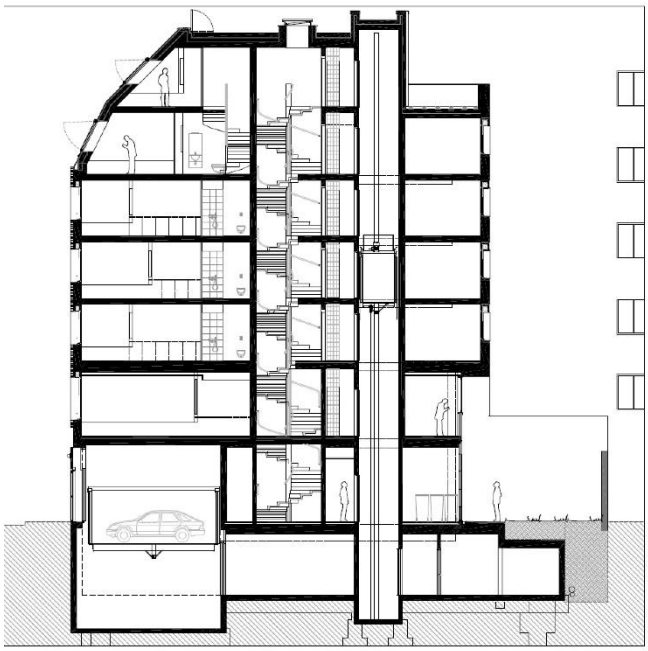
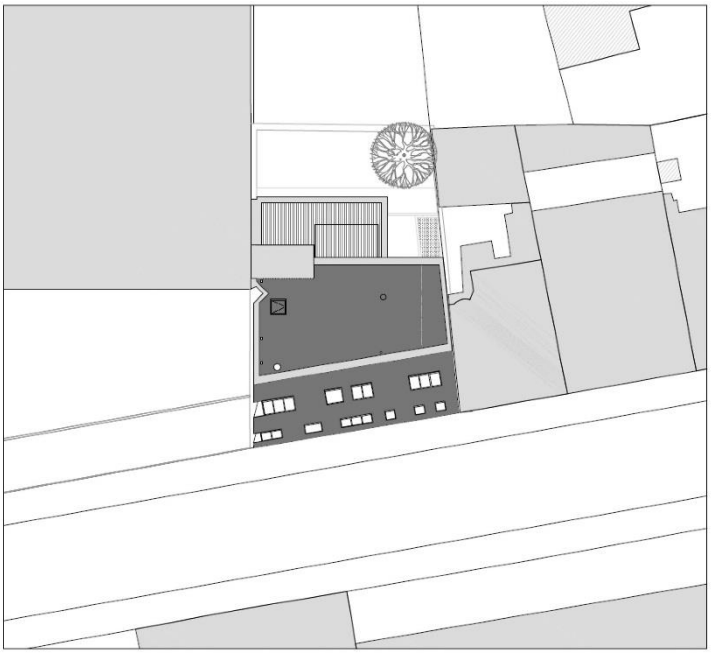
# VILLA DES SCIENCES

## OFFICES, HOUSING AND SHOPS IN PARIS

## BY LOG ARCHITECTES

# Architectural expertise using innovative materials: Villa des Sciences in Paris is born, in partnership with HI-MACS®





**LOG Architectes** has created a building containing offices, housing and shops in its local urban Parisian environment. The next generation **HI-MACS® acrylic stone was chosen to adorn the interior of the villa's foyer and two-storey flat.**

For the team of architects, the initial challenge was to determine how to handle angles whilst connecting the street façade to the end wall which will likewise appear as a façade. This project involved substantial advance planning concerning the definition of a simple footprint, spacing between openings and the choice of materials. **The aim was to smoothly incorporate this new residential block into its urban setting. Space management, architectural choices and the selection of finishing colours were all planned to provide logical continuity between the shops and the housing blocks**. To that end, the size of the Villa des Sciences aligns with the scale along its street. The gradual succession of different sizes of openings echoes the classic verticality of windows in working-class buildings and contrasts with the geometry of the window strips in the building on Rue Pasteur (15th arrondissement). The bays, which were designed on the basis of this notion, help to give the lounge a larger feel.

Further, the alternating colour of the brick that forms the façade is a gradation that shifts from white to grey and then to anthracite grey, for more contemporary lighting of the façade. The issue of angles was resolved quite simply by the use of faux windows that continue the look of the main bay windows on the street side. A recessed glass tile joint clearly separates the "gable" from the adjoining red brick cube and illuminates the common areas.

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High resolution photos available at **www.himacs.eu**

## Interior design: the foyer and the two-storey flat

**The solid surface HI-MACS® satisfied the expectations of the Villa's architect designers thanks to its hygienic properties, its translucence and its invisible joints, which allowed them to unleash their full creative potential and create subtle effects with the material**, routing it here to make it translucent and grooving it there to add relief via the backlighting system. During the daytime, the entryway appears very smooth and even, but at nightfall, illuminated arrows appear to liven it up, directly embedded in the **HI-MACS®** acrylic stone and reflecting the angular geometry of the building. This invisible decorative lighting system cleverly diffuses its illumination. Beyond the entryway, a small courtyard is bedecked with panels with vertical relief that creates an interplay of shadows. Lastly, a system of illuminated skirting boards and continuous linear lighting with graphic accents guides the building's residents.

**The two-storey flat** is located on the upper (5$^{th}$ and 6$^{th}$ floors) of the block, with all its water supply rooms (kitchen, bathroom, shower room and toilet) enjoying natural ventilation and lighting.

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**The HI-MACS® design of the rooms was conceived from A to Z with special attention to detail: the solid white surface** adorns the entire kitchen (worktop, cupboard doors and facings of sideboards and light strips), the furniture in the water supply rooms, as well as the washroom basins, all of which were custom made. Its smooth, non-porous surface is perfect for water supply zones, making the whole pleasant to the touch yet sturdy enough for intensive use, and preventing bacteria and dirt from penetrating and altering the material.

The white colour of the next generation acrylic stone captures and diffuses light, creating an atmosphere that is conducive to rest and tranquillity. Made of natural stone powder (70%), high quality acrylic resin (25%) and natural pigments (5%), **HI-MACS®** guarantees a high level of resistance in combination with a very efficient, top of the line design. The next generation acrylic stone has no visible joints and largely surpasses "classic" materials by meeting the strictest standards in terms of aesthetics, manufacturing, functionality and hygiene.

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## PROJECT INFORMATION

**PROJECT:** Villa des Sciences

**DURATION OF WORK:** 14 months

**LOCATION:** 33 Rue du Docteur Roux, 75015 Paris, France

**FLOOR SPACE:** 1,319 m²

**BUDGET:** €3.2M ex-VAT

**CONTRACTING AUTHORITY:** Quanim

**DESIGN & PROJECT MANAGEMENT:** LOG Architectes www.logarchitectes.com (architecture and interior design)

**MATERIAL:** HI-MACS® Alpine White www.himacs.eu

**HI-MACS® SUPPLIER**: Grosjean Solutions Bois www.grosjean-bois.com

**PHOTOGRAPH:** © Vincent Fillon

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LG Hausys

# HI-MACS® by LG Hausys

## Surfacing the World

### 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
## Inspired by Architecture

For more information and to stay connected, visit our website and our newsroom.

### Let's connect!

*** 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).

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