

HI-MACS® clads terminal 2F of the Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris



©Photos by Mathieu Ducros

Every day, the Charles de Gaulle international airport in Paris welcomes thousands of passengers, who are often in a hurry, and the facility needs to cope with chaotic conditions at times. Terminal 2F recently unveiled a brand new entrance hall, consisting of three pillars, all entirely made of HI-MACS®. Marc Fidelle, and Andrei David, architects from the Paris Airport Engineering and Architectural Management were looking for a hard-wearing material, which could satisfy the needs relating to public premises. This is the first new-generation acrylic stone, which was deemed ideal for such a busy venue due to its sophisticated technology. To complete this project successfully, the architects worked closely with LCCA, a furniture manufacturer specialising in this exceptional material.

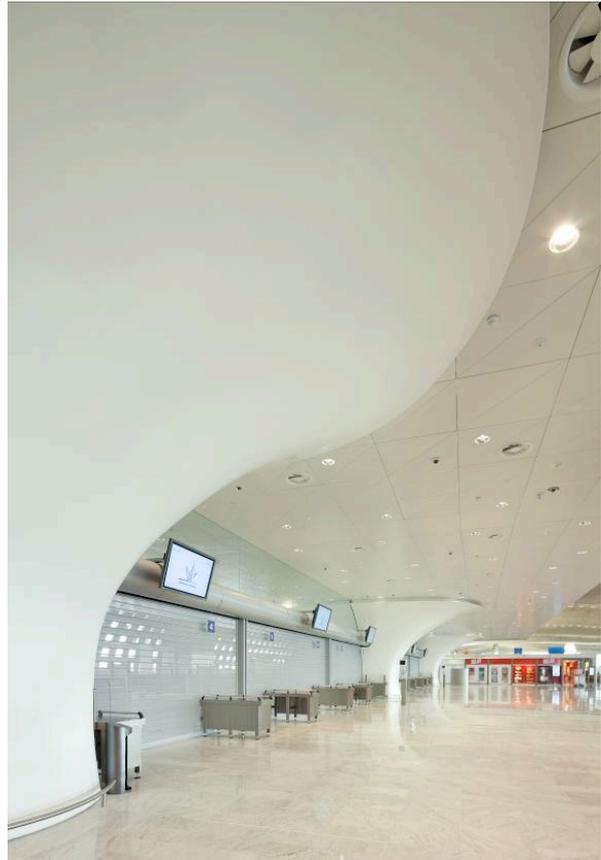
The columns are strategically placed at the entrance to departures, to funnel travellers into the security area, and support the imposing roof above. It had to give passengers a sense of peace and tranquillity during the boarding process, an experience which some feel quite anxious about. The pillars, which distinguish this new entrance hall, contain the various networks and air conditioning systems for the public area. An ultra-sturdy and easy-to-process material was therefore required for the project, and HI-MACS® appeared to be the ideal solution.

These three modern and sleek **HI-MACS®** pillars measuring 13, 6 and 4.5 metres wide – appear to be seamless - recalling the bow of a cruise liner. This organic and mono-block design was made possible thanks to the thermoformability of this Solid Surface material, which can be worked into the most complex and original shapes. This technique was indeed a genuine innovation for the architects, who wanted a pliable shape, capable of housing within its very structure the air conditioning control unit and the various networks.



These pillars were built in brilliant **HI-MACS®** Alpine White, which makes the inside of the airport altogether brighter. With their sleek and innovative design, the pillars give off a soothing sense of serenity. They are also appealing in a rather sensual way, with their curves, tactile surface and their rounded silhouette.

HI-MACS® was the absolute ideal choice owing to its many qualities: it is hygienic, hard-wearing, solid and durable, easy to care for and repair. The latter quality is highly appreciated in a high-traffic area such as this airport. It is also pleasant to touch and makes for a more pleasing experience.



PROJECT INFORMATION

Works Manager:	Paris Airport
Project Manager:	Paris Airport Engineering and Architectural Management.
Designed by:	Marc Fidelle and Andrei David, architects from the Paris Airport Engineering and Architectural Management
Manufacturing:	LCCA
Material:	HI-MACS®, Alpine White, www.himacs.eu
Dimensions:	13 m, 6 m and 4.5 m
Photo credit:	Mathieu Ducros

WHAT IS HI-MACS®?

A new generation acrylic stone, **HI-MACS®** is a material that is designed and produced by **LG HAUSYS**, a world leader in the technology sector, and distributed by **LG HAUSYS EUROPE**, based in Geneva (Switzerland).

Due to its thermoformable properties, its wide range of colours, its translucency and the invisible joins, HI-MACS® is able to provide an infinite number of designs and exclusive finishings. Moreover, this material can be worked as easily as wood as it is easy to handle and to cut.

As regards hygiene, HI-MACS® does not absorb humidity and is highly resistant to stains. Its smooth and non-porous surface means that it is not penetrated by liquids. Completely sterile, this material is easy to clean and to repair: small scratches can be removed simply by using a sponge or a soft cloth.

Unlike other similar materials on the market, HI-MACS® is the only Solid Surface to enjoy official **European Technical Approval (ETA) for façades** – for Alpine White S728 colour – which was awarded by the European Organisation for Technical Approvals (EOTA).

During the manufacturing process, HI-MACS® is heated to very high temperatures by means of an advanced firing heat treatment. This procedure makes HI-MACS® different from other types of acrylic stone, giving it better uniformity and making it more resistant to shocks and UV rays.

Acrylic stone provides infinite possibilities for personalised designs and inspires professionals 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.

HI-MACS® is available in around 100 different colours in various ranges; **Solids, Granite, Sand, Pearl & Quartz, Volcanics, Lucent, Eden, Galaxy** and **Marmo**, in different thicknesses of 3, 6, 9 and 12 mm, depending on the shade. HI-MACS® holds a number of international certifications with regard to the environment, hygiene and fire resistance, such as **ISO 9001** and **14001, Greenguard, NSF, LGA** and **IMO MED** certification (Modules B and D), among others.

HI-MACS® stands out for its excellent quality service, guaranteed by its **Quality Club** programme, consisting of a network of expert manufacturers and approved distributors across Europe. HI-MACS® offers the longest guarantee service on the market: 15 years.

For more information:

www.himacs.eu

HI-MACS® The New Generation

Inspired by Architecture

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