

A captivating HIMACS reception desk design with 'wow' effect for AOK offices



As one of Germany's largest healthcare insurers, **AOK** need to project a professional yet welcoming approach in their reception area. As a result they called in a cooperative group of carpenters – **Bezold GmbH & Co. KG**, **Bodenschlägel GmbH & Co. KG**, and **Bert Lenz Möbelfabrik GmbH** to construct this imposing desk, made from the **solid surface material HIMACS**.

It has to be easy to clean, hygienic, long-lasting while still eye-catching and imposing. The reception desk is a real feature in the huge, bright ground floor area. Measuring eight metres long, its organic shape makes optimal use of the spacious room. The design uses sleek, flowing lines to achieve a 'wow' effect.

HI·MACS

Setting accents that can be shaped and moulded

This design called for a material with an elegant finish that could be joined seamlessly. The solution: HIMACS solid surface material. A creative designer can turn a good idea into a brilliant plan that impresses clients, but it is the material that determines whether the design can be made into a reality. The solid surface material is perfect for extraordinary designs, in this case, the fact that the material could be shaped and moulded was the deciding factor. The shaping process, which is known as thermoforming, allows HIMACS to be moulded into virtually any form.

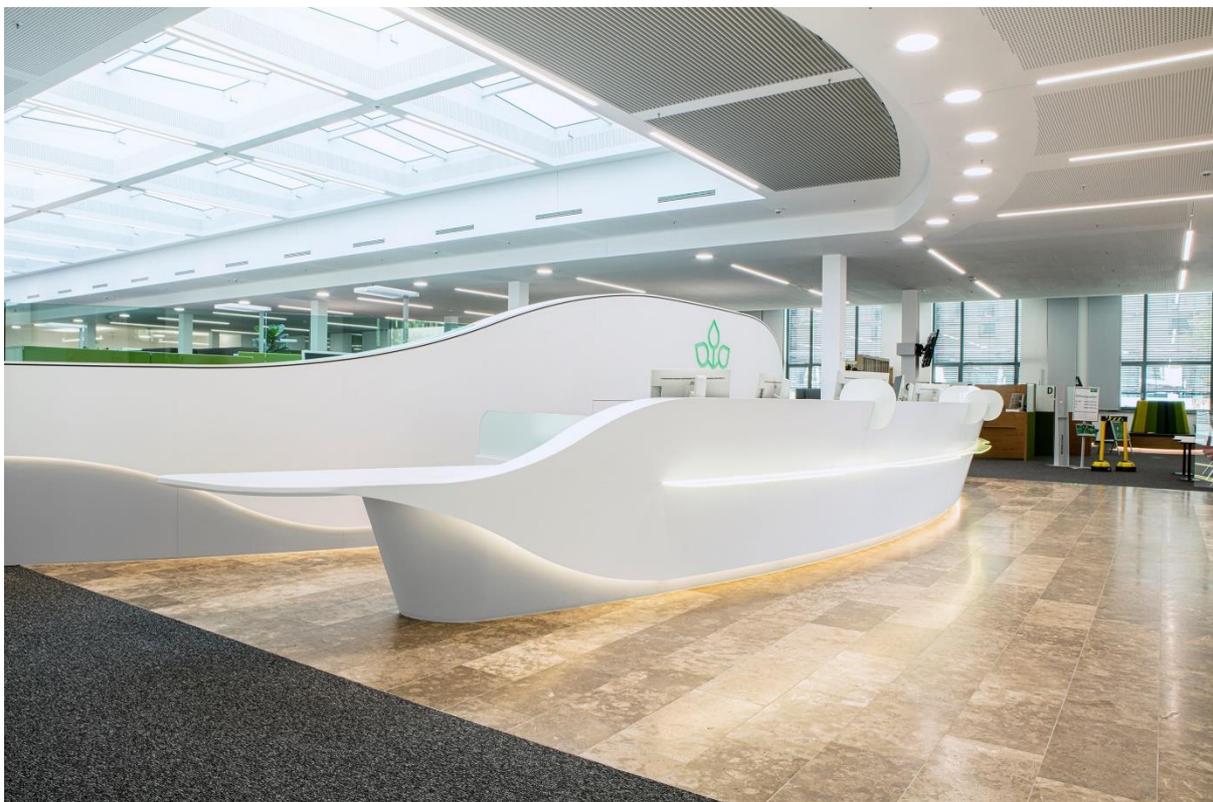


A truly unique front desk

Constructing the desk required a combination of high professional skill, lots of experience working with solid surface material and a passion for detail. The carpenters executed this remarkable project together. Bezold, based in Bayreuth in Bavaria, is a solid surface material expert specialising in unique pieces of furniture. With almost 70 years of experience, the company has a number of extraordinary interior design projects in its portfolio with detailed craftsmanship like this futuristic front desk. A veneer plywood frame forms the foundation of the desk. The solid surface material cladding had to fit together perfectly into a three-dimensional shape, crafted at all levels such that the final result looked as if it were a single, huge workpiece – flawless and seamless.

HI·MACS

The projecting extension of the countertop is a highlight of the design, it easily accommodates four employees working with two screens each. Despite measuring eight metres, the front desk looks light and sleek, achieved by setting the HIMACS substructure back slightly from the front edge, drawing the eye to the organic, seemingly suspended front element. LED lighting along the intermediate space between the substructure and the front element adds an additional accent to the detailed craftsmanship. A shelf made of satined glass runs along three quarters of the front element, with lighting along the back edge that gives it an especially sophisticated look. Elegant contours and soft shapes characterise the overall design. The front element, substructure and countertop are all from one material, creating a continuous, puristic unit with uniform radiance.



Project details:

Location: Nuremberg, Germany / AOK reception desk

Design: Aura GmbH | aura-gmbh.de

Fabrication: carpenter cooperation

Bezold GmbH & Co. KG | www.bezold-innenausbau.de

Bodenschlägel GmbH & Co. KG | www.bodenschlaegel.de

Bert Lenz Möbelfabrik GmbH | www.bl-moebelfabrik.de

HIMACS supplier: Klöpfer Surfaces | www.kloepfer-surfaces.de

Material: HIMACS Alpine White | www.himacs.eu

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

HIMACS Solid Surface

www.himacs.eu

HIMACS 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 minerals, acrylic and natural 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.

HIMACS provides limitless possibilities for surfacing solutions and inspires creative minds from all over the world. **Zaha Hadid, Jean Nouvel, Rafael Moneo, Karim Rashid, Marcel Wanders** and **David Chipperfield**, among others, have completed fabulous projects using HIMACS.

At the forefront of innovation as always, LX Hausys recently introduced two new products. First **HIMACS Ultra-Thermoforming**, an innovative formula that pushes the boundaries of solid surface shaping to a whole new level, with 30% more thermoplastic capabilities - the biggest innovation for the Solid Surface history since its inception in 1967. Now, **HIMACS Intense Ultra**, combining the characteristics from two disparate worlds: **Intense Colour Technology** and **Ultra-Thermoforming**.

HIMACS 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 HIMACS is almost as robust as stone, it can be worked in a similar way as wood: it can be sawn, routed, drilled or sanded.

HIMACS is manufactured using a new generation technology, the **thermal cure**. The temperature reached during the manufacturing process sets HIMACS apart from other solid surfaces and creates a denser, even more homogeneous, sturdy, durable surface – with a better resistance and superior thermoforming performance.

HIMACS 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 HIMACS 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.

HIMACS offers a 15-year warranty for products fabricated by a Quality Club Member.



HIMACS. Because Quality Wins.

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* **HIMACS** is designed and produced by **LX HAUSYS (formerly LG Hausys)**, a world leader in the technology sector belonging to LX Holdings Corp.