

Architecture shining bright

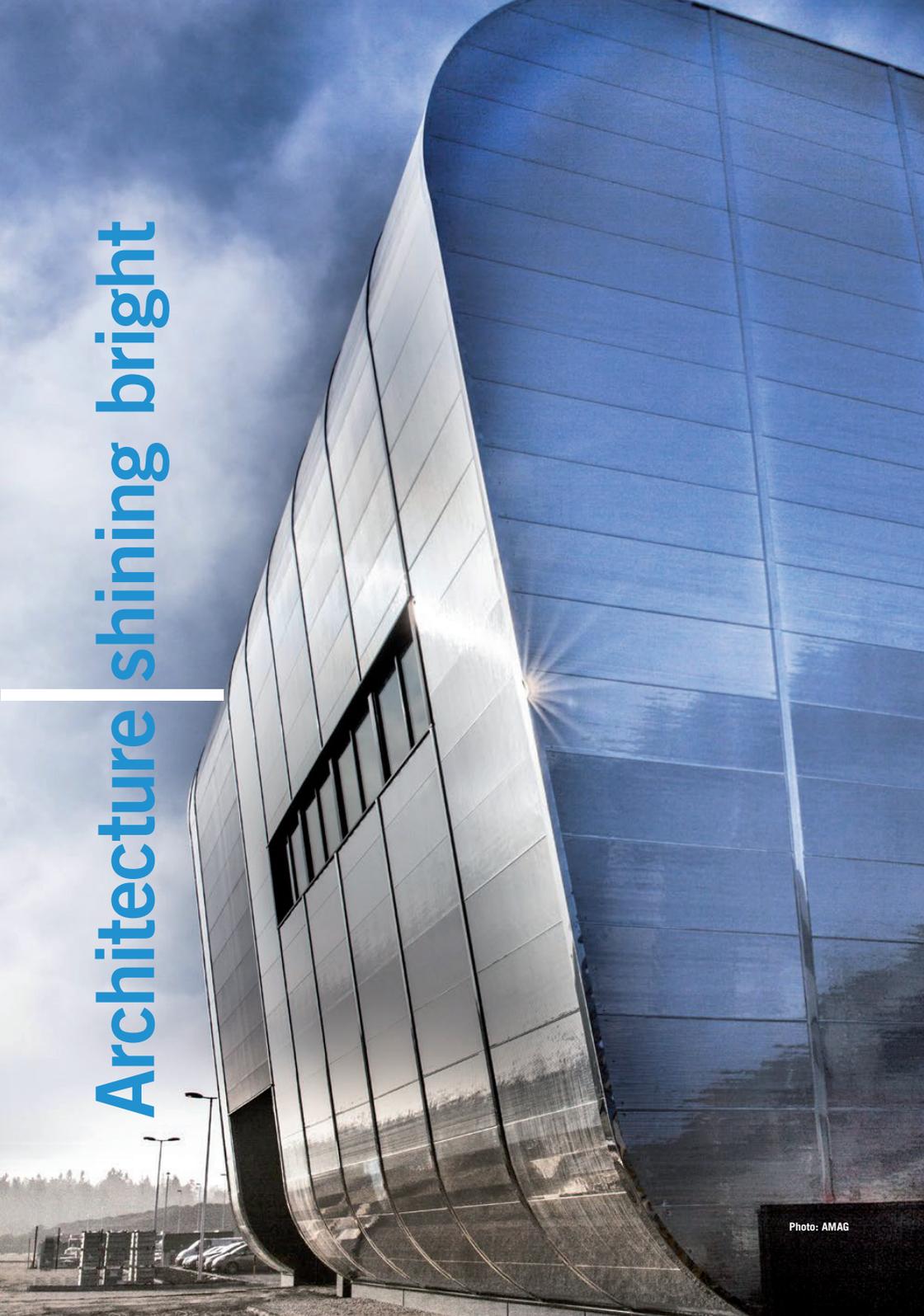


Photo: AMAG

After the spectacular Louvre Lens museum project in France, we are setting our sights on another ambitious architectural design project using AMAG's façade sheet.

For the spectacular Louvre Lens project in France (we reported on it in AluReport 1/2013), AMAG developed a special bright façade material, AMAG TopBright® API, in line with what Japanese architects SANAA had in mind. By playing on the deliberately blurred image of the surroundings, interior spaces are „dematerialized“ and subtly merge with the landscape.

Inspired by that concept, we designed the cross wing of AMAG's new hot rolling mill in Ranshofen with an aluminium façade whose surface is even more reflective and specular, showing what is technically feasible for aluminium surfaces in architectural applications.

The implementation of that project was a challenging task for all those involved because we had to forge something entirely new. Jointly with Alanod and Brucha,

AMAG has created a product that meets special architectural requirements.

We used our own raw material, Al 99.5%, clad with Al 99.85%, anodizing quality 126.1, bright, H18 temper, with a width of 1245.50 mm and a material thickness of 0.7 mm, as a starting material for the project.

The 6,800 m² cladding for the new rolling mill was treated by Alanod GmbH & Co. KG¹⁾ at its Ennepetal location by a finishing process for façade products meeting the highest quality standards, in which the anodizing process is combined with a painting process to minimize the roughness of the already highly bright material, which makes it look like a mirror.

The highly transparent sol-gel coating is extremely hard and durable. The resulting product is highly formable and has a specular surface, with excellent weathering

and scratch resistance. Brucha²⁾ used this starting material to manufacture panels with a core thickness of 150 mm, with an exterior shell of mirror-finish aluminium, resulting in a product of flamboyant and unique design. This was the first time to design panels with an exterior aluminium shell; the BRUCHA Paneel®, panel is a result of decades of experience in panel production.

The façade of the new Ranshofen rolling mill is thus a particular example of how various manufacturing processes work together in an innovative manner, using a product developed by AMAG for architectural applications - definitely an architectural highlight. ■

For more information, please contact:
Markus Botta
T +43 7722 801 2659
markus.botta@amag.att

1) Alanod GmbH & Co.KG
Specialist in surface and aluminium finishing. The products are used in the lighting industry, for daylight systems and decorative applications, in the automotive and computer industries, and for solar applications.

58256 Ennepetal, Egerstr. 12, Germany
T +49 2333 986 500, F +49 2333 986 555
e-mail: info@alanod.de, www.alanod.com

2) Brucha Gesellschaft m.b.H.
For over 60 years, Brucha has been specializing in the production of cooling cells, cold-storage doors and high-quality BRUCHAPaneel® panels for industrial buildings.

3451 Michelhausen, Rusterstraße 33, Austria
T +43 2275 5875, F +43 2275 5875 1804
e-mail: office@brucha.at, www.brucha.at

