

HI-MACS® for Naples International Airport



HI-MACS® has been used for the expansion and restyling work at Naples International Airport, demonstrating once again that this material is perfectly suited for breathing life into the highest-level projects.

Naples International Airport was listed in the National Airports Plan drawn up by ENAC of Italy's 12 Strategic National Airports. It is the main airport in Italy's Mezzogiorno region and its catchment area extends well beyond Campania to include Basilicata, part of Puglia and Calabria.

In recent years, with a 92% increase in international routes since 2013, passenger traffic has grown considerably (**84% growth in international traffic, 24.2% up from 2013 overall**), making Naples among Italy's main passenger hubs.

In particular, at the passenger terminal, significant expansion and restyling projects have been carried out, to which the architect Antonio De Martino, co-founder of Gnosis Architettura, has contributed by stamping his own stylish signature on the atmosphere of the terminal, using a defined portfolio of materials.

Among these, one material which has enabled him to fully express a clear architectonic style is **HI-MACS®**, which, made up of minerals, natural pigments and acrylic, offers a wide range of structural benefits. HI-MACS® is resistant to fire, scratching and shock, but above all, its pore-free surface prevents any build-up of dirt, bacteria, mould and dampness, ensuring that it remains clean and completely hygienic.

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High resolution images available: www.himacs.eu/newsroom



HI-MACS®, used in both architecture and interior design to create façades and furniture, is ideal for use in internal and external contract environments because it is so easy to maintain. After years of use, it can be reworked to eradicate any deep damage and marks such as stains and even graffiti, sprucing up its appearance to ensure that it looks as good as it did on the very first day.

“Gnosis is a highly multidisciplinary project team which here more than ever before strove to meet the challenge of this undertaking in the broadest possible way,” declared designer Antonio De Martino. *“The specific theme of the individual areas in which we were involved had to be connected and compared to the wider picture of the overall airport image. Our chief aim was to design a concept able to lend a precise identity to the airport terminal and to the relevant forecourt areas. We had to design a language which, when used in all the upgrade projects, was able to project a recognisable and unmistakable style.”*

Solid Surface was used throughout this long process of design and building, since it can be readily adapted to an extremely wide range of uses and functions while fitting in effortlessly with the ad hoc design ideas used in this complex infrastructure.”

Sections of the airport and elements built in HI-MACS®

In an environment enriched with marble and stonework for the original paving and walls, thanks to his collaboration with **Ares srl** and HI-MACS® distributor **Luigi Strumolo spa**, the architect was able to

insert made-to-measure furnishings in acrylic stone, whose gentle forms are in marked contrast to the surrounding environment made up of geometric shapes jutting out, thereby creating a highly dynamic overall effect.

The notion of 'movement' is also amply conveyed by the benches made of HI-MACS® in the shopping area and the new boarding areas, which are tapered and angular, and by the separators in the security channels, which emerge directly out of the paving like waves. Of particular interest here is the use of HI-MACS® by the designer and fabricator, using backlighting, which not only allows the numbers of the individual separators to appear on the surface of the material, but also gives each its own individual colour and identity.

Finally, HI-MACS® has also been used in the airport toilets: the worktop, with integral sinks, is directly joined to a large splashback, made of the acrylic stone, without any visible joints. The result is amazing: despite the size, everything appears to have been fashioned out of a single block of material. Ultimately, the absence of joins prevents bacteria from growing there and greatly facilitates cleaning.

The ability of HI-MACS® to be thermoformed, which allows it to be fashioned into any shape and size, coupled with its many and various technical and structural qualities, has made it possible to upgrade not just in an aesthetically innovative way, but also absolutely safely. This huge project amply demonstrates the versatility and quality of the material.

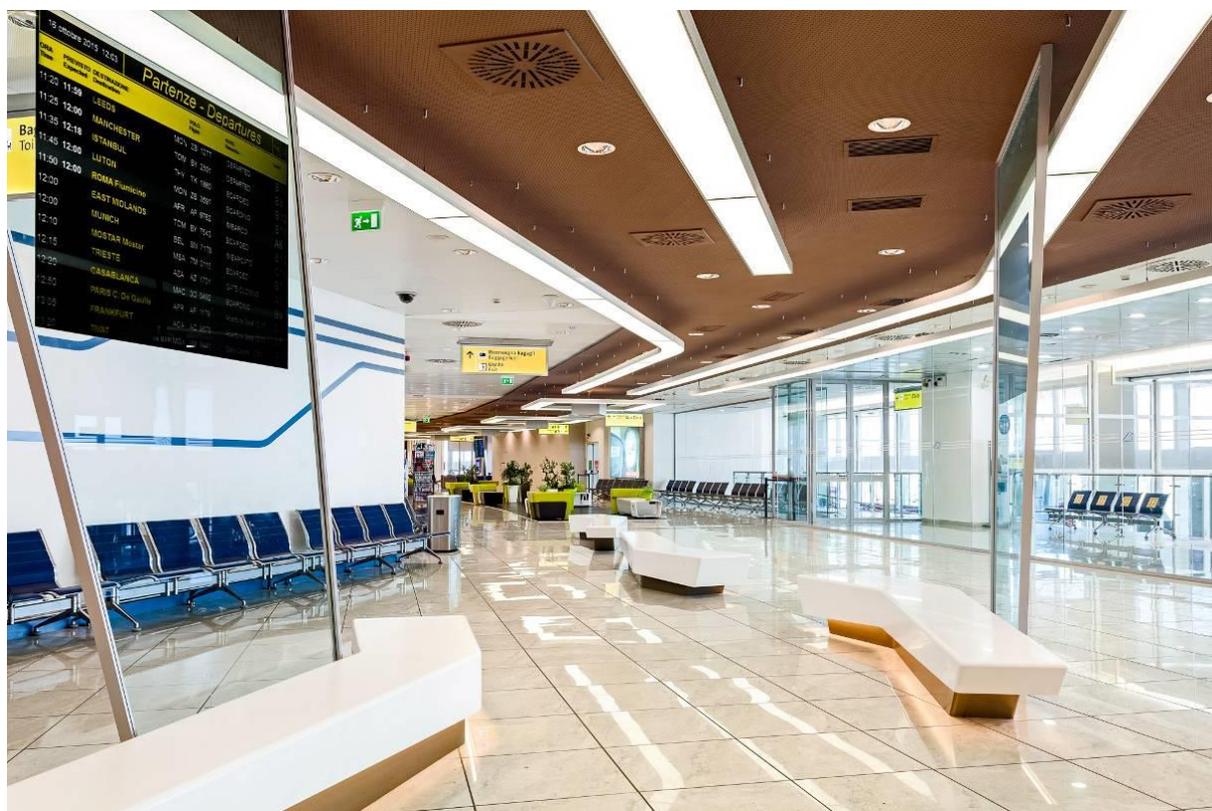
HI-MACS®: Because Quality Wins.



Today's structure and the result

Naples International Airport, which holds a strategic position with its passenger terminal only 7 km from the city centre, was the first airport to be privatised in Italy in 1997. Ever since, GESAC, the company that manages the hub, has continued to invest in the development of its infrastructures, with spending to date exceeding the €300-million mark.

The result is clear to see. Today, the airport, which offers incomparable connections and services, has a refined, creative air, and is visually dynamic and up-to-date, thanks also to the skilful use of cutting-edge technology, materials and lighting. The structure successfully marries the past and present with welcoming and aesthetically pleasing results that will certainly ease the waiting times and transit operations of its customers.



TECHNICAL INFORMATION

PLACE: Naples International Airport - Capodichino | www.aeroportoedinapoli.it

PROJECT: Antonio De Martino – Gnosis Architettura | www.gnosis.it

FABRICATOR HI-MACS®: Ares srl | www.aresarredamenti.it - Legno Cad srl | www.legnocad.com

HI-MACS® DISTRIBUTOR: Luigi Strumolo Spa | www.strumolo.com

MATERIAL: HI-MACS® Alpine White S028 | www.himacs.eu

PHOTOGRAPHY: ©Roberto Mango



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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 acrylic, natural minerals and pigments that come together to provide a smooth, non-porous and visually seamless surface which meets the highest standards for quality, 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** and **David Chipperfield**, among others, have completed fabulous projects using HI-MACS®, from kitchens to bathrooms, including decorative items, in hotels as well as in museums, shopping centres and on external façades.

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.

As regards hygiene, 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.



HI-MACS®. Because Quality Wins.

For more information and to stay connected, visit our [website](#) and our [newsroom](#).

Let's connect!



* HI-MACS® is designed and produced by **LG HAUSYS**, a world leader in the technology sector belonging to LG Group, and distributed by **LG HAUSYS EUROPE** based in Frankfurt (Germany).

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