



Best Projects

Design | Competition | Exhibition

Silent Gliss Project Competition

International inspiration

Inspiration –Latin: Inspiratio = animation, breath of spirit, life and soul. In short, the starting point for artistic creativity.

Found on the following pages are some impressive examples of exactly this kind of creativity found in international architecture. These projects demonstrate the profound power of design that set the foundations for many similar projects around the world.

As an international company and brand, Silent Gliss are represented in all major markets around the globe. This international presence becomes more apparent in the 2012 Best Projects collection. What started as an idea in Germany has now expanded to become a worldwide competition of inspiration!

Now in its fourth year, Best Projects continues to illustrate the limitless creativity of our business partners across a diverse range of domestic and contract projects. The international judging panel faced a real challenge with over 100 entries from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Netherlands, Great Britain, Cyprus and Mexico to name but a few.

The effort was well worth it and the end result is a brochure containing a stunning collection of unique and remarkable examples of interior design environments.

A special thanks to our judges and to our customers and partners whose commitment and dedication to Silent Gliss products has allowed us to share these wonderful examples of design work.

We look forward to the next Silent Gliss Best Projects competition.



Urs Stieger
Managing Director
Silent Gliss Germany



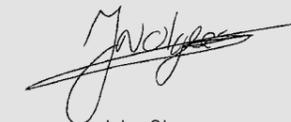
Walter Fryd
Managing Director
Silent Gliss Austria



Peter Zwahlen
Managing Director
Silent Gliss Switzerland



Hugh Gage
Managing Director
Silent Gliss Great Britain



John Olgers
Managing Director
Silent Gliss Benelux

Silent Gliss

Products

At times we can all benefit from some inspiration. At Silent Gliss we create window fashion in only one quality – the best. Our designs mirror the spirit of the times in all its aspects – ageless and contemporary, pure and opulent, elegant and sometimes shocking – leaving you to create the atmosphere of the room.

Using precision engineered components, the basis of our product philosophy is contemporary design aimed at the highest of expectations. Added to this, complementary fabric ranges for most Silent Gliss systems are available and in certain instances the customer's own fabric can be used. Every system is made-to-measure to your exact requirements.

Competence

We live in a fast moving world where pushing the limits is a daily routine. Architects create buildings in new shapes – quite often very large with huge glass areas. These architectural trends and the growing emphasis on the design aspect require great creativity from window treatments, especially in the areas of efficient solar shading and convenient operation. Silent Gliss is fully involved in these aspects, ensuring that all the latest technology is used to the benefit of our products. Motorization is becoming more and more popular, not only in commercial buildings but also in private homes. The Silent Gliss motor and control range provides solutions for all individual and technical requirements. Modern BUS LonWorks technology allows integration of window treatments into large building management systems. Silent Gliss concentrates on designing new window treatments with pioneering designs and 'leading, not following' remains our directive.

Group

The success story of Silent Gliss began in the early 1950's with the ingenious idea of Swiss engineer Alexander Weber of combining nylon gliders with aluminium profiles to make the world's first silent curtain track. Today Silent Gliss has subsidiaries and joint ventures on all continents. The family-owned Group consists of 16 companies, more than 700 employees, and is constantly growing. Research and development are provided by Silent Gliss International, situated in Gümliigen near Bern in Switzerland. Silent Gliss markets its products to both, the retail and contract markets.



Inspiring Colours – Impressive technique. The new Silent Gliss roller blind systems.

The Jury

Due to the increasing popularity of the Best Projects competition the judging panel was expanded to include experts from many countries. Besides the five General Managers of the participating Silent Gliss companies, (Germany, Switzerland, England, Benelux and Austria), four established architects and interior designers were invited to bring in their professional opinion to ensure a neutral and fair consideration for all entries.



Thomas Spranger David Chipperfield Architects, Berlin

Thomas Spranger graduated with distinction from the University of North London. After receiving his Master of Arts, Thomas Spranger worked in London for Jamie Fobert Architects and Norman Foster & Partners.

On his return to Germany, he became a freelance partner with Professor Thomas Kessler in Düsseldorf. In 2003 he joined David Chipperfield Architects in Berlin, where he has led a number of large international projects since 2005.



Ole Flemming bof architects, Hamburg

Ole Flemming studied architecture at the RWTH in Aachen until 1996, and later worked for firms in Düsseldorf and Hamburg. In 2003, he founded bof architecten in Hamburg together with Bert Bücking and Patrick Ostrop.

Since the firm was founded, it dealt with different architectural subjects. They took part in a wide range of projects, from residential buildings to schools and kindergartens, office buildings and museums and even the Indian arctic research post.



Sarah Daniels DO Design Studio, London

DO Design Studio is a newly created interior design company that is rapidly converting their international hotel design experience into an exciting business operating in both the residential and hospitality industries.

The name references the two well-known founders Sarah Daniels and Jon O'Dwyer. Sarah and Jon have worked together for 17 years and prior to DO they acted as directors at Richard Daniels Design, one of the most respected Hotel Design Companies in its field.



Wolfgang Holzer Architect DI, Vienna

Since 2001 Wolfgang Holzer works as an independent architect and since 2007 as a certified mediator.

His strengths include private construction and renovation, plant construction as well as supervision of projects issued by public contractors. He is also a capable advisor in the field of construction, and an experienced mediator in all areas of civil law.

The Rating

For the selection of the 10 "Best Projects 2011/12" the Jury was invited to Amsterdam. Directly located by the canals in the spacious rooms of a former chocolate factory, the showroom of Silent Gliss Benelux provided the perfect location for this task.

The projects were rated according to the overall composition of the building, the interior space and the integration of Silent Gliss Systems. Besides the individual rating of all the panel members, there was also an vivacious discussion within the group as the decision ahead was a difficult one.

Finally the jury agreed on the 10 "Best Projects". It has also chosen some other outstanding projects worthy of inclusion in this brochure. Each architect was additionally invited to appraise its own personal favourite.

Last but not least the whole team enjoyed a well earned dinner in the old town of Amsterdam. The meal was accompanied by a lively exchange and the agreement that the best project competition is valid and worthwhile.



Short welcome and showroom tour for the jury members



There was not always an early consensus...



But finally the panel agreed the finalists.

Winners «Best Projects»

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Cottage Contract Furnishers, Newcastle
P & HS Architects, Leeds

Blaydon Primary Care Centre, Gateshead

Blaydon Primary Care Centre in Gateshead, North East of England, was extended to provide a comprehensive range of healthcare services.

As part of the major refurbishment, Silent Gliss Ltd supplied various motorised roller blinds (systems Silent Gliss 4860, 4870, 4880). This project was particularly challenging due to the height and angle of the blinds. Additionally, some of the blinds had special shading needs which required both screen and blackout fabrics being welded together within the same blind.



“The good mix of materials creates a light and airy space which is not always considered at a healthcare centre. The specially made window treatment solution fulfils its task ideally by providing an important shading function without being obtrusive.”



Silent Gliss Screens

Product Features

- Silent Gliss screens are the technical fabrics for the most functional demands
- Optimised glare control with maximum sight outside
- Fabrics with reflective aluminum coating or white backings for minimising heat transmittance
- All fabrics are flame retardant or even flame resistant
- Various transparencies within the same fabric type enable to equip a building with the same fabric for all windows regardless of which direction they face
- Variety in colours, transparencies and structures

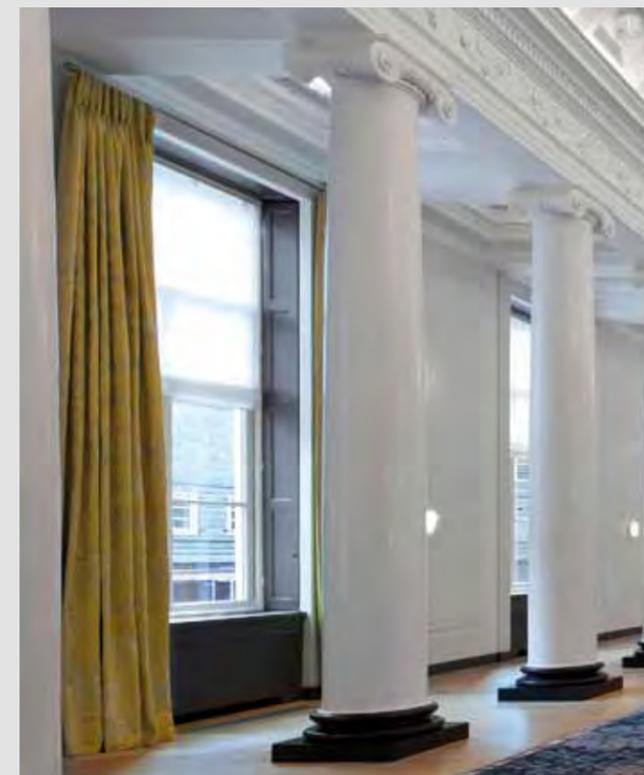


Merkx + Girod Architects

State Council Building, Den Haag

The privy council (Raad van State), a constitution for counselling the government of the Netherlands, is located in the protected historical complex containing elements from six different periods. The building was restored and completed with an additional three-story structure. The challenge was to seamlessly integrate the new structure into the original building.

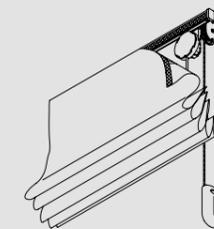
The classy Roman blinds and curtains from Silent Gliss helped to fulfil this task by fitting perfectly into both interiors.



Silent Gliss Roman Blind Systems

Product Features

- Decorative window treatment with classic design
- Wide range of different systems – from small to large
- Soft or hard fold
- Wide and attractive range of fabrics



System Silent Gliss 2120

RKW Architektur + Städtebau Düsseldorf Raumausstattung Rick, Düsseldorf

Orrick-House, Düsseldorf

The exposed position of Orrick-House and the large expanses of glass required an optimally-integrated solution for protection from glare for the conference floor.

The international law firm Orrick, Hölters & Elsing demanded high design standards. The minimalist design and the light-beige color scheme are carried into the material of the blind. In its unused state, the mounting of the motor-controlled roller blind system is hidden from view. This provides transparency, protection from glare, and a high level of discretion.



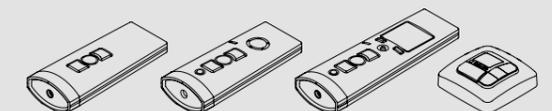
“The project Orrick-House, situated on the periphery of Düsseldorf’s Old Town, utilises a classical architectural language. The façade columns and recessed façade levels provide a clear tectonic arrangement of the building. The clarity of the façade design is echoed inside the building, where the sunblind is integrated in a consistent way.”



New Motorised Silent Gliss Roller Blind System

Product Features

- The new motorised Silent Gliss 4960 is the market leader when it comes to operational comfort
- Extremely smooth and silent operation
- Reduced light gap left and right for optimised shading
- Practical click-in system for easy installation – ideal for blind box situations
- Possibility to operate two connected blinds with just one motor
- Simple and easy operation with functional and elegant remote controls



Remote Controls Silent Gliss 9940



Photographer: H. G. Esch

Christofides Ltd., Cyprus

Deloitte Headquarters, Limassol

The challenge regarding the Deloitte HQ in Cyprus was the control of strong sunlight in a working environment. Customised roller blind systems Silent Gliss 4860 with side-guides were supplied in a dimout headbox sprayed to match the aluminium window frame. It was important that the fabric complemented the tinted windows without detracting from the view, eventually Clearscreen Met was chosen.

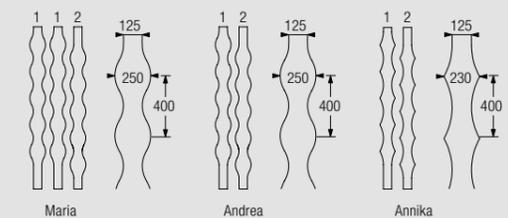
A very special atmosphere was created in the restaurant area where the window front was fully equipped with the impressive Silent Gliss Vertical Waves. Curved electric curtain track systems Silent Gliss 5400 were also supplied for the meeting rooms.



Silent Gliss Vertical Waves

Product Features

- The unique vertical blind design for eye-catching design
- Functionality of the classic vertical blind with manual or electric operation
- Available in three designs:
 - Design Maria – atmosphere of peace and harmony
 - Design Andrea – a unique play of light and shadow
 - Design Annika – for a lively and bright environment

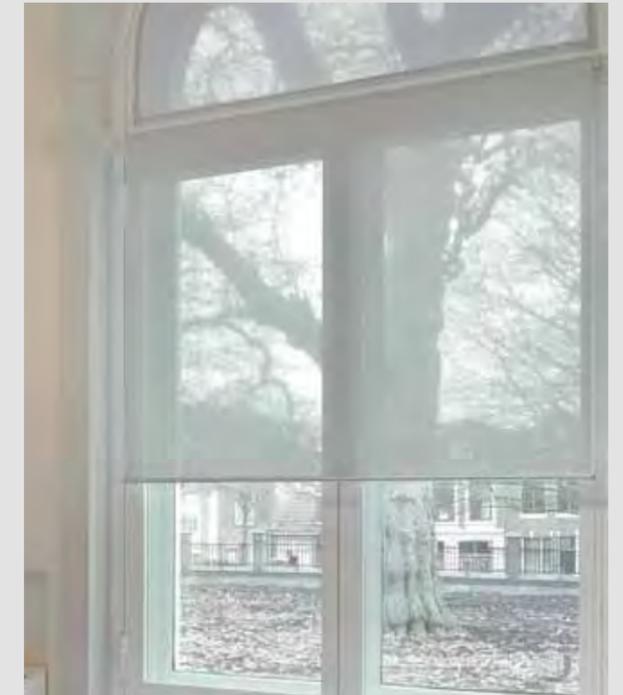


Merkx + Girod Architects

Dordrechts Museum, South Holland

The Dordrechts museum showcases in its eleven halls and gallery the prints of mainly Dutch painters and craftsmanship from the 17th century to today.

A soft and filtered light was necessary for the Dordrechts museum. This was achieved by applying specific lighting combined with our window treatment systems. The Silent Gliss roller blind system 4830 together with the oval top windows covered with the same fabric create a unique and calm look and protect the artwork from the sunlight.

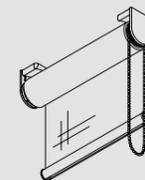


Photographer: Roos Aldershoff Fotografie

New Silent Gliss Chain Operated Roller Blind

Product Features

- Due to the sophisticated technique of the new roller blind system Silent Gliss 4910, the pulling force needed to operate the blind is approximately 50% less than for standard blinds
- The blind raises and lowers under the same tension
- Minimised light gap, very easy installation and a reduced design are further advantages of the system
- The systems Silent Gliss 4830 and 4840 are available for larger windows



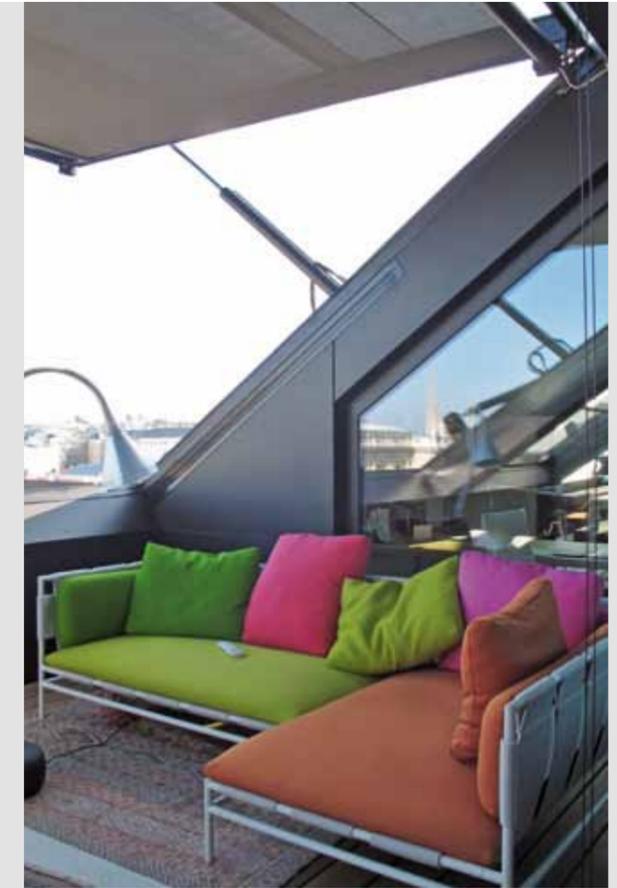
Roller blind system Silent Gliss 4910

Pumberger Sonnenschutz, Marchtrenk Private Residence in Vienna

The roof windows of this top-floor apartment in the center of Vienna are shaded with the skylight system Silent Gliss 8600. The systems are mounted into the window frames, thereby allowing optimal shading. Thanks to its technological light-filtering properties, the Skyscreen blind chosen for this project creates an optimal room atmosphere and allows a panoramic view of the inner city of Vienna.



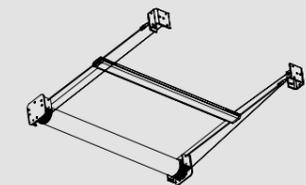
“The use of the Screen provides an excellent solution for when the user wishes to keep his apartment cool during a hot day without having to give up the view of Vienna. [...] An open roof above the city of Vienna managed with an inconspicuous and discreet shading system.”



Silent Gliss Skylight Systems

Product Features

- Elegant system with minimal space requirements for the internal shading of large glass surfaces
- Up to 18m² per system
- Innovative technique based on a tensioned roller blind
- No intermediate brackets or additional fabric fixation necessary due to very robust side guides
- Ideally used with a Silent Gliss screen for optimised glare control and reduced heat transmittance whilst still optimising external views



Skylight system Silent Gliss 8600

Furnishing house Schantl, Linz Private Residence in Linz

The owners requested that the space behind the grand glass facade of the building – commanding a unique view of Linz – be designed using a motorised, semi-transparent curtain system set in the ceiling. The owners placed emphasis on a privacy and space within the designed area. The choice of Wave XL for the Silent Gliss electric curtain track system 5400 for the total length of 22 meters was perfect for this project.



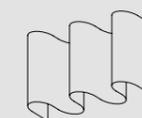
Photographer: Barbara Haas

Silent Gliss Electric Curtain Track System with Wave XL

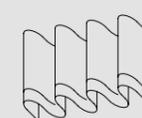
Product Features

- Silent, compact and flexible
- System can be equipped with integrated radio receiver and supplied with remote control
- Horizontal, straight or bent systems available

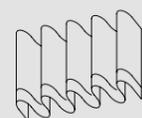
The curtain-heading system Wave XL offers an attractive design, not only for large and high rooms like lobbies, conference rooms, meeting rooms and other public areas of hotels and restaurants; it even offers an elegant solution for spacious private homes and lofts.



Wave XL



Wave 80mm



Wave 60mm

ITG, Moscow

Sberbank Headquarters, Moscow

The Wintercafe at the Sberbank headquarters in Moscow is fitted with a 600sqm glass rooftop. The aim and conditions were to provide seamless variable light flooding during the day whilst allowing integration of the shading into the fire alarm system. The functions of the system are managed by a remote controller and in case of a fire the system will automatically retract itself. This will invoke the control element INVIO and allow the smoke to clear.

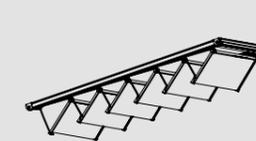
The Multiscreen 5% fabric solves both of these problems by providing the required light distribution whilst still complying with the Russian national fire safety regulations.



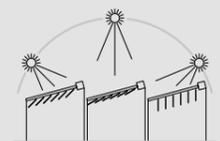
Silent Gliss Skylight Shading System

Product Features

- A unique and technically advanced heavy duty glass roof shading system
- Panel tilting and retracting technique
- Suitable for angled applications up to 30 degrees
- Vertical position of each panel limits soiling and heat build up
- Specially defined fabrics available
- Positive acoustic effect



System 8800



Solar adjustment of the system

Interior Service AG, Suhr
Frei Architects AG, Aarau

Hero Headquarters, Lenzburg

A prominent food producer such as Hero deserves a distinctive corporate office like the new building in Lenzburg. For this reason, the building symbolises one of the familiar Hero tin cans. Four stories are built on top of a single head space. In the middle of each of these floors is a round conference room with glass walls.

In order to absorb sound and to maintain discretion, these rooms required curtains. For this purpose, the curtain system Silent Gliss 6010 with Wave was chosen. The sound-absorbing qualities of Colorama 2 are stronger with a notable difference when the curtains are closed.



“In the design of the conference rooms, the project merges communication and corporate design. The form is derived from that of the manufactured products, which is translated into the architecture. The curtains support this round form, and provide protection from view as well as improved acoustics.”

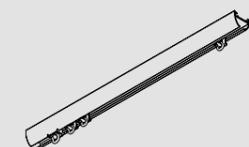


Photographer: Martin Knecht

Silent Gliss Hand-Operated Curtain Track System

Product Features

- Shapely and elegant hand-drawn system for retail and contract applications
- Applicable for light and medium-weight curtains
- Straight and bent systems available
- Minimum bending radius is 15cm
- Wave and Wave XL curtain-heading systems are available
- System can be operated manually or by draw rod



Hand Operated Curtain Track System Silent Gliss 6010



Photographer: Anthony Weller, Archimage

Wattrus / Southern Drapes
 ReardonSmith Architects,
 Pierre Yves Rochon, Eric Parry Architects

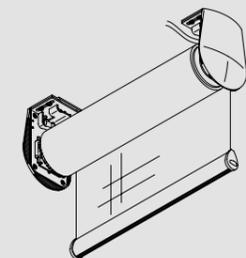
Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane

The Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane underwent a major refurbishment which resulted in a virtual rebuild. This multi million pound project featured Silent Gliss electric curtain track systems 5400 with Wave in the Spa area. The most challenging part of this project were the 7.5m drop roller blinds fitted in the Tea Lounge, thought to be the longest drop of any roller blind in any UK hotel.

Motorised Silent Gliss Roller Blind Systems for Large Applications

Product Features

- Largest possible roller blinds with widths of 450cm and heights of up to 700cm
- Very silent and robust systems
- Various installation possibilities for ceiling, wall or recess with unique installation support (quick twist)
- Patented Silent Gliss Quick Twist permits easy on-site adjustments of the headrail to minimise fabric roll off
- Easy operation with Silent Gliss remote controls and/or external automation systems



Roller blind system Silent Gliss 4880

Other commendable projects

H. P. Fontana & Partner AG, Flims Dorf
Stebler Glashaus AG, Oensingen
Restaurant Bad Schinznach

In all of Switzerland the Schinznach Bad has got the strongest and most balanced sulphur spring. The task of Silent Gliss was to install an indoor shading system which keeps UV out, but does not impair the openness of this wintergarden.

The Silent Gliss Skylight system was selected to ensure the best possible light transmittance into the area. The technical difficulty with this wintergarden was that it is constructed with stainless steel pipes and glass so it was not possible to drill a hole to mount the system. Therefore special mounting brackets were developed which were welded onto tube clamps. The Silent Gliss profile was then riveted onto these tube clamps.



Photographer: Rob Lewis

JOI-Design GmbH interior designer,
Hamburg

Hilton Frankfurt Airport

The interior designer Heinrich Böhm from JOI-Design in Hamburg was looking for a solution to shade the executive lounge's glass roof and eliminate glare while still letting enough light through. It also needed to correspond with the building's steel construction, vertical windows and covered pillars.

The Skylight system Silent Gliss 8800 in the 90 degree position allowed light infiltration whilst the Alutex fabric reduced the glare. All 12 systems were over a width of 18m and are perfectly embedded in the design of the room. All the systems can be operated with the internal BUS system. In addition, 14 Roman blind systems and sliding panel systems were installed.



Photographer: JOI-Design, Heinrich Böhm



Raumausstattung Terstappen, Mönchengladbach Private Residence in Mönchengladbach

The challenge with this project was to provide an internal and variable shading system on the sloped ceilings. The shading should let as much light through as possible whilst still offering good shading and should be operated by remote control.

It was decided to use the Skylight System Silent Gliss 8800 due to its high functionality. A special fascia was constructed to enable a level and neat installation.



Photographer: Günther Terstappen



Photographer: Ulrich Langensteiner



Ulrich Langensteiner Architects, Ettlingen Regional Council Karlsruhe

Until the refurbishment, this cafeteria was a stock room! The government of the city of Karlsruhe wanted to have a multifunctional space. The key element in the new arrangement is the curtain. It improves the acoustics of the room and due to the large surface it creates a particularly quiet mood which accentuates the cupola ceiling.



Dania Manufaktur für Farbe und Wohnen, Vienna Apartment House in Klosterneuburg

The modern designed apartment house in Klosterneuburg near Vienna needed to provide a good view and discretion in the dining area. To fulfil this task two Silent Gliss roller blinds have been mounted in the corner of the suspended ceiling. In addition, the builder created an individual design element by printing a New York skyline image onto the fabric.



Photographer: Erwin Löffl

Interior Service AG, Suhr Burckhardt + Partner AG, Bern New Backoffice Building Credit Suisse, Bern-Gümligen

The elegant building, complying to the Swiss Minergie-Eco standard, provides upper floor workplaces for 900 people. The majority of those workplaces are designed as modern open space offices and are located in the southern part of the building which is opened up with three spacious courtyards. Those atriums bring light and air within the depth of the building, bringing together the inner and outer areas.

After intense evaluation, the project managers decided to rely on Silent Gliss for the interior shading and chose Silent Gliss Wave curtains which perfectly harmonise with the rolling structure of the building.



Photographer: Martin Knecht

The Architects of Silence

Silent Gliss is the leading global supplier of premium interior window treatment systems.

With cutting edge technology and a relentless commitment to precision, we develop and manufacture the world's quietest, smoothest-gliding curtains and blinds.

Driven by our customers' needs, Silent Gliss provides bespoke curtain and blind systems complemented by expert technical advice, installation and support services. Silent Gliss stands for innovative solutions, exceptional design and outstanding quality. Swiss engineered since 1952.

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