

Liquid Crystal Windows Eyrise At Orkla City

“We have high environmental aspirations for Orkla City and were keen to minimise cooling requirements while optimising light, an issue in Norway where there is a lot of darkness throughout the year.”

-Gjert Brun
Managing Director,
Orkla Real Estate



Orkla has opted for smart liquid crystal windows at its new Oslo headquarters – Orkla City – to maximise energy efficiency ambitions for the development.

The Norwegian consumer goods supplier selected the recently developed Eyrise dynamic liquid crystal windows for solar shading for the cafeteria terrace facade at Orkla City, enabling staff to enjoy continuous visual and thermal comfort without the need for excessive air conditioning and blinds.

Licrivision

Orkla partnered with building firm Skanska Norge, Norwegian architects NSW Arkitektur and Staticus, the facade engineering company on the design and construction of the 82sq.m facade on the fifth floor of the building, installing 23 rectangular window panels of seven different sizes.

Advanced Licrivision liquid crystal technology enables Eyrise windows to darken and lighten instantaneously. It works using sensors and can be controlled

through the building management system. The glass always remains a transparent neutral grey colour when tinted, so natural light is preserved even when the windows are in a darkened state and the view to the outside is retained.

Comfort

“Eyrise windows give us a seamless adjustment of light and temperature while reducing our energy costs. Meetings can as easily happen on the sofa in the canteen as in a conference room, so staff can work in comfort,” continued Gjert Brun.

BREEAM excellent

Designed by NSW Arkitektur, the 25,000sq.m Orkla City multi-height commercial project consists of an office building with 16 floors suitable for 1,000 employees. The building is classified energy level ‘A’ and has applied for a BREEAM excellent certificate. “Architects love to work with glass facades but also need to consider sustainability and the impact on occupants,” said Marco Orlandi, architect at NSW Arkitektur.

“Orkla is a forward-looking company that is using on demand solar control technology to increase lightwellness for its staff, all while considering the environment.”

Eyrise

Eyrise Dynamic Liquid Crystal Windows is a product from science and technology company Merck which provide lightwellness – visual comfort, thermal regulation and colour neutrality – for occupants on demand, while helping to reduce energy consumption. Architects and building designers worldwide use Eyrise to create bespoke glass structures and facades in a large variety of shapes, sizes and colours. Recent projects include BAFTA’s headquarters in London, Orkla City in Oslo, Merck’s conference centre in Darmstadt and Techne Sphere in Leipzig designed by modern architecture pioneer Oscar Niemeyer. [f](#)

Picture: Orkla City uses smart liquid crystal windows to maximise energy efficiency.

No Letting up In Aim To Meet LETI

“The LETI’s call to action to design climate-friendly buildings is one we have taken seriously for many years. We are a polymer business and believe in the value this material brings to the built environment.”

-Martin Hitchin
Chief Executive, Rehau

Following the launch of the Climate Emergency Design Guide from the London Energy Transformation Initiative (LETI) Rehau is highlighting the ongoing initiatives in PVC-U technology that will effectively contribute to a number of the guide’s action points.

With a clear sustainability agenda at its core, Rehau has created a business that develops energy-efficient solutions with minimal environmental impact, demonstrated via robust lifecycle assessments and investment into a subsidiary window recycling company.

Lifecycle assessments

“And, while the media attention commanded by the world’s single-use plastic crisis is certainly warranted,” says Rehau CEO Martin Hitchin, “it is imperative that we continue to make the distinction between components used in our daily lives versus those integral to the foundations of our built environment.

“We have always taken lifecycle



cycle, conserved natural resources and reduced CO₂ emissions, with the percentage of profiles produced using recycled material rising from 25% to over 40% since 2014 – and set to increase to 50% next year.

Applied responsibly

“In summary, we at Rehau are committed to relieving the burden on our environment, and thoroughly agree with the message sent by the LETI Climate Emergency Design Guide. It is important that developers, landowners, designers, policy-makers, and the wider supply chain are fully aware of the value that PVC-U can bring when applied responsibly.” **i**

assessments seriously at Rehau and as a result our environmental impact is proportionately lower than that of raw materials. This is due to high energy costs demanded for production and extraction of raw materials, as well as logistical considerations relating to transport and fuel costs.

“For example, while the merits of PVC-U windows have long been acknowledged, the circular economy of such products is also crucial in the context of climate change. This is why we have implemented a closed material

Picture: Rehau is highlighting the ongoing initiatives in PVC-U that do less harm to the environment.

The Living Daylights – Three Sash Frame Roof Window Launched

“We are ecstatic to be launching our new Velux Studio window, a revolutionary product in the roof window market.”

-Grant Sneddon
Product Manager, Velux



Roof window manufacturer Velux has launched its new Studio window, which is the first roof window to boast three sashes in one frame.

The one-frame design features two Velux centre-pivot roof windows on either side of a fixed unit to bring in even more daylight and offer a wider, more impressive view.

Solar conversion kit

By utilising a solar conversion kit, Velux Studio can be remotely operated via Velux Integra technology, offering greater flexibility to homeowners who want better control of their indoor environment.

The Velux Studio window offers a number of benefits to the trade, including:

- It's easy to order as only one product code and one flashing package are required to order.
- The one-frame module follows a standard installation process so installers can save time and get the job done in one day.

- Having three glazing units in one integrated solution makes installing multiple windows a lot easier.

Best in daylight and ventilation

“We are constantly looking for new ways to innovate our offering to installers, merchants and homeowners so we can continue to be market leaders in providing roof window solutions that offer the best in daylight and ventilation capabilities and create healthier home environments,” continues Sneddon. “Velux Studio does exactly that. “In comparison to a similar triple combination Velux roof window installation, Velux Studio’s all-in-one mechanism provides a more cost effective solution and brings in 23% more daylight.”

Sizes

Velux Studio is currently available in size FK06 (1837x1178mm), with a white painted finish, double and triple



glazed variants with slate or tile flashing kits that include all installation products (usually sold separately). [F](#)

Pictures: Velux has launched the Studio window with three sashes in one frame.