

# GLASSTEC eyes the future - spotlight on the industry's macro-trends

Until now industry exhibitors have endured a four-year wait to finally showcase their innovations in glass production, processing and finishing technologies. To these they add their new ranges of products and glass applications

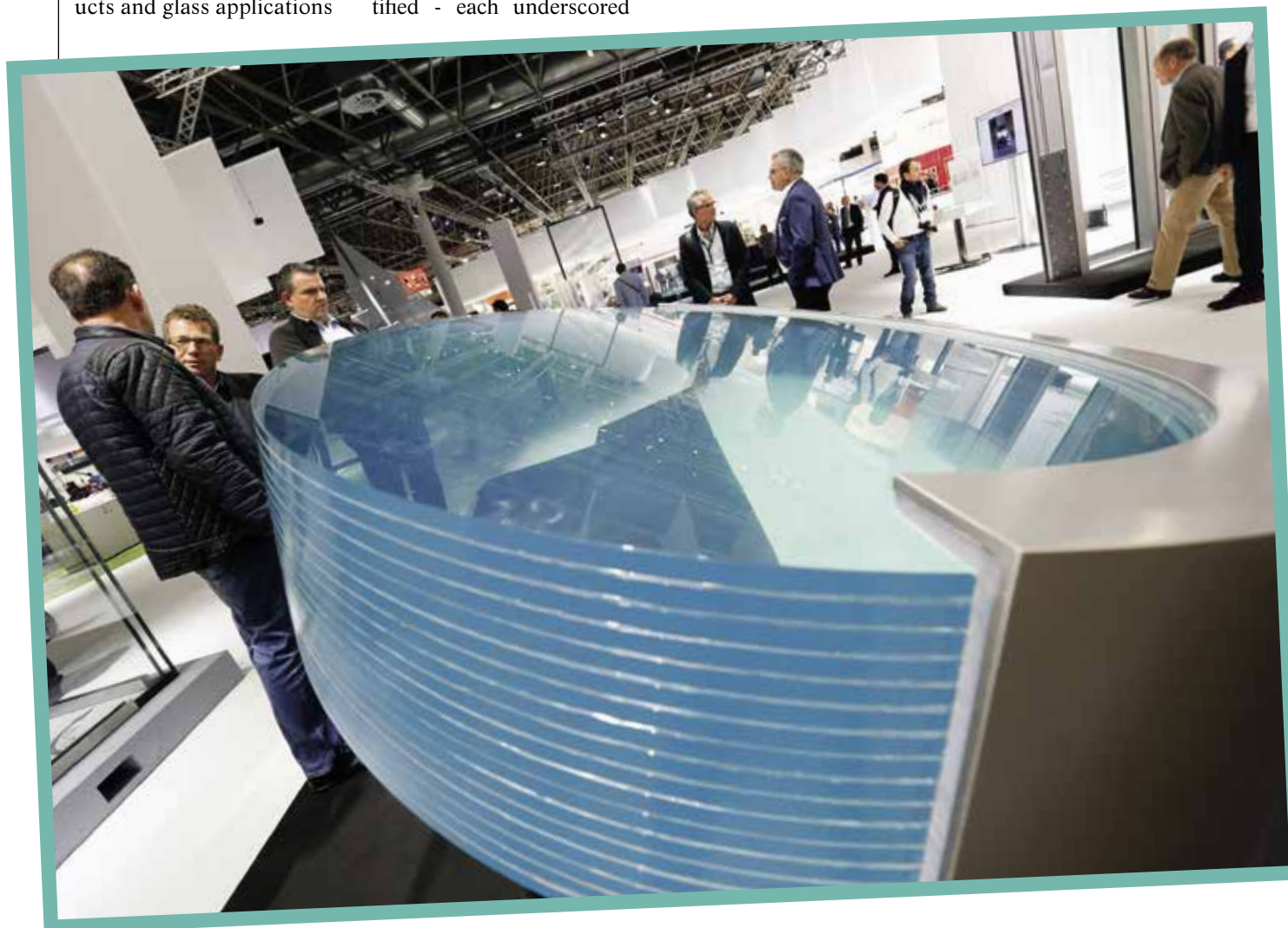
to the mix whilst taking advantage of opportunities offered by a varied and complementary scientific study programme. Thanks to in-depth conversations with experts from all levels of the value chain, five main issues were identified - each underscored

as an essential area for the future development of the glass industry and for our society as a whole. Specifically, these are:

- Climate (reduction of emissions and renewable energy);
- Urban planning (glass in

the architecture of the future);

- Value (a sustainable value chain);
- Resources (the efficient and sustainable use of resources);
- Well-being (a better quality of life, thanks to glass).



Further punctuating the International Year of Glass, GLASSTEC 2022 will have sector operators celebrating their long-awaited opportunity to meet in person once more - this time in Düsseldorf, Germany, from 20 to 23 September.

Said Glasstec Project Director Birgit Horn: "These macro-trends will be at the centre of attention both in the conference rooms and within specific exhibition spaces, but also at the exhibitor stands themselves. This means we'll be offering sector operators a wealth of information, innovative solutions and opportunities - all to expand their network contacts within the glass world."

Already registered exhibitor numbers signal encouraging forecasts for the trade fair. As Horn adds: "The number of registrations at the beginning of the year tallies as similar to those reached in 2018 - namely pre-pandemic levels. With the last edition organised in Düsseldorf being among the most popular, the signal sent by the glass sector is very positive indeed." In the wake of this upward trend, Glasstec presents German and international exhibitors all united by the motto 'Let's go live!' accompanied by the enthusiasm to meet again in person.

### NEXT IN GLASS - GLASS TECHNOLOGY LIVE

This exhibition is dedicated to innovation in the field of applications with glass. Entitled 'glass technology live', it will be organised by

the network of polytechnics in Darmstadt, Delft, Dortmund and Dresden. Experts from a wide range of disciplines and sub-sectors will return to thrill visitors and fuel the debate with life-size models and innovative glass structures. The first of a series of videos will soon be published online containing exclusive previews of the details and programs of the next edition of glass technology live. The videos will be available on the glass technology live website and on glasstec's social channels. Focused on the five macro-trends mentioned above, the glasstec conference will illustrate the know-how of the sector, ranging from theory to practice. Each day, Glasstec 2022 visitors will be able to discover news and developments in the sector during meetings dedicated to glass production, processing technologies and products.

An integral part of the complementary program is also the International Architecture Congress. Organised jointly this year with the Chamber of Architects of the North Rhine-Westphalia region, the congress will be held on Tuesday (22 September, Congress Centre Düsseldorf East) and will be entitled: 'Weitblick. Zukunftsfähige Architektur mit Glas' (translated 'Forecasts



on glass in the architecture of the future').

### LIST OF GLASSTEC CONFERENCE SESSIONS

- Tuesday 20 September: Glass processing and finishing. Efficient manufacturing and digital solutions
- Wednesday 21 September: Glass productionThe path to climate neutrality
- Thursday 22 September: Products and applications with glass (1) New products and trends in the world of glass
- Friday 23 September: Products and applications with glass (2) Photovoltaic glasses and new applications with glass



This rich programme is completed by further presentations within the Glasstec conference space, including that of VDMA on communication with machines and that of EuroW-indoor on energy efficiency and sunlight use. Included is also the 'Glassinar' cycle - a series of stimulating interventions dedicated to the role of glass in building and architecture. The full Glasstec conference programme is available here.

### COMPETENCE CENTRE AND WORLDSKILLS GERMANY EVENT

The large number of exhibitors expected at Glasstec will offer sector operators a comprehensive overview of the latest market innovations -from products to tools- without forgetting assembly and lifting equipment. For years, the focal meeting point for establishing relationships and exchanging information among glass process-



## INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE CONGRESS

In architecture, glass has always been synonymous with transparency, lightness and versatility. It was and still is the material for visionary designs of the future and trendsetting buildings of modern times. Here's why the International Architecture Congress 'Foresight. Sustainable architecture with glass' will be held at Glasstec on 22 September. The Congress is a cooperation project between Glasstec, the Chamber of Architects North Rhine-Westphalia, the Technical University TU Dortmund and the architecture trade journal DETAIL. Tickets are available online via the Ticketshop of Messe Düsseldorf: [www.glasstec.de/1130](http://www.glasstec.de/1130).

ing sector experts has been the stand of the Association of German glassmakers, the Bundesinnungsverband des Glaserhandwerks e.V., which is also where German state vocational schools will have a space.

### THIRD CONSECUTIVE EDITION

The special exhibition entitled Crafts LIVE will present, among other things, the most interesting and innovative practical applications in the field of glass

processing. This year, attention will also focus upon WorldSkills, an initiative considered a 'World Championship of professions' of sorts. On the occasion of 'WorldSkills Germany', which will be held right inside Glasstec, young glassmakers from all over Germany will compete to qualify for "EuroSkills 2023".

The event is organised by the Association of German Glassmakers and the Association of Young German Glassmakers (Verband der Jungglaser und Fensterbauer e.V.).

Bohle Group will be providing the machinery and workbenches used. Five participants from Germany have already been selected, while the remaining three places will be awarded to international challengers. Simultaneously, there will be the challenge to assemble the transport supports organised by the Hegla Group as well as a series of demonstrations scheduled by the IFT Rosenheim institute.





Finally, the 'glass art' exhibition will see the participation of international artists and galleries - all showcasing their interpretations of glass as a creative material.

### GLASSTEC START-UP ZONE 2022

This platform helps the youngest and most innovative companies to network. On the occasion of Glasstec it's possible to meet the most influential figures in the glass sector together with numerous experts linked to companies, research institutes and public bodies. Here's why the START-UP ZONE is the ideal place for young and innovative companies to forge contacts and cultivate relationships. For German and international start-ups, securing a place in the START-UP ZONE

is an opportunity not to be missed. Indeed this exhibition space is reserved for companies that are less than five years old, with less than twenty employees and an annual turnover or total assets of less than EUR 10M. Exhibitors still have time to apply and can register now at [www.glasstec.de/application](http://www.glasstec.de/application).

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