

# HI·MACS

## Playing with contrast: A sensational kitchen counter made of HIMACS Emerald green



**Interior architect Stephanie Thatenhorst has radically modernised the interior of a second home on the shores of Lake Constance. The highlight of this renovation project was a monolithic kitchen counter in HIMACS Emerald, custom-made by the workshop at Werkkollektiv GmbH, based in Stuttgart, Germany. It produces a sensational contrast between traditional architecture and modern materials.**

This renovation project's main objective was to convert this four-storey home, in an excellent location just a few hundred metres from Lake Constance, into an attractive holiday home for its owner. The nearly 600 m<sup>2</sup> of living space in the new building needed to be redesigned by interior architect Stephanie Thatenhorst to provide enough space for the owner's many friends who visit him on a regular basis. So, the architect created multiple guest bedrooms, with a built-in wardrobe installed in each one. Each storey features a lounge and a kitchen designed to accommodate many people, with a lovely area where guests can gather for shared activities or keep to themselves. The "eclectic style of the layout", as she herself describes it, really

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leaps out, with different elements, artistic movements and eras boldly combined to make a décor that is completely fresh and new. The main kitchen, on the ground floor, is scaled for multiple cooks and fits perfectly with that style. Placed in the middle of the room, the monolithic kitchen counter made of HIMACS is the star attraction. This material is ideal for places where food is prepared, since its non-porous, seamless surface promises optimal hygiene and cleanliness. The owner wanted a sensational, translucent colour for the kitchen, so the choice fell on Emerald, from the HIMACS Lucent Collection, whose translucence is enhanced when illuminated.

## Transparency that doesn't show too much

However, it was a challenge for Werkkollektiv, the Stuttgart-based furniture maker to achieve the desired translucence and the backlighting for the bespoke kitchen unit: "Given that HIMACS produces a seamless look, when you install it, you normally wouldn't be able to tell where it was bonded", explains Louis Michel from Werkkollektiv. "In this specific case, the bonding points would have been visible due to the adhesive's particular refractive properties.

To prevent that, we installed a frame and assembled the HIMACS pieces so that all the joins would blend into the frame and the light would only pass through the HIMACS material." The counter's lower inner structure comprises large steel tubes that can be seen when backlit, and a base made of powder coated blue steel.



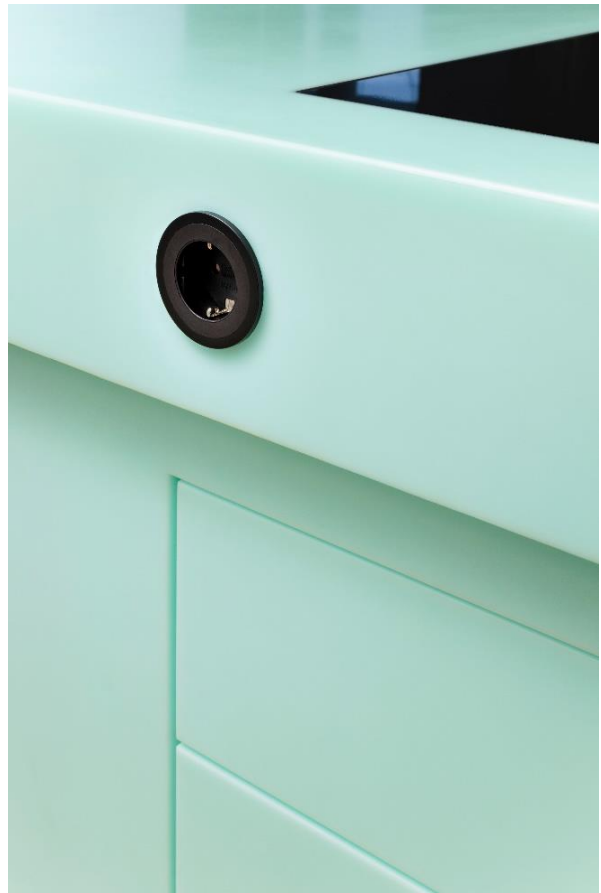
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High resolution images available: [www.himacs.eu/newsroom](http://www.himacs.eu/newsroom)

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The details of this kitchen island were meticulously planned: at the front and side, the counter has spacious drawers for storing kitchen utensils. On the left side of the island, there is an embedded hob with an integrated hood, along with well-placed electric sockets for different kitchen appliances. This unique counter is the fruit of a combination of craftsmanship and the creative freedom afforded by HIMACS, a counter that will surely draw all eyes to itself.



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## PROJECT INFORMATION:

**Project:** House on the shore of Lake Constance, Germany

**Interior architect:** Stephanie Thatenhorst, Munich | [www.stephanie-thatenhorst.com](http://www.stephanie-thatenhorst.com)

**HIMACS builder:** Werkkollektiv GmbH, Stuttgart | [www.werkkollektiv.de](http://www.werkkollektiv.de)

**HIMACS supplier:** Klöpferholz GmbH & Co. KG, Garching | [www.kloepfer.de](http://www.kloepfer.de)

**Material:** HIMACS Emerald S305 | [himacs.eu](http://himacs.eu)

**HIMACS unit:** Kitchen counter

**Photos:** © Markus Burkhardt | [www.markusburkhardt.de](http://www.markusburkhardt.de)

**HIMACS. Because Quality Wins.**

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## HIMACS Solid Surface

[www.himacs.eu](http://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 many 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 in the history of Solid Surface since its inception in 1967. And now, **HIMACS Intense Ultra** combines 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 made using a next-generation technology, the **thermal cure**. The temperature reached during the manufacturing process sets HIMACS apart from other solid surfaces and creates a denser surface that is even sturdier, more homogeneous and more durable, and with better resistance and superior thermoforming results.

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 the 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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*Let's connect!*



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