

Historic Paris Studio sees winning upgrade thanks to FINEO

Preservation meets performance as FINEO enables a Paris Art Deco glass studio to reach contemporary thermal and acoustic benchmarks without altering its historic structure, proving that slim vacuum insulating glass can reconcile heritage constraints, durability targets and modern building-physics expectations for demanding renovation projects worldwide.

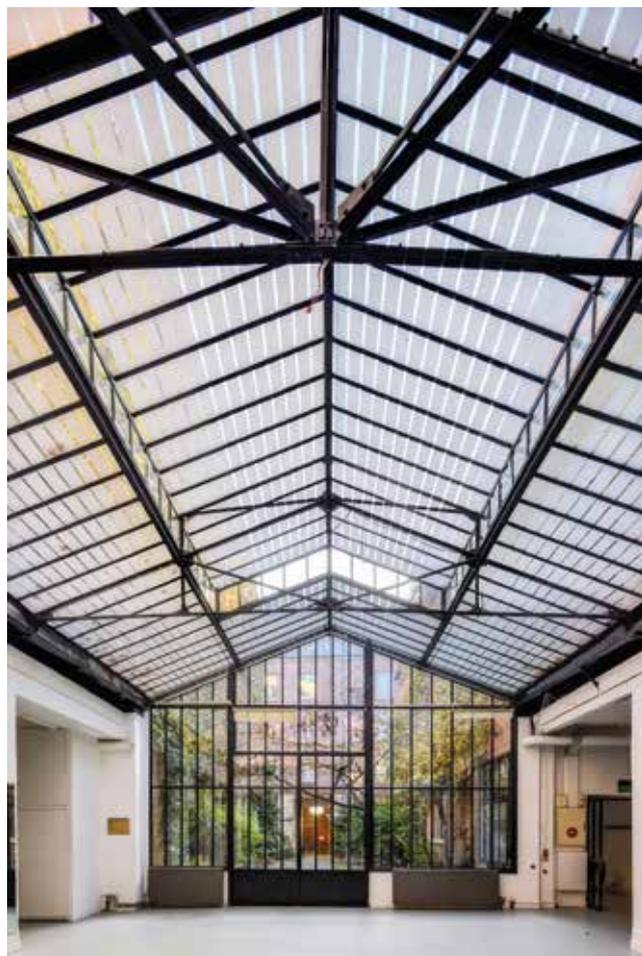


Art Deco-style glass studio meets 21st-century energy standards without compromising its original character. At 59 Rue de Charonne in Paris' 11th arrondissement, the former Wilmotte & Industries design studio recently underwent a comprehensive thermal and acoustic upgrade, made possible by the integration of slim Fineo vacuum insulating glass. The intervention preserves the 1930s glass extension while delivering contemporary performance levels in comfort, durability and building physics - without altering the existing substructure.

CONTINUITY

For the 2024 renovation,

the internationally active architectural design Wilmotte & Associés applied the same conceptual and qualitative rigour used on its large-scale projects. Lead architect and project manager Georges Kallas references the Maison de la Cosmétique in Chartres, a project that integrates sensitively into the historic setting of the Gothic cathedral. Its restrained enameled glass façade reinforces the historic wooden structure without visual dominance. Every project, whether modest or complex, extends beyond solving technical constraints. Each follows a recognisable architectural signature combining ethical responsibility, design precision and



ABOUT WILMOTTE & ASSOCIÉS

Founded in 1975 by Jean-Michel Wilmotte, the company now operates worldwide in the fields of architecture, interior design, museography, urban planning and design. It is renowned for its 'contemporary transplantation' approach - combining old and new elements. Projects include the Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) campus in Poissy, the Allianz Riviera stadium in Nice, Château Pédesclaux in Pauillac, Chalet de la Cry in Megève and the Maybourne Riviera hotel in Roquebrune-Cap-Martin.

Selected projects

- PSG Campus, Poissy, France
- Allianz Riviera Stadium, Nice, France
- Château Pédesclaux, Pauillac, France
- Chalet de la Cry, Megève, France
- The Maybourne Riviera, Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, France

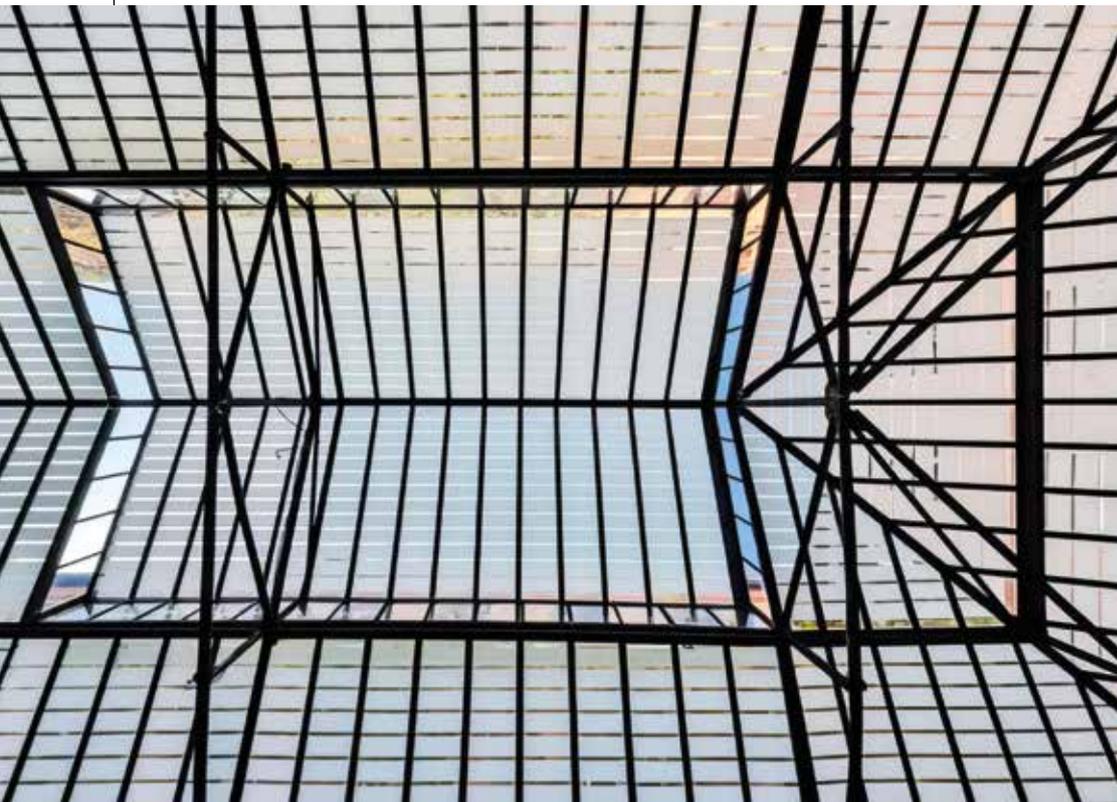
ABOUT VERRE & MÉTAL

Verre & Métal specialises in complex metal structures incorporating decorative or structural glass, ranging from traditional glass façades to custom solutions. The company supports projects throughout the entire process, from planning to installation and maintenance.

material sensitivity. This philosophy is particularly evident in projects that re-assess spatial and material use within a given context, revealing a site's history while projecting it forward with respect. "We develop surfaces and details with utmost care to achieve aesthetic coherence in line with performance specifications. Our aim is to create a new quality of use and experience that goes beyond the building itself," Kallas explains.

RETROFIT

Modern comfort and historical heritage come together in balanced harmony. The Art Deco glass façade of the former design studio underscores the building's refined character. While occupants valued the interplay of glass and metal, the original construction no longer satisfied current energy and acoustic demands. "Because the owners' association wished to



ABOUT AGC GLASS EUROPE

AGC Glass Europe is a manufacturer, processor and distributor of flat glass for use in the construction industry (exterior glazing and interior decoration), the automotive industry (original equipment manufacturing and replacement glass) and other industries, including transportation, solar energy and high technology. It is part of AGC's European branch, which is a leading world manufacturer of flat glass, with over 100 locations and around 13,000 employees across Europe.





preserve the historic appearance, we refurbished the T-metal beams and integrated Fineo glazing, which is fully compatible,” says Kallas. Thanks to its minimal installation depth, the original structure remains intact while achieving performance levels comparable to triple glazing. “We also laminated Fineo with tempered glass to add safety and mitigate breakage risks,

such as objects falling on the roof.” Execution was carried out by Verre & Métal, a specialist in glass and metal construction founded in 1921. Fineo 8 laminated with 4 mm clear single-pane safety glass was specified. The resulting assembly integrates seamlessly with the 1930s aesthetic, uniting historical substance with contemporary comfort.

ABOUT FINEO

FINEO by AGC is the latest generation of insulating glass, combining an ultra-slim design with exceptional thermal and acoustic insulation properties. Manufactured in Belgium using a revolutionary process, FINEO guarantees maximum energy efficiency and sustainability, in line with current building regulations. It does not compromise on aesthetics or performance. FINEO is a reliable and proven solution for professionals seeking the highest standards of technical excellence and environmental responsibility - whether for restoration, renovation or new construction projects.

METRICS

Clément Lemoine, Product Manager and Market Strategist at Fineo by AGC, notes that the core innovation lies in the hermetically sealed vacuum cavity between two glass panes, measuring just 0.1 millimetres. This configuration dramatically limits heat transfer, delivering a Ug value of $0.7 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2\text{K})$ with a total thickness of only 6.7 millimetres in its minimal version. Acoustic performance is equally notable, with Rw values of 36 dB in standard configurations and up to 45 dB in laminated versions incorporating AGC's Stratophone acoustic insulation glass. Fineo therefore offers a rare combination of high performance, slimness, and durability, particularly suited to historic and listed buildings. Laboratory

testing confirms thermal and acoustic integrity for more than 60 years, ensuring a long and luminous future for the renovated glass studio on Rue de Charonne. AGC was the first manufacturer to obtain CE marking for vacuum insulating glass with Fineo. It is also the first and only vacuum insulating glass supported by a third-party verified Environmental Product Declaration, achieving exceptionally low CO₂ values of up to $18.9 \text{ kg}/\text{m}^2$ in its low-carbon version.

FINEO
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