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**Extension for Korsch AG, Berlin:**

**Around the corner**

***Additional space, an inviting entrance area and an optimised transit routes were included in the specifications for the architects when Korsch AG planned the structural extension of its headquarters. With floor-to-ceiling VISS facades, the architects created a transparent extension to the existing building, which gives the company campus a prominent identity even when viewed at night.***

Korsch AG, a medium-sized mechanical engineering company headquartered in Berlin, is one of the world’s leading manufacturers of tablet presses. These are developed, planned, manufactured at our Berlin location and then distributed all over the world. To mark its 100th anniversary in 2019, the family-owned company planned to expand its headquarters on Breitenbachstrasse in order to create additional space for the company’s Administration department. At the same time, the entrance area to the company premises was to be upgraded and the transit route into the building was to be optimally created in terms of both function and design, including the transition to the production hall which features around 19,000 square metres of usable space. bfstudio Partnerschaft von Architekten mbB, Berlin, were commissioned with the project and designed a transparent extension to the existing building, which gives the company campus a prominent identity even when viewed at night. With curved elements at the corners of the building, the architects created a flowing connection to the linear facades of the existing building. The “round corner” also unmistakably gives distinction to the entrance area to the administration building. Here, the first floor rests on slender concrete columns, which means that the entrance is easily accessible from all sides.

**Curved steel facades in the floor plan**

Metallbau Windeck GmbH, Kloster Lehnin, manufactured the floor-to-ceiling glazed post and transom facades on the staggered floors using the VISS facade steel profile system. With a face width of 60 millimetres, the VISS facade accommodates the enormous glass panes – measuring up to 3708 x 3000 millimetres and weighing up to 725 kilograms – in comparatively narrow frames. A crane and a glass suction battery mounted on it were used for the installation, including the curved panes. The VISS facade is rounded off with Janisol doors in the entrance area and numerous Janisol HI windows.

 The manufacture of the curved facades in the floor plan is always a challenge in terms of the accuracy of the elements. Despite this high level of precision, there may be slight deviations in the parallel course of the steel profile and the pane. To compensate for such tolerances, Jansen recommends wet glazing, which was also used here for all curved profiles. The glass is double-glazed insulating glass with a very fine solar protection coating. Despite the curved glazing, an external sun shading system was implemented on the entire facade; lasered on the rounded corners as a custom-made, curved design. The result is a concise, symbolic extension into the public space, with which Korsch AG underscores its reputation as the world’s leading machine builder for tablet presses.

**Project details:**

**Client:** Korsch AG, Berlin

**Architects:** bfstudio Partnerschaft von Architekten mbB, Berlin

**Facade construction:** Metallbau Windeck GmbH, Kloster Lehnin

**Profile systems used:**

VISS 60, Janisol doors and Janisol HI windows

**System supplier:** Jansen AG, Oberriet

**Text:** Anne Marie Ring, Munich

**Photos:** Thomas Voßbeck, Berlin

**Image rights:** Jansen AG, Oberriet

The editorial use of the illustrations is bound to the present project report.

**From here, captions:**

An inviting entrance area and additional space for the Administration department characterize the extension created for Berliner Korsch AG.

Curved glass at the corners of the building creates a flowing connection to the linear facades of the existing building.

Metallbau Windeck manufactured the floor-to-ceiling post and

transom facades from the VISS facade steel system.

The VISS facade with a face width of 60 mm holds the giant glass panes in comparatively narrow frames.

An external sun shading system was implemented on the entire facade; lasered on the rounded corners as a custom-made, curved design.

VISS façade

With the VISS facade steel system, Jansen offers a highly thermally insulated facade construction with Passivhaus certification. This is a VISS modular system from which the most suitable components – from a technical and economical perspective – can be selected, according to the static requirements, pane sizes or of filling element thickness.

**Editorial contacts:**

Jansen AG

Anita Lösch

Industriestrasse 34

CH-9463 Oberriet SG

Tel.: +41 (0)71 763 99 31

Fax: +41 (0)71 763 91 13

Email: anita.loesch@jansen.com

BAUtext Mediendienst München

Anne Marie Ring

Pernerkreppe 20

DE-81927 Munich

Tel.: +49 (0)89 21 11 12 06

Fax: +49 (0)89 21 11 12 14

Email: a.ring@bautext.de