen Liu - Rycotewood College: www.rycotewoodfurniture.co.uk Material: HIMACS S027 Orange www.himacs.eu HIMACS Supplier: James Latham <u>www.lathamdigitalshowroom.co.uk</u> Photo Credits: © Josh Cameron @ Feed Me Content

#### **HIMACS Solid Surface**

www.himacs.eu

HIMACS is a solid surface material that can be moulded into any shape. It is widely used for architectural and interior applications, such as sculptural and high-performance wall cladding or kitchen, bathroom and furniture surfaces, in commercial, residential and public space projects. It is composed of minerals, acrylic and natural pigments that come together to provide a smooth, non-porous and visually seamless surface which meets the highest standards for quality, aesthetics, fabrication, functionality and hygiene – offering many advantages over conventional materials.

HIMACS provides limitless possibilities for surfacing solutions and inspires creative minds from all over the world. **Zaha Hadid, Jean Nouvel, Rafael Moneo, Karim Rashid, Marcel Wanders** and **David Chipperfield**, among others, have completed fabulous projects using HIMACS.

At the forefront of innovation as always, LX Hausys recently introduced two new products. First, **HIMACS Ultra-Thermoforming**, an innovative formula that pushes the boundaries of solid surface shaping to a whole new level, with 30% more thermoplastic capabilities - the biggest innovation in the history of Solid Surface since its inception in 1967. And now, **HIMACS Intense Ultra** combines the characteristics from two disparate worlds: **Intense ColourTechnology** and **Ultra-Thermoforming**.

HIMACS uses a simple heating process to give three-dimensional thermoplastic forming capabilities, allows visually seamless designs, offers a virtually limitless range of colours and – for some shades – exhibits a special translucency when exposed to light. Although HIMACS is almost as robust as stone, it can be worked in a similar way as wood: it can be sawn, routed, drilled or sanded.

HIMACS is made using a next-generation technology, the **thermal cure**. The temperature reached during the manufacturing process sets HIMACS apart from other solid surfaces and creates a denser surface that is even sturdier, more homogeneous and more durable, and with better resistance and superior thermoforming results.

HIMACS does not absorb humidity, is highly resistant to stains and is easy to clean, maintain and repair.

Countless internationally recognized certificates attest to the quality of HIMACS in terms of ecological commitment, hygiene and fire resistance – being the first Solid Surface in the market to receive the official **European Technical Approval (ETA) for façades** – for the Alpine White S728 colour.

HIMACS offers a 15-year warranty for products fabricated by a Quality Club Member.



HIMACS. Because Quality Wins.

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\* **HIMACS** is designed and produced by **LX Hausys (formerly LG Hausys)**, a world leader in the technology sector and a subsidiary of LX Holdings Corp.