

# HI·MACS

## The ethereal aesthetics of HIMACS Pavia in a chic, industrial office design



When the architecture and design firm **Edição Limitada – Arquitetura e Design LDA** was tasked with creating the headquarters for Horizon Building Inc. and Davos&Co. in Porto, Portugal, the initial idea was a clear one: a **vibrant space, with soft colours and a luxurious yet simple aesthetic**, that could function as both a workplace and a gallery for showcasing various real estate projects. The goals were to build a space where clients and associates would feel at home and to create an elegant, discreet design where other works, projects, etc., could be displayed.

“With regard to the choice of an industrial style, we wanted to leverage the great potential of the high-ceilinged original space. Everyone involved in the project was part of the real estate and architectural sectors, so we were looking to **convey the essence of a project in progress, combining luxury materials like marble and HIMACS solid surface with basic construction materials like concrete and metal,**” explains Ricardo Rios, the project’s designer. “We didn’t need to add anything else. Thanks to the property’s excellent location and fabulous views, we were able to focus on the quality of the finishes of the existing materials.”

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The most complicated challenge in this project was to **satisfy the requirements of all three companies** that own the property and incorporate them into a single design, in a chic, industrial style. Happily, the architectural firm enjoyed complete freedom in the choice of materials and the creation of each part of the space. The selected materials had to **enhance the elegance of the industrial style**, be **versatile and highly adaptable to each area** and, finally, be **refined yet discreet**, meaning it should not come across as ostentatious.

As a result, **HIMACS Pavia was chosen to be one of the main components** of the project. As Edição Limitada – Arquitetura e Design LDA says, “We wanted to employ backlighting techniques, which we were able to do thanks to the translucent properties of the Pavia colour, in addition to providing the aesthetics of natural stone and an attractive overall look.” The Pavia hue, an immaculate, soft white shade, is one of the Aurora Colours from the HIMACS Marmo Collection. Its marbled pattern and translucent properties make it very special, particularly when light bounces off it, either directly or indirectly.

Pairing perfectly with the other materials, HIMACS Pavia was used for **desks, the surfaces of credenzas, shelves, door handles and knobs, and bathroom sinks**. The material’s hygienic, antibacterial properties, its capacity to be worked into multiple shapes, its translucent aesthetic and its delicate, soft feel to the touch made it the ideal material for all of those applications.

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The ethereal aesthetics of Pavia can be appreciated in their full splendour here, in the shelving in one of the offices and on a bathroom sink.



For the bookcase, the refined contrast of the **dark colour of the wooden shelves with the HIMACS separators, backlit to give off a warm light**, is a perfect match for the delicate colours and textures in the rest of the furniture, including the softness of the velvet used to upholster armchairs and sofas.

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For the bathrooms, **each sink and countertop were made from a single piece**, entirely in Pavia. These fixtures are also backlit, endowing them with a delicate appearance within the room. This, along with the golden details and the dark back wall, creates an **eclectic aesthetic that fits perfectly into the offices' industrial style**. In both rooms, the combination of HIMACS with more robust finishes, dark tones and straight lines produces a harmonious, balanced and supremely refined overall result.

The use of HIMACS solid surface for contact surfaces, worktops and areas with heavy traffic, such as desks, tables, doorknobs and bathroom furnishings in the case of this project, is proof of the **trust that architects and designers continue to place in the material's durability**, in terms of both hygiene and sturdiness.

The completely smooth surfaces of HIMACS prevents dirt and bacteria from building up, making the material particularly easy to clean and maintain. And with the absence of any visible seams (further preventing the accumulation of grime), the finish and end result are uniform and polished.

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## **PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project:** Real estate and construction headquarters for Davos&Co. and Horizon Building Inc.

**Location:** Porto, Portugal

**Design/Architecture:** Ricardo Rios / Fernando Brandão Alves from Edição Limitada – Arquitetura e Design LDA – [www.edicaolimitada.pt](http://www.edicaolimitada.pt)

**Material:** HIMACS Pavia, Marmo Collection – [www.himacs.eu](http://www.himacs.eu)

**HIMACS fabricator:** JRconcept / Alumina Design

**HIMACS distributor:** Banema

**HIMACS applications:** desks, credenzas, tables, shelving, door handles and knobs, and bathroom sinks.

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

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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 manifold 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 for the Solid Surface history since its inception in 1967. Now, **HIMACS Intense Ultra**, combining 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 manufactured using a new generation technology, the **thermal cure**. The temperature reached during the manufacturing process sets HIMACS apart from other solid surfaces and creates a denser, even more homogeneous, sturdy, durable surface – with a better resistance and superior thermoforming performance.

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 Alpine White S728 colour. Furthermore, HIMACS has obtained the French **QB certification** and **CSTB ATec “Avis Technique”** for facade applications.

HIMACS offers a 15-year warranty for products fabricated by a Quality Club Member.



### HIMACS. Because Quality Wins.

For more information and to stay connected, visit our [website](#) and our [newsroom](#).

*Let's connect!*



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

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