

## HI-MACS® Brings Functionality and Light to Bermondsey Warehouse Loft, an Amazing Apartment in London

*Doing away with the superfluous to gain light, space, and functionality. That was the goal of FORM Design Architecture in refitting the Bermondsey Warehouse Loft in south London. Changes in the distribution of space and the use of high-quality materials such as HI-MACS® turned this loft into the ideal environment for living and working.*



What was going to be a small job turned into a full refit of an apartment located in a Victorian-style warehouse that had lost its industrial character as a result of the space being partitioned in a way typical of the 1990s. The result is a New York-style loft, where Malcolm Crayton, Director of FORM Design Architecture, and project architect Mike Neale played a key role in the remodeling.

A kitchen, office, and areas for relaxing and exercising are the spaces included within Bermondsey Warehouse Loft, in which walls only appear to create a partition between the bedroom and the spaces for bathing, storage, and laundry. The HI-MACS® designs in the White Alpine finish maintain the uniformity of the apartment, where each area has its own character and is clearly differentiated from the rest, despite having done away with the partition walls.

The 17 meter x 6 meter loft is characterized by the vastness of the spaces, the sensation of freedom of movement and the brightness that emanates from the white tones that dominant its walls and the HI-MACS® acrylic stone, which is especially striking in the kitchen, designed as an island, the desk and the shelves above it.

The presence of HI-MACS® provides a modern touch to a space in which the typical brick walls of the industrial age have been preserved and painted white, while a wooden floor provides a rustic accent, warmth and exclusivity. Although it looks as though they could be original from the Victorian warehouse, the floorboards were actually salvaged from an old Welsh chapel.

### **A Kitchen that Marries Functionality and Design**

In the form of an island with pure, straight lines, the kitchen executed in HI-MACS® acrylic stone is one of the most striking spaces in this loft. Comprising a single element that includes a stove, sink, and cupboards, it has been reduced to the bare essentials in order to gain functionality and perfectly fit into the minimalist style of the rest of the apartment.

The extraordinary qualities of HI-MACS® have made it the most suitable material for responding to the needs that arose in designing this kitchen. The smooth, uniform appearance of the acrylic stone makes it easy to clean and ensures high resistance to heat sources and the regular use of household disinfectants. The kitchen is thus completely hygienic and particularly recommended for contact with food.



## A Home for Working in

The work area located at one end of the loft is made up of a desk and two shelves made with HI-MACS® acrylic stone. The malleability of this material makes it possible to work it in order to achieve any kind of design, resulting in limitless possibilities that adapt to the needs of the client. In this case, the two shelves and the desk have each been designed as unique pieces, defining the space dedicated to the office with their presence.

Moreover, in order to solve the usual problem of amassed cables found in any workspace, a covered tray also executed in HI-MACS® has been included on the back of the desk to organize the cables and keep them hidden away, preventing any sensation of untidiness.



## Aesthetic Uniformity from the Service Block

Situated in one corner of the loft and integrated into it thanks to the HI-MACS® acrylic stone design, the service block houses the guest bathroom, washer, and a larder area with space for household appliances that prevents objects from accumulating.

The service block is demarcated with HI-MACS® acrylic stone doors in the same Alpine White finish used throughout the apartment. This makes it possible to define its space without breaking with the aesthetic and chromatic uniformity that characterizes the home.



In an open-plan space, lighting is fundamental when it comes to creating ambiance. Removing the partitions allows shafts of sunlight from the windows in the south and west walls to animate the space and supplement the softer light from the almost fully glazed north wall. Furthermore, low energy programmable LED lighting makes it possible to create different settings depending on the activity, with just the touch of a button.

## PROJECT REFERENCES

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**Design:** FORM Design Architecture - [www.form-architecture.co.uk](http://www.form-architecture.co.uk)

**Architects:** Malcolm Crayton and Mike Neale

**Photos:** Charles Hosea

**Materials:** HI-MACS® Alpine White - [www.himacs.eu](http://www.himacs.eu)

# HI-MACS® by LG Hausys

## Surfacing the World

[www.himacs.eu](http://www.himacs.eu)

HI-MACS® 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 acrylic, natural minerals and pigments that come together to provide a smooth, non-porous and visually seamless surface which meets the highest standards for aesthetics, fabrication, functionality and hygiene – offering manifold advantages over conventional materials.

HI-MACS® provides limitless possibilities for surfacing solutions and inspires creative minds 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.

LG Hausys' HI-MACS® 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 HI-MACS® is almost as robust as stone, it can be worked in a similar way as wood: it can be sawn, routed, drilled or sanded.

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

As regards hygiene, HI-MACS® 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 HI-MACS® 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.

HI-MACS® offers the longest warranty on the solid surface market with a 15-year warranty for products fabricated and installed by a member of the HI-MACS® Quality Club.

### HI-MACS® The New Generation

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\* HI-MACS® is designed and produced by **LG HAUSYS**, a world leader in the technology sector belonging to LG Group, and distributed by **LG HAUSYS EUROPE** based in Geneva (Switzerland).