

An elegant, minimalist HI-MACS® house that pays tribute to the great outdoors



In Sokcho, South Korea, a house adorned with HI-MACS® Alpine White for the façade and roof, communes with nature and changes its appearance as a function of its environment.

Fascinated by the “festival of lights” offered by nature, French-Korean architect Woojin Lim (of AEV Architectures), who has been working in Paris for more than 20 years, dreamed of building a house in his home country in symbiosis with its environment, that would be able to interact with nature.

He decided to cover all of the exterior of this house with **HI-MACS® Alpine White, including the façades and also, intriguingly, the roof.** The end result is a majestic roof of pristine white which forms a living tableau and reflects the infinite shades that shift with the hours of the day, the seasons, the colour of the sky and the ambient luminosity.

Challenge: to build a house encased completely in white

Bringing this project to life and ensuring its durability was no mean feat. Architects generally prefer to use classic materials like brick or stone, which are easier to maintain, as external finishes. And when a white exterior is required, the choice is most often made to recommend using white paint or panels installed on the building’s exterior to make it easier to renovate if damaged by its exposure to the weather.

Woojin Lim decided to accept this challenge, unconventional in the inertia of modern architecture. The architect was captivated by the location of the land, facing Mount Seorak, and this inspired him to create this original home, reminiscent of an Alpine chalet.



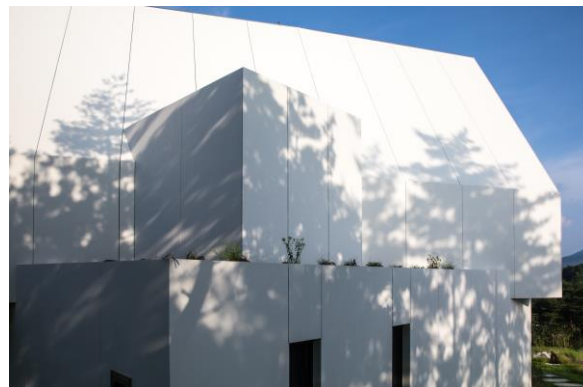
Architecture where anything is possible

Thanks to **HI-MACS®**, which enabled the creation of singular white architecture, even the roof – the most exposed part of the house – is white, a new venture in Korea.

The house looks like a gable placed atop a simple hexahedron. With its 60° angle, the roof brings to mind a traditional chalet in the snowy Alps. That angle, which was chosen after in-depth research and experimentation, is the optimal angle required to prevent the material from being distorted by snow, rain or dust.

The geometric form of the whole creates an interesting visual experience: **the house appears to be a “single monolith” rather than an assembly of different shapes, despite the structure’s asymmetrical form.**

Since the building’s envelope is separate from its structure, rainwater run-off from the roof is directed inside the vertical skin, not outside. This construction system is as ingenious as it is unconventional, limiting the effects of outside factors like a roof gutter on the exterior surfaces and preserving their pure, radiant whiteness.

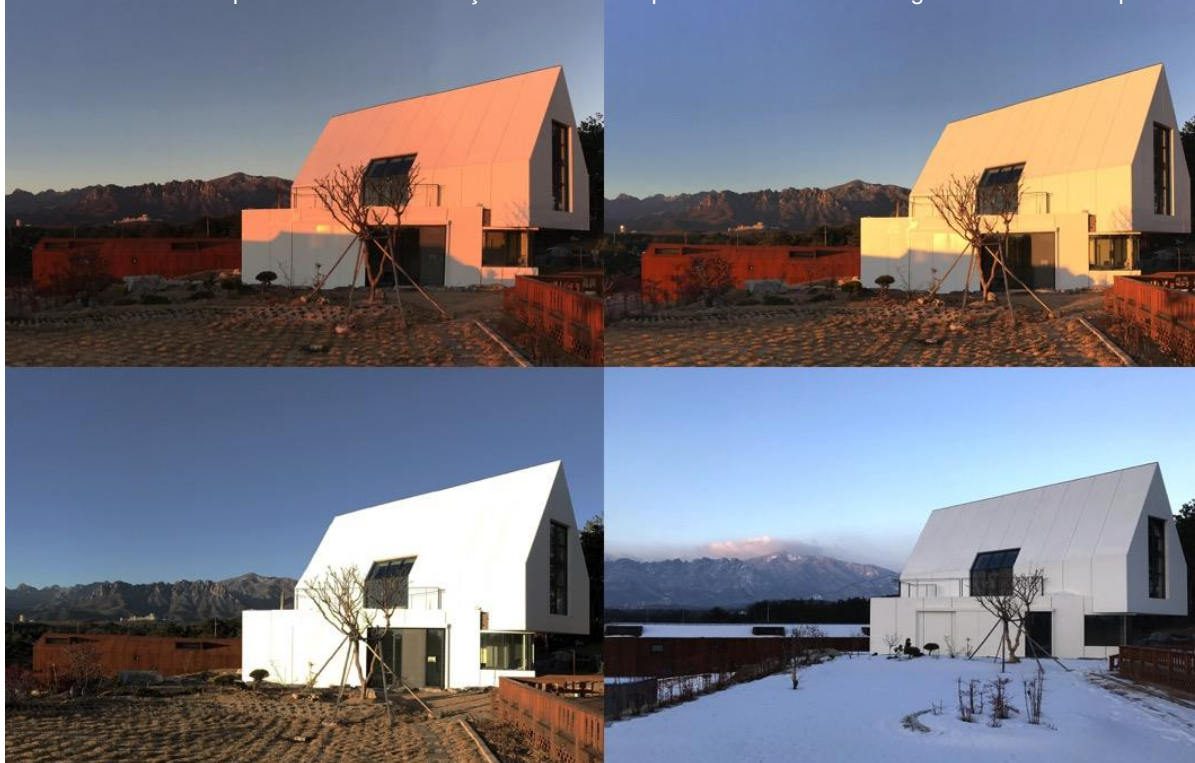


HI-MACS® Alpine White in a masterpiece

In order to create a building that would remain unalterably white, without deterioration over time, the architect chose **HI-MACS® in Alpine White**. Known for its multiple applications, particularly as an interior covering, its intrinsic qualities – smooth, non-porous surface, thermoformable and seamless assembly – along with the ability to withstand the tests of time and weather also make it the perfect material for exterior applications like façades.

Another main criterion for choosing **HI-MACS®** was the material's "light reactivity". Thanks to its optimal radio absorption/reflection of light, it reflects without dazzling like a classic lime-plastered wall. In addition, the material's properties react to changes in the environment and reflect the changing ambiance over the course of the day in different shades of white.

The HI-MACS® Alpine White roof and façade reflect the splendour of nature and light as the seasons pass



According to **Woojin Lim**, "The decision to use **HI-MACS®** to create the façade was obvious. One of the main causes of alterations to a façade is rainwater run-off. With **HI-MACS®**, the seamless assembly provides a solution to the vertical grooves in other materials that make the structure permeable and hasten the façade's deterioration over time".

Internally, the wall cladding in the lounge takes full advantage of the properties of **HI-MACS®**: its interactions with light and its translucence bathe the space in individuality and elegance.



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High resolution images available: www.himacs.eu/newsroom

PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project: Sokcho Housing [in White]

Location: Sokcho, Republic of Korea

Architecture/design : AEV Architectures

Architect: Woojin LIM

Material: HI-MACS® Alpine White

Photo credits: AEV Architectures
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HI-MACS® by LG Hausys

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, Marcel Wanders** and **David Chipperfield**, among others, have completed fabulous projects using HI-MACS®.

At the forefront of innovation as always, in 2017 LG Hausys introduced two new products. First **HI-MACS Structura®**, a 3D textured panel material that takes solid surface opportunities to a new level. And now **HI-MACS® 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.

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.

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 by a Quality Club Member.



HI-MACS®. Because Quality Wins.

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 Frankfurt (Germany).

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