

**MEDIA INFORMATION March 2022**

**Futura One, Taipei:**

**Structure with style**

**The megacity of Taipei is the capital of Taiwan. The fourteen-storey** **Futura One residential and commercial building, which was designed by the Philipp Mainzer Frankfurt office, was built in a central location. The loft-style glass cubes on the inside without partition walls are a distinctive feature of the building and characterise the super-slim steel profiles from Jansen in Switzerland. One particular challenge for these profiles was that they would be able to withstand the wind loads exerted during the regional typhoons.**

The special style of the iconic building can be traced back to the structure of the facade. Reminiscent of parametric designs, the glass residential units are designed to be offset in the exposed concrete grid, creating a line of sight that breaks up the homogeneous appearance of the small-format window elements on the neighbouring high-rise buildings and creates an attractive contrast between exposed concrete and the reflection of sunlight when it hits each floor from different angles. Glass, steel and concrete interact in a well-proportioned manner. The designers made no attempt to conceal the pillars of the concrete facade, which was cast in the largest available shapes to avoid formwork seams. However, the selected concrete mixture also contributes to the opaque appearance of the facade, which is often found in European projects. Island locations and proximity to the sea are no less demanding when it comes to the maximum wind load of three kilopascals (kPa) that can be managed, which results in specifications for the structure of the panes. A contract-specific test was conducted under the direction of Jansen China to demonstrate the watertightness and earthquake resistance of the VISS facade system.

**Perfect harmony between delicate and robust**

Each apartment is a separate unit – and thus constitutes an infinitely spacious single interior space. The architects have created a

flowing design without partition walls, pillars, walls or corners. The Jansen VISS SG system also contribute to this unique design vocabulary, creating a curved contour from floor to ceiling that is reminiscent of a sunlit mountain crest. The rhythmic interplay of light and shadow in these elements forms a contrast to the robust structure of the exposed concrete. The modern lift-and-slide door elements allow the interior and exterior space to merge together, thus creating an uninterrupted look with boundless freedom. In so doing, they combine an accessible threshold and optimum thermal insulation with contemporary architecture. The Janisol HI door system with triple-glazed insulation glass used also meets the most exacting requirements in terms of insulation and security, and offers outstanding structural strength in the face of wind and earthquakes. “For our Futura One project in Taipei, the contrast between the rigid, earthquake-proof structure and the filigree glass interior surfaces was a key part of the design. The Jansen system enables a frameless construction with large glass surfaces that can withstand the wind loads exerted during regional typhoons, making it the perfect choice for the project. In addition, individual planning made it possible to implement the irregular floor plan with a wide range of angles. It’s always nice when products help bring your own ideas to life,” explained Philipp Mainzer, the lead architect, when discussing the advantages of the systems used by Jansen.

AGC window panes protect building users from heat, noise and sunlight. In conjunction with T-clips, the formats are mechanically fitted into the VISS steel facade system from Swiss manufacturer Jansen, which enables pane sizes of 6300 by 2860 millimetres and at the same time plays an important role in the statics of the glass structures. In addition to their filigree aesthetics, accentuated materials and the resulting transparency levels for building facades, Jansen steel profiles, which almost make do without any visible silicone joints, cut an impressive figure, as they meet today’s standard requirements for highly heat-insulated facade structures and have the corresponding certifications in accordance with the Passive House standard. Available in combination with the Linea and Delta design profiles or individual variants, the VISS façade is suitable as standard for post-post-mullion or post-mullion-post installation. Welded and plug-in designs as well as concave or convex faceted glazing are also available. The changing angle designs in the Futura One project posed further challenges for the product system and on-site installation. This results in the angular style that gives the facade its structure, so to speak.

**High level of requirements for water tightness**

In terms of the structure, the property’s special features include the use of the steel system from Switzerland and the dry-glazed semi-structural glazing approach pursued by the designers here. The semi all-glass design, which is made possible by the Jansen AG profiles, combines a high degree of transparency with the specific specifications for the statics in order to control wind loads and any seismic fluctuations resulting from the height and geographical location of the building. However, the traditional, wet-glazed aluminium facade is particularly popular in the projects of local customers. In cooperation with the Swiss profile supplier, the island’s first dry-glazed steel facade has been able to meet water resistance requirements up to pressures of 720 Pascal (Pa) and 3.4 litres per minute per square metre. This, in turn, offers clearly identifiable advantages of this pioneering achievement, not least in conjunction with significantly reduced maintenance costs compared to the wet glazed facade. In terms of the wind resistance, the narrow steel profiles also reliably mastered the loads of several kPa applied at different building heights in upstream tests. In summary, the selected facade construction provides the required design freedom with the residential cubes that are constantly rearranged depending on the floor, meets the requirements for building safety and efficiency, and impresses both aesthetically and with regard to possible daylight intake thanks to the narrow face widths of the steel profiles used.

At the same time, requirements vary depending on how they are used. On the first eleven floors, i.e. the so-called standard floors, there are two generously sized apartments of 70 to 80 square metres per floor, which benefit noticeably from the open construction method envisaged in the design concept with flowing rooms. On the upper two floors, there are two exclusive penthouse apartments, each with roof terraces, of around 100 square metres. The spacious, light-flooded cubes all meet the highest standards of comfort and well-being. The floor-to-ceiling windows provide transparency and user comfort on all levels, combine functionality and design in equal measure and, like the entrance area made of limestone, also characterise the facade appearance.

**Project details:**

**Client:** Architectural Pursuer, Taipei, Taiwan

**Architect:** Philipp Mainzer, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

**Metalwork:** Excellentechnik Inc., Taipei, Taiwan

**Profile systems used:** VISS Semi-SG, Janisol HI door system, Janisol lift-and-slide door system

**System supplier:** Jansen AG, Oberriet, Switzerland

**Text:** Reinhold Kober / Book Your Video GmbH & Co. KG, Bad Wörishofen

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**About Jansen AG**  
Jansen AG was founded in 1923 and is based in Oberriet, Switzerland. The Group develops, produces and distributes steel profile systems and plastic products for various segments of the building industry. Since 1978, Jansen has been the exclusive Swiss sales partner of the German company Schüco International KG and distributes its aluminium profile systems within the construction sector. In January 2021, Jansen AG acquired the subsidiary RP Technik GmbH, which is also a provider of steel solution systems for facades, windows and doors, from the Welser Profile Group of Companies. Jansen handed over its automotive supply business to Mubea on 1 April 2021. To this day, the Jansen Group remains a wholly family-owned company and employs around 600 people worldwide.

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