

Colour Iberia

Extrugasa, one of Spain's foremost extruders of aluminum products, is celebrating a 40-year partnership with AkzoNobel in which it has benefitted from the complete range of Interpon powder coatings to give manufacturers and designers the greatest choice of colours and durability for architectural and industrial applications. Ed Humphreys, *The Fabricator's* special correspondent reports

With four lines – two vertical and two horizontal at its manufacturing facility in Galicia, Spain – Extrugasa serves a global audience with products including windows, doors, façades and railings, as well as specific products within the industrial, automotive and transport sectors.

Among the many Interpon powder coatings it uses are those within the Futura Collection which continues to deliver not only the colours and finishes it needs, but also exceptional superdurability to provide the highest levels of gloss retention and color stability. Importantly, the Futura range also comes with the backing of a 25-year warranty and Qualicoat Class 2, GSB Master and AAMA 2604 certifications which are increasingly specified by architects to support LEED and BREEAM certified green building projects.

Working with AkzoNobel gives Extrugasa access not only to products but also to AkzoNobel's technical expertise. "Our customers demand the highest quality," says Raquel Garcia Quinta, marketing manager at Extrugasa, "and with Interpon they can choose from the huge range of colours that already exists and is ready to be shipped to us, or we can create colours that are unique to their specific project."

While certain colours such as Interpon Noir 2100 are always popular, creating bespoke colours is much in demand: "AkzoNobel is not just a supplier," says Manuel Miguéns, Extrugasa's production manager. "We feel like it is actually a part of Extrugasa, always on hand to support us with insight and advice, and in working with us to develop the quality powder coatings that our customers want."

The business values the support that AkzoNobel provides as well as the critical role of its own people in building long-term customer relationships: "In the region of Galicia in Spain, the competition is strong, which is also why the quality of the product we produce, and the quality and reliability of the Interpon powder coating, is so important. Customers come to us for the quality of our products and stay with us for the quality of our people and the support of our Interpon partners."

Sustainability is also key. Extrugasa has an established, multi-tiered environmental strategy to reduce the energy and water it consumes, as well as increasing the amount of scrap aluminium it can recycle and reuse. It is also exploring the latest innovations from AkzoNobel,



Mauel Miguéns (L) with Raquel Garcia Quinta

including its low cure powder coatings.

"We are constantly investing in new equipment and processes to drive further efficiencies," Garcia Quinta says, "and this includes exploring new Interpon powder coatings with the AkzoNobel team where they can support a more sustainable operation."

Sanal Limoncuo lu, commercial director South East Europe, Middle East and Africa at AkzoNobel Powder Coatings says: "Extrugasa's clients include some of the world's most renowned architects, as well as designers, aluminium fabricators and industrial companies from different sectors and after four decades of support, the company is not resting on its reputation. We recognise the value that our close collaboration and working partnership delivers in keeping Extrugasa at the forefront of the aluminium industry." □

www.extrugasa.com/en

Working the curve

Edgetech says that its Super Spacer has brought exceptional performance to three sustainable buildings writes The Fabricator special correspondent Ed Humphreys

The Hoch Zwei office tower in Vienna boasts a distinctive convex-concave shape, earning nicknames like ‘sails’ and ‘croissants’.

This 23-story landmark incorporates 13,500²m of glass facade, in a blend of transparency, light permeability, and thermal insulation.

Doering Glass – an Edgetech customer since 2004 – supplied 132 curved glass panels, each with six variations and reaching sizes of up to 1,500 x 4,000mm, to form the building's 2000²m rounded corners.

The double-glazed units feature a combination of laminated safety glass, PVB film, solar control glass, argon-filled interspaces, and low-emissivity glazing, achieving a U value of 1.5 W/m²K and a light transmittance of 39%.

The meticulous design also includes screen-printed sections on the glass panels, enhancing privacy and adding a touch of security, particularly in the facade's outward-facing corners.

Just 400 meters away from Hoch Zwei lies the Vienna University of Economics and Business.

The university's library, designed by architect Zaha Hadid, features a visually striking white and black structure connected by a glass joint incorporating Doering Glass' curved glass panels.

The most prominent feature of the LLC is the ‘monitor’ – a projecting roof with a curved window front.

The complexity of the building's design extends to the curved glass itself, reaching heights of up to five meters and unfolded lengths of nearly four meters.

Doering Glass' expertise in curved glass extends to London's architectural landscape as well.

Sixty London, a nine story office and retail building designed by Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates, features a curved facade that complements the surrounding Victorian architecture.

The building's organic design incorporates approximately 1,400 curved aluminium louvres.

Doering Glass supplied over 1,000²m of curved and concave insulating glass for the facade and roof terrace balustrades.

“These three products are fantastic examples of the sort of exceptional unit performance and design freedom Super Spacer enables,” says Edgetech president of European fenestration Chris Alderson.



Chris Alderson

“Its ability seamlessly to follow the contours of curved glass were essential to delivering both the desired aesthetics, but also outstanding robustness, longevity and thermal efficiency.

“All three buildings show how, even as we celebrate its 35th birthday, Super Spacer is still making huge contributions to some of the most cutting-edge buildings on earth.” □

www.edgetechig.co.uk