

CORIAN® EXTERIORS makes a splash in Sofia

B73 BUILDING PROJECT

Besides the fun fact that B73 has the building's name coinciding with its location at number 73 of James Bouchier Boulevard, a main road within Sofia's city centre, it's also - by sheer coincidence - the client's 73rd completed project. With a furniture design store occupying both the ground and first floors of the building, B73 was made to meet all the requirements of a top-quality contemporary urban construction. Its four apartments, one upon each floor and a penthouse on the last two, come fully-furnished and equipped with every comfort. The building's innovative design is showcased by its superb Corian® Exteriors façade whose material comprises the



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With flowing lines and rounded corners, a new multi-purpose building now graces the heart of Bulgaria's capital, catching the eye of visitors to the city with its amazing futuristic Corian® Exteriors façade. Designed by Bulgarian architectural studio STARH, the eight-storey B73 building aims to become a landmark for the nation's capital, thanks to its innovative aesthetic approach and construction process.

first ever exterior cladding system to receive the CE mark - thereby guaranteeing a durable exterior that will maintain its optimum performance for many years to come.

Both the outer shape and façade display distinctive flowing lines while drawing characteristic elegance from their automotive-inspired design details. Here the STARH architects needed extraordinary design accuracy, coupled with the exceptional skill of the fabricators and contractors during on-site implementation. Joint expertise by all the professionals involved included a futuristic design approach supported by a visionary investor and enabled by Corian® Exteriors as advanced material.

THE FAÇADE

The B73 building façade is clad with a horizontal

black and white pattern made by Corian® Exteriors whose visual impact is enhanced by streamlined tapers of the window front. At these points, the façade also deepens gently into concave recesses within the building walls. In addition to the rounded corners of the building, this extraordinary design solution is only possible due to the superior thermoformability of Corian®. Masterfully fabricating the complex three-dimensional shapes of the façade was the Bulgarian company Soliform Ltd, an Exterior Cladding Converter within the Corian® Quality Network. In embracing the challenge, the company successfully met both client and architect requirements respecting functionality and aesthetics. The building was clad with Corian® in the pristine Glacier White (1,000



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square metres) white colour, beautifully contrasting the dark Deep Titanium colour (350 square metres).

COLLABORATION IN DESIGN

"B73 isn't the only project

we've carried out using Corian®," says STARH's Svetoslav Stanislavov. "So already during the project development phase it was the ideal cladding solution for our design concept. In fact, without Corian® we'd have been unable

STARH

Bulgarian architect Svetoslav Stanislavov is recognized nationwide as one of the most esteemed figures in contemporary architecture. Specializing in residential, hospitality and office architecture on a wide scale of variety he founded STARH, his own practice, in the city of Varna. Recognized for its quality of design, STARH has since the time of its founding created an impressive portfolio of completed projects countrywide. By its work, the studio has successfully exceeded all expectations in affecting the context positively while applying its formula to ever strive for a lasting balance between architectural aesthetics, functionality and quality - stepping out from the design comfort zone to experiment with innovative materials is a key STARH characteristic.



CORIAN® DESIGN

Corian® Design, a division of the DuPont company, is a global organization which creates, manufactures and markets advanced materials, products and solutions for interior design and architecture, originating from a solid foundation of world-class technologies and expertise. Marketed under the Corian® brand and the Make your Space™ tagline, its materials, products and solutions meet the most demanding requirements in terms of beauty, functionality and durability. The Corian® Design global portfolio is continuously evolving and currently includes Corian® Solid Surface, Corian® Quartz, Corian® Endura and Corian® Exteriors.

to achieve these shapes, neither the smooth, sleek look nor the precision of detail.” Stanislavov continues: “The biggest challenge in design and execution was the façade’s ‘swallowtail’ pattern, which comes from the transition between staircase landings and floor slabs. In order to achieve the smooth lines and their accuracy, the ‘swallowtail’ had to be twisted along all axes. This required a complex manufacturing process of thermoforming moulds and then exceptional on-site skills to join these to the other panels of the façade. Thanks to the great engineering skills and professionalism of a trio of companies, namely Soliform, TAL Engineering and Bigla Detail, we were able to achieve extraordinary results, which helped us implement our ideas. Performance-wise, the offer of Thermoformability by Corian® Solid Surface is fundamental. It’s also durable, colour-fast and can be renovated in the event of scratches and graffiti.”

Corian® Solid Surface is the first and only solid surface in the world to be CE-marked for Exterior Cladding. In early 2020, the Corian® Design business completed a European Technical Assessment (ETA) certification process concerning Corian® Solid Surface in collaboration with Deutsches





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Institut für Bautechnik (DIBT). This certification means that customers can count on a durable exterior cladding system that will maintain the original high performance for many years ahead.

BEAUTY MEETS VERSATILITY WITH CORIAN® EXTERIORS

Based on Corian® Solid Surface, Corian® Exteriors solutions bring personality to virtually any type of environment while enhancing and facilitating the lives of those who use and enjoy its unique potential. It can be crafted into almost any shape, for any place or purpose, and its availability spans a wide colour range, offering the freedom to design, explore and create. Long-lasting, durable and elegant, such Corian® Exteriors solutions as cladding panels have a three-dimensional formability that has been liberating inventive and artistic minds for over 40 years.

DUPONT

DuPont is a global innovation leader with technology-based materials, ingredients and solutions that help transform both industries, even everyday life itself. Employees apply their diverse science and expertise to help customers advance their best ideas while delivering essential innovations in key markets, including electronics, transportation, construction, water, health and wellness, food and worker safety.

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