





HI-MACS® helps modernise the mediterraneaninspired Hotel Kaktus Playa in Barcelona



Hotel Kaktus Playa, located in Calella on the Catalan coast, has modernised its rooms to ensure its guests have a more relaxing and comfortable stay. The main aim was to give the rooms a contemporary, urban style, seeking to maximise guest comfort, using HI-MACS® for all the furniture and eye-catching backlit wall cladding.

The hotel currently has 226 rooms, with additional services including a spa, heated pool, restaurant, and beach club. Looking to give the hotel an updated, modern look, architecture studio Byko was appointed to refurbish some of the hotel's communal areas and the guest rooms. The architects opted for HI-MACS® acrylic stone in the guest bedrooms.

The rooms' design is inspired by the Mediterranean. To get the right ambiance, light tones were used, providing space and brightness, with the huge windows designed to add to the atmosphere.

The layout and style of the rooms were a real challenge for the team of architects and designers, since they had to create standard, modern spaces that would not become obsolete over time. "We prioritised a design that opts for interior visual spaciousness, functionality, and the feeling of comfort that we get at home," says Ismael Fernández, building engineer and CEO of Byko.



A headboard that dominates the whole room

To achieve guest well-being, the interior designers looked for something that would feature smooth, continuous surfaces and light colours, along with minimalist furnishings that would add to the feeling of spaciousness. The only decorative elements included are some outside plants and the pillows and bedspread, in turquoise and gray tones, which reflect the blue of the beaches surrounding the hotel premises.



Thanks to its technical and aesthetic properties, HI-MACS® was choosen for the room furniture, consisting of the nightstands and desk (with a built-in cupboard that hides the minibar), as well as the headboard for the bed. The furniture was built into the wall to save as much space as possible. Ismael Fernández comments: "We looked for designs and materials that would give the rooms as much space and natural lighting as possible."

The magnificent headboard was created by superimposing several panels made from HI-MACS®, evoking the swell of the sea and turning it into the undeniable star of the room. The thermoformable properties of LG Hausys' acrylic stone offer designers the ability to create a wide range of shapes, resulting in an exceptionally versatile whole.





The use of light plays an important role in the feeling of comfort and relaxation, so to achieve this, LED lighting was incorporated to play with different ambiances: "Artificial lighting is only used at night-time and indirect, variable light is enough to give sufficient warmth as desired," Fernández affirms. The translucent properties of HI-MACS®, in combination with light sources, made it the perfect option for the furniture with lighting.

The privacy of an open bathroom

Looking to maximize the spaciousness of the bedroom, it was decided to create a sinuous space where the bathroom would flow from the bedroom. To achieve this, the sink was designed as built into a worktop and appears to be suspended in the air.

For privacy, both the shower and toilet are closed off by opaque glass doors, although still fully integrated into the rest of the room.





Continuing the theme of relaxation and well-being, the designers ensured that the outside terraces were as relaxing as the minimalist bedroom. The result is a space with an excellent visual appearance, where functionality and design are as important as the well-being of the hotel guests.





INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT DESIGN

Project name: Hotel Kaktus Playa de Calella renovation

Date of completion, HI-MACS®: 2018

Renovation architect: Byko Proyects i Gestió & María Gelpí Interiorisme www.byko.es

Location: El Maresme, Barcelona, Spain

HI-MACS® manufacturer: Lining Time www.liningtime.com

HI-MACS® supplier: Gabarro www.gabarro.com

Material: HI-MACS® Lunar Sand and Alpine White www.himacs.eu

Photos: © Isaac Mas

HI-MACS® elements: Headboards, nightstands, and ceilings



HI-MACS® by LG Hausys

www.himacs.eu

HI-MACS® 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 aesthetics, fabrication, functionality and hygiene – offering manifold advantages over conventional materials.

HI-MACS® 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 HI-MACS®.

At the forefront of innovation as always, LG Hausys recently introduced two new products. First **HI-MACS Structura®**, a 3D textured panel material that takes solid surface opportunities to a new level. And now **HI-MACS® 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 for the Solid Surface history since its inception in 1967.

LG Hausys' HI-MACS® 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 HI-MACS® is almost as robust as stone, it can be worked in a similar way as wood: it can be sawn, routed, drilled or sanded.

HI-MACS® is manufactured using a new generation technology, the **thermal cure**. The temperature reached during the manufacturing process sets HI-MACS® apart from other solid surfaces and creates a denser, even more homogeneous, sturdy, durable surface – with a better resistance and superior thermoforming performance.

HI-MACS® 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 HI-MACS® 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 Alpine White S728 colour.

HI-MACS[®] offers the longest warranty on the solid surface market with a 15-year warranty for products fabricated by a Quality Club Member.



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