

HI-MACS® Deluxe Kitchen.

Flowing kitchen design made from high-quality solid surface material



Elegant contours and soft shapes are characteristics of an exclusive kitchen design made from HI-MACS® that is unique in terms of material, technology and detail

White and elegantly shaped – a trend kitchen promises maximum individuality

The kitchen is part of the "maru" design range. A furniture range that reflects the Japanese meaning of the word; that is "circle" or "completeness". Based on the geometry of the circle, this kitchen is flowing, functional and seamless in appearance. The origins of "maru" can be found in the design of the new study centre of TU Braunschweig, conceived by the architectural firm **DODK** from Berlin. The aim: to combine intriguing interior reception spaces with innovative team workplaces. Representation and efficient workstations, which are modular and expandable, are completely in line with the concept of "maru". This concept of unusual design features has now been carried over to the kitchen area too. The modular furniture system has been adapted to the new working height, and expanded to include all functions in the substructure. The result: a unique kitchen shape, perfectly designed. The contoured softness of the trend colour white defines the scene. Various modules, convex or concave, added on or mirroring one another give the kitchen its uniqueness not to mention that playful touch. At the same

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Pictures: www.himacs.eu/press

time, the 3D design features guarantee optimum ergonomics and ensure that the kitchen is fully functional. The plinth, also S-shaped, is set back, thus providing sufficient space for convenient use of the hob and the sink. This, again, has been perfectly worked into an S-shape. It integrates seamlessly into the shape of the worktop.

The emphasis is on mouldability

In order to turn this design into a reality, it was necessary to use a material with thermoforming properties but also with an elegant-looking surface. The solution: the solid surface material HI-MACS[®] (a high-tech blend of 75% natural minerals and pigments and 25% acrylic) provided by Klöpfer Surfaces in Germany. There were many different reasons for choosing this material:



1. Its look: HI-MACS[®] gives the white a certain elegance and radiance. Background contrasts optimally accentuate this exceptional radiance.

2. Its feel: The surface makes an artlessly vivid impression and has a warm, pleasant feel. The material temperature is warm to the touch, because Natural Acrylic Stone is a poor conductor of heat. Instead of absorbing body heat, the material reflects it, thus creating a cosy warmth. The "softness" of the material constitutes another feel-good aspect. In contrast to rock-hard marble, granite or tiles, HI-MACS[®] even has a slight cushioning effect, which means there's no need to worry about mishaps. No more need for repairs if glasses or bottles should spill over, or if a sharp-edged knife should cause any scratches.

3. Its technology: The non-porous, completely smooth and seamless surface is the best possible base for germ-free areas and for the most stringent hygiene requirements. Most notably, the seamless joining technology delivers a perfect result, both visually and technically. Even large-area installations have the appearance of one seamless application, making liquid penetration practically impossible. HI-MACS[®] Natural Acrylic Stone guarantees a hygienic surface, even where there is permanent water

ingress or damp. Bacteria or mould don't stand a chance. The material itself contains no toxic substances, which means that the material is not susceptible to any adverse changes even after prolonged use. In addition, most stains can be wiped off easily with a little water. Stubborn stains can be removed with a small amount of cleaning agent, without leaving any residue. Even minor scratches or wear marks can be polished away easily using a bit of sandpaper. The fact that the material is so easy to repair is a further advantage, should more serious damage occur. HI-MACS[®] can be repaired without leaving a trace: ream or counterbore, glue in the replacement part, sand it and the surface is as good as new. The new construction material is extremely forgiving, especially for everyday use. *"Its extreme durability and hygiene make the material an excellent choice for any kitchen application"*, confirms the designer responsible, **Ole Klingemann**.

A key factor in implementing the plans drawn up of the Berlin trend kitchen in terms of design was the **4th point**, the **deformation** of the material. Its so-called thermoformability means that HI-MACS[®] can be bent into practically any shape at 165 degrees Celsius. The concept of the 4.70 m x 1.60 m kitchen was implemented using 5 HI-MACS[®] kitchen elements. The material was the perfect starting point for creating a monolith.

Perfect down to the very last detail

The structure required a combination of high-level expertise, lots of experience in using solid surface material and attention to detail. For this reason solid surface expert Peter Grube from Germany undertook the implementation of the project. An expert in 3D deformation, the master joiner was extremely interested in this project, and so the meticulous work could begin.

The elements all had to fit together perfectly three-dimensionally, and thus at all levels had to be manufactured in such a way that the end result had the appearance of one seamless application – no joints, it had to be just perfect. A multiplex frame formed the basis. The challenge: with a sheet width of 75 cm, diagonal execution of 6 m was required. In the initial stage, a 3D drawing had to be created using the CAD program – 28 component parts of different shapes and sizes, and then it was time to take it to the workshop. The HI-MACS[®] sheets supplied were cut to size and subsequently the contours, formed in the production drawing, were CNC-milled. These were then heated between two hot plates and shaped in a prefabricated bending template under a vacuum membrane. The result following the curing process was exactly as defined in the drawings. The individual elements, manufactured in this way in the workshop, and half-shells were subsequently taken to the framework, joined together, bonded and finally the entire block was sanded again. *"The perfect project to demonstrate the potential of the HI-MACS[®] solid surface material"*, states Peter Grube.

All the technical equipment and individual fabrication, the sink with **integrated touchscreen control panel** with **Zeyron** sensors for automatic regulation of the Vola tap, were seamlessly integrated. The absence of typical operating elements constitutes a systematic continuation of the high hygienic standards. The hotplate has been integrated and contrasts beautifully with the harmonious surface of the worktop. With no handles, the HI-MACS[®] fronts with Servo-Drive optimise the distinct design and material features. The inner carcass and drawers were made of white lacquered MDF. Prefabricated push-to-open drawers with self-closing feature round off this high-tech kitchen. The result: a perfect combination, monolithic in character. This exceptional project was completed by the fabricator in the space of 3 weeks and around 200 hours of work. An extensive project with lots of challenges, but a huge success. Fronts, panels, bases, the basin and the worktop are all made from one single material, making the kitchen one integrated, and puristic unit with a uniform gloss level. The visible and tangible advantages of the high-tech material HI-MACS[®] are demonstrated to excellent effect.

Design:

DODK, Germany

www.dodk.net

Fabrication:

Peter Grube, Germany

www.peter-grube.de

Material:

HI-MACS[®] Alpine White

www.himacs.eu

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HI-MACS® Natural Acrylic Stone

HI-MACS® is the **New Generation** of solid surface. It is composed of 70% natural stone powder derived from bauxite, 25% high quality acrylic resin and 5% natural pigments. Designed and produced by **LG HAUSYS**, a world technology leader, it is distributed across Europe from **LG Hausys Europe** headquarters in Geneva.

It is a product of highest quality, and is inert and ecological. Its versatility allows users to mould and transform their ideas into reality with possibilities far beyond those offered by materials traditionally used in the world of architecture and design.

The most prestigious groups have adopted this product which adapts to the most demanding needs with its extraordinary characteristics; it is completely non-porous, has the highest level of durability and thus does not lose its colouring. It also has uniform thickness, allowing for perfectly imperceptible joints!

Easy to fabricate, **HI-MACS®**, with its excellent thermoformability properties, lets you adapt the material to the desired shapes and to create a range of designs that is nearly infinite.

HI-MACS® is used by the most prestigious companies, and many well-known architects and designers such as **Zaha Hadid, Jean Nouvel, David Chipperfield, Ron Arad, Marc Newson, Elke Delugan Meissl** and **Joaquín Torres**. Some of the most notable projects made out of **HI-MACS®** include the **Prado Museum** and the **Hotel Puerta América** in Spain, **Leonardo Glass Cube** and the **Porsche Museum** in Germany and the **Zara** flagship store in the Westfield Shopping Complex in London, UK.

HI-MACS® is available in 100 colours, comprised of the following ranges: **Solids, Granite, Sand, Pearl & Quartz, Volcanics, Lucent, Galaxy, Marmo**, and the new recycled range of colours **HI-MACS® Eden**. Eden is **GREENGUARD** Certified for indoor air quality as a “**Low Emitting Product**” which can help your projects achieve **LEED® credits** in sustainable design, under the Green Building Rating System managed by the **U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)** – A clear benefit for constructing sustainable buildings.

HI-MACS® is manufactured in 3, 6, 9 and 12 mm thicknesses. Furthermore a wide range of sinks and bowls is available.

HI-MACS® is synonymous with the very best quality thanks to a production process that it is one of the world's most innovative, sourcing the finest materials that result in a harder, flatter more resistant product. Many international certifications backup the outstanding quality of **HI-MACS®** concerning environment, hygiene, fire resistance and processes as ISO 9001 and 14001, Greenguard, NSF, LGA and IMO MED (Module B and D), among others.

HI-MACS® is in a league of its own with its quality assistance, guaranteed by **Quality Club**, a network of expert and approved fabricators. Thanks to the quality of the material, we can offer the longest warranty package currently on the market: 15 years.

HI-MACS® The New Generation Inspired by Architecture

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