

Product innovations reinforce residential expertise

Focus on partner services

Schüco Polymer Technologies KG will appear again at FENSTERBAU FRONTALE – in a familiar place, but with a somewhat larger space. Schüco will use the extra room on offer to set the scene for the far-reaching expansion of its sliding system platform, its new window constructions in an aluminium look and its "Hafen City" window with the "Panorama", "View", "Arrival" and "Service" areas, as well as to present smart solutions for windows and entrance doors. The portfolio is being expanded with new software modules that can be used by window fabricators for calculation and planning, as well as for controlling machinery.

"We want to offer visitors a quick overview by clearly dividing the exhibition stand by building units. As service is becoming increasingly important, it will play a key role in our appearance at Fensterbau Frontale 2020," explains Silke Schröder-Meusel, Head of Marketing for Schüco Polymer Technologies KG.

The leading tagline "Home is everything" makes it clear that the presentation is intended to place particular emphasis on the company's expertise in solutions for the residential sector.

A large stage for large units

The leading role at the Schüco exhibition stand will be played by the new lift-and-slide constructions. The exhibition space reserved for the large-scale units is correspondingly generous. The "Panorama" area will present not only the innovations of the Schüco Living-Slide series, with narrow face widths in both fixed lights and vents, but also the new generation of Schüco EasySlide with a 70 mm basic depth. The system has been completely reworked to make it easier to fabricate. Additionally, a sliding system based on a 74 mm platform will be displayed in the form of the new Schüco SoftSlide, designed primarily for southern Europe and international export markets.

Smart entrance doors

In the "Arrival" exhibition area, PVC-U and aluminium doors will show off new entrance door systems and fittings as well as smart solutions for your front door.

Aluminium look and high sound reduction

In the "View" area, visitors can expect an entirely new window system with Schüco Symbiotic, featuring a special aluminium exterior that perfectly imitates the look of a fully aluminium window. The "Hafen City" window, a special box window design, meets especially high requirements in terms of sound reduction and thermal insulation. The outward-opening casement window has been designed for international markets. The window range is enhanced by a further tested safety barrier option using vertical bars.

The golden gallery

If you come to Fensterbau Frontale in search of new software solutions, then the exhibition area with golden walls is sure to catch your eye. With "Schüco PolyCal" and "Schüco PolyPlan", the "Service" area presents software solutions for the planning, specification, calculation and production of Schüco PVC-U windows, doors and sliding units. The products on offer are rounded off with the latest information about BIM and new Schüco machinery for processing gaskets and glazing beads.

You can find more detailed information about the new products and services on the following pages. The composition of the cover story, just like the structure of the stand, gives you a clear overview. There is also an additional article about the company's commitment to sustainability and climate protection.

Totally paperless

Visitors looking for physical brochures about the products and services presented will be out of luck this year. In order to conserve resources, Schüco has a completely paperless exhibition stand in Nuremberg. However, visitors will not miss out on detailed information. All the desired information can be transmitted to your mobile phone via NFC (Near Field Communication) or QR code, so that visitors do not have to carry around any heavy bags. ■

www.schueco.com



An especially large amount of space at the exhibition has been dedicated to the "Panorama" area for sliding units and the "Service" area for new software and machinery solutions.

Photo:
Schüco Polymer
Technologies KG



bb interviews Markus Herbst,
Schüco Polymer Technologies KG

Our main focus is on Germany and Europe

Markus Herbst.

Photos: Schüco Polymer Technologies KG

Last year, Schüco Polymer Technologies KG was able to further increase its turnover by expanding its international business. However, the company will continue to pursue its strategy of a central production site. We spoke to Markus Herbst, CEO of Schüco Polymer Technologies KG, about supporting partners with their day-to-day business as well as concepts for ensuring on-time delivery for coloured profiles in light of increasing proportions of colour and ever smaller batch sizes.

Mr Herbst, what was 2019 like for Schüco Polymer Technologies?

Overall we saw steady growth for the business in 2019. In a difficult market, we have managed to use our product and service portfolio to give our partners the right tools for positive continuous development and to grow together with them. This has allowed us to consolidate our strong market position in Germany and grow internationally. We achieved turnover of around 272 million euros with growth of approximately two percent.

Germany is an interesting market for foreign window suppliers. Has your business been affected by this?

Germany is absolutely affected by international competition. However, we believe our partners are very well equipped. Generally, the high product quality of our customers' windows and doors are what matter, and in particular their strong focus on service, reliability and speedy response times. We also have a careful strategy for outside Germany and want to make sure that we have a working partner network. We value continuity here and not growth for the sake of it.

How have the international markets developed?

The markets have developed in different ways. A positive example is the Benelux region where, in addition to refreshing market growth, we have also made significant gains with our new Schüco Living Variant system as well as the tried-and-tested Schüco Corona CT 70 Accent system. We have also significantly increased our strong position in Italy, to name but another positive example. However, we have unfortunately seen the reverse in Turkey and Russia – that is,

market-related downturns. In these countries, we are working together with our partners to develop solutions which we can use to overcome these hopefully temporary challenges.

Have you also managed to tap into new markets?

Of course, we are also actively looking at markets that are new territory for us. For example, we have entered into new partnerships in the United Arab Emirates, Brazil and China. We think that's great. However, our main focus is still the German and European markets.

How high is the proportion of exports?

With business in over 50 countries, our export rate is currently around 62 percent. The core region is still Europe. However, we also have long-standing partnerships in Argentina, Chile, Mexico, South Korea and Japan.

Will you stick to your strategy of one central production site, despite expanding your international business?

We are fully committed to this strategy. We believe in our foundations, which are our highly skilled employees, our development expertise, premium quality and service, speedy response times and sustainability. Of course, this is also a challenge for us as we need to constantly secure our competitive edge on the international stage through productivity and efficiency measures. Incidentally, "Made in Germany" for us is also about corporate responsibility. We are therefore delighted to be one of the largest employers in Saxony-Anhalt.

Has the proportion of coloured profiles increased?

Yes, to around 51 percent. The decision made in 2012 to invest in a state-of-the-art foiling facility was the right step to take at an early stage.

You currently offer around 70 standard colours and over 200 foil types. How do you achieve short delivery times in spite of this variety?

The wide range of colours, increased proportions of colour and considerable demands in terms of delivery times all represent a huge challenge for us. In addition to investments in machine technology

and IT infrastructure, we are working hard to make our organisation and processes more flexible. It is essential here that we closely link production, logistics, picking and transport.

Wouldn't decentralising the foiling facility be a possible option?

We are expanding our central production site in Germany. We are also considering international market requirements, which is why we have established our own foiling facility in Italy, for example.

When it comes to bonding technology, Schüco Polymer Technologies has taken a rather cautious approach in the past. What made you change your mind?

That's true. But we are listening carefully to our partners and changing our approach where necessary. That is what also defines a partnership, in my opinion. Successful corporate development is based on always questioning your own actions in light of changing market requirements. With regard to bonding technology, we have gradually expanded our portfolio following collective evaluation and now offer sufficient solutions for all our systems.

How much have you invested in your site over the past two years?

Overall we have invested around twenty million euros in tools, i.e. new products, machine technology, digitalisation and infrastructure.

At the start of 2016, the PVC-U business became a separate legal entity with the establishment of Schüco Polymer Technologies KG. How has this affected your work with colleagues from the Schüco metal division?

It's been really positive. We work very closely with our metal colleagues in the areas of Product Management, Quality, Digitalisation, Sustainability, Purchasing and Sales. We have a great partnership, which will be clear to see at Fensterbau Frontale.

How do you support your partners with day-to-day advertising to gain new customers?

We support them in many ways. Our strong brand is a good starting point. Furthermore, we provide support through our new lead management system, which we use to generate substantial end customer requests for our partners. In addition, measures such as the latest sliding campaign "more than a view" and the Schüco Living campaign provide our partners with marked end customer demand. We also support them with their local advertising activities through professional consultancy and comprehensive marketing services.

Can your partners also receive support when optimising their fabrication processes?

Yes they can. Our machinery engineers are on hand to help with anything they need. We see this as an additional service that we offer. Furthermore, we are also the only PVC-U profile system provider which has its own range of machinery solutions.

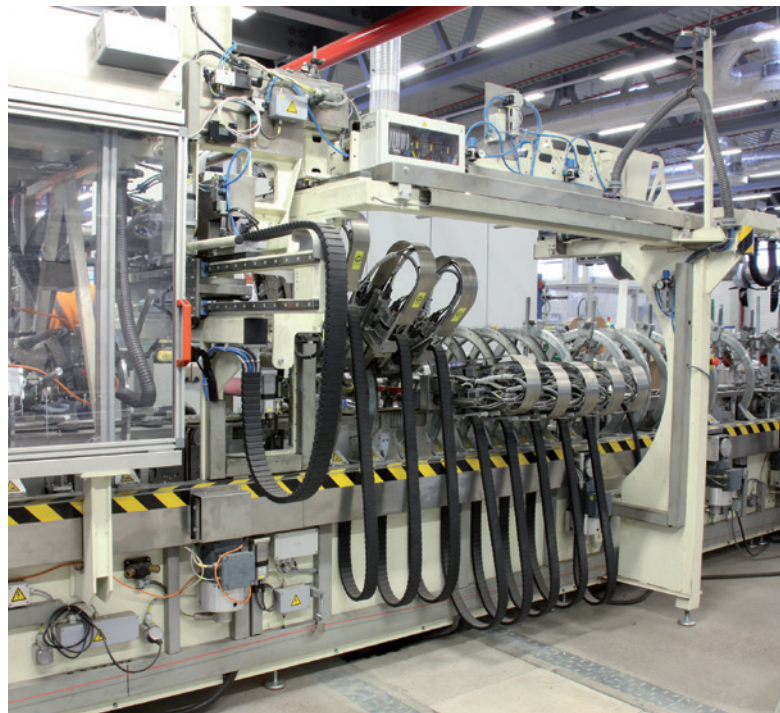
A lot of people are saying that BIM is the planning method of the future. Are your partners also saying this?

This is absolutely affecting our partners in distinct ways. For us, it's about being ready for the future, which is why we have prepared our systems digitally and integrated them in various BIM platforms. We will continue to press ahead with this.

How do you design development processes in order to ensure that new products are successful on the market?

We have been involving our partners in the development process from an early stage for some time now. Not only is the process therefore quicker, we are also better equipped to tackle the market requirements. This is the right path, which we will continue to follow. The Schüco Living system is a shining example of this. Here we have had a real success story.

Mr Herbst, thank you for talking to us! ■



By investing in automatic foiling machines, Schüco is guaranteeing short delivery times, despite the growing choice of colours and increasing proportions of colour.



Schüco further expands its sliding system portfolio

More sight, more light

Internationally, a sliding system is the most common opening type for windows and doors. In Germany today, there's hardly a house being built without at least one sliding unit and they just can't be large enough. So that our partners can access this large and attractive market, Schüco has further expanded its sliding system range and comprehensively reworked its existing constructions. With premium solutions such as Schüco LivingSlide or simpler systems such as Schüco SoftSlide, solutions are now available for the most diverse requirements and markets.

"In our view, we now have the most attractive portfolio of sliding systems among PVC-U profile system providers," explains Christian Fischer, Head of Technology and Quality Management at Schüco Polymer Technologies KG.

Working on the assumption that sliding systems will continue to increase in importance both in Germany and internationally, Schüco has enhanced its premium Schüco LivingSlide sliding platform with a version that has

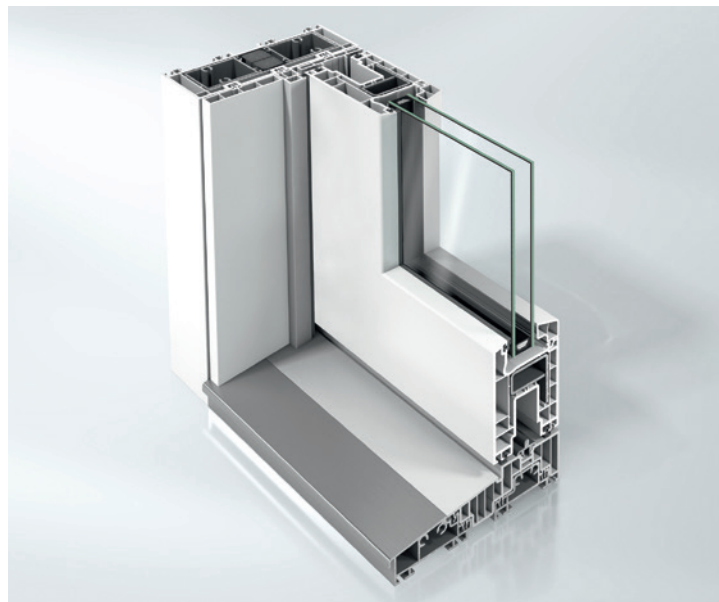
particularly narrow face widths. With a new vent with a face width which has been reduced to 72 mm as well as a fixed glazed unit with an even slimmer width of just 38 mm, the company is addressing the frequently expressed desire for unhindered views and maximum daylight. If that's still not enough transparency, the new over-insulation profiles can be used. The entire frame geometry

Reduced face widths in both the fixed light and the vent ensure the "Panorama version" of the Schüco LivingSlide has a high level of transparency.

can thereby be concealed by the building attachment so that the profiles at the top, left and right are no longer visible.

For extra comfort

Schüco Polymer Technologies is also using the exhibition to present a fully concealed drive for handling lifting and sliding, which makes it convenient to operate particularly



The revised Schüco EasySlide lift-and-slide door system offers improved thermal insulation and expanded glazing options, and also stands out with its shorter fabrication times.

large and heavy units. A necessity for a sliding system of this class is the zero-level threshold to provide a barrier and stumble-free transition. These can also be delivered on request as pre-fabricated constructions with thresholds cut to the appropriate lengths and all necessary connecting elements, sealing pads, etc. provided. Customers thus benefit from reduced storage requirements, no need for cutting and above all a significant reduction in fabrication time.

New generation

The Schüco EasySlide lift-and-slide door system has been completely reworked. "Our partners work with the Schüco EasySlide system in large numbers, so optimising the construction was an issue especially close to our hearts," reports Christian Fischer. The refined design does, however, keep the same basic construction, accessories and supplementary profiles.

With a thermal insulation value of $U_f = 1.41$ W/(m²K), the system achieves a significantly better U value. An optimised centre joint makes it markedly easier for fabricators to

construct RC2 units. The use of glazing up to 42 mm thick is also possible. The construction and principles behind the threshold have been adapted to match those of Schüco LivingSlide. A combination of PVC-U and aluminium has been used to increase recyclability. Ease of fabrication has been further improved for even shorter throughput times. The construction is also available in a Schüco TopAlu version, meaning it can be designed with aluminium cover caps.

New sliding platform

The new Schüco SoftSlide sliding system with a 74 mm basic depth can be used as a patio door, porch or partition unit. The construction is designed first and foremost for southern Europe and global export markets.

Units with two, three, four or six vents can be constructed in different ways. The use of glazing in thicknesses from 4-28 mm is also possible. A higher level of burglar resistance can be achieved by using the lockable gearbox with anti-lift-out device and an aluminium interlock. The specially designed brush seals ensure that the sliding vents move smoothly.

A low number of individual components simplifies the order process, minimises the storage space needed and, importantly, makes fabrication more efficient.

Wide opening widths possible

Schüco now also offers a tested bi-fold solution based on the Schüco Living window system with which wide opening widths can be achieved. A new meeting stile means identical vents can be produced, simplifying fabrication considerably. Schüco also offers appropriate fittings solutions in addition to the profile. Designs with aluminium cover caps from the Schüco TopAlu series are also possible. ■

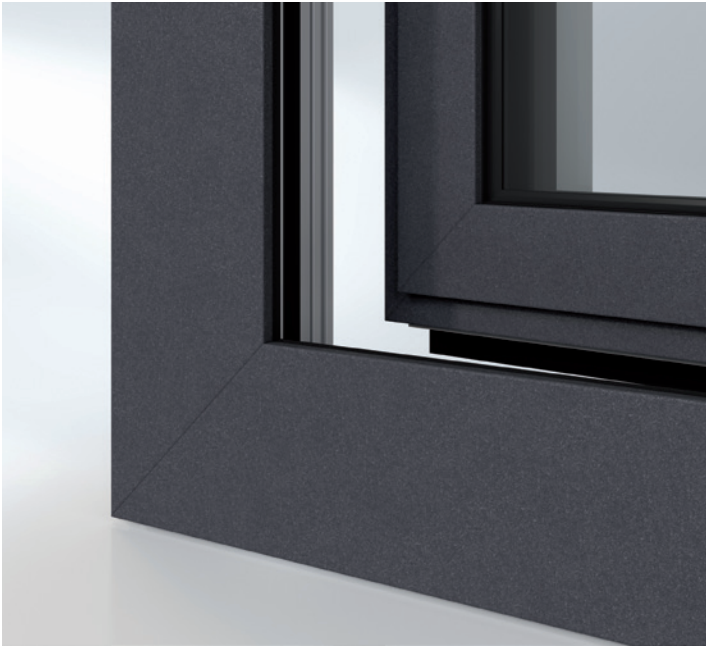
www.schueco.com



For very large clear openings, the Schüco Living bi-fold system is the perfect solution.

“View” exhibition area – all about windows

New window system



Barely distinguishable from an aluminium window from the outside: the new Schüco Symbiotic PVC-U window system.

Photos: Schüco Polymer Technologies KG

For years, there has been a distinct trend towards clear and striking angled window contours. This has motivated efforts to give PVC-U windows the look of aluminium units and Schüco has therefore expanded its product range with an “aluminium look” construction. The “Hafen City” box window has also been developed to meet particularly high requirements in terms of sound reduction. The new outward-opening casement window is primarily intended for international markets.

The new Schüco Symbiotic PVC-U/aluminium window construction uses a central gasket system with a basic depth of 74 mm. Externally, the window looks identical in terms of



Designed for noisy inner city locations: the HafenCity window, which offers excellent sound reduction even when partially open.

material and visuals to an aluminium unit thanks to the flush-fitted and angular design of the exterior. Care was taken during development to ensure that the glazing in both the fixed lights and the window vents lies in the same vertical plane, guaranteeing a uniform façade face without any glass offset. The use of glazing in a range of dimensions up to 58 mm is possible.

The angular external contour has also been carried over to the glazing bead. The external aluminium component is fixed to the outer frame using rotatable brackets, clipped onto the vent and secured by blocking bridges. The glazing rebate gasket used in Schüco aluminium systems is also used for the glazing here. The very small vent frame enables narrow face widths of 110 mm to be achieved in the system section detail.

The vent frame is provided with an adhesive rebate which allows the option of bonding the glazing. Alternatively, or in addition, steel reinforcements can also be used.

The construction has a thermal insulation of $U_f = 1.1 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2\text{K})$. There is the option to insert an insulation profile in the outer frame for increased thermal insulation.

The system can be designed with two outer frames and two vent frames, mullions and double-vent profiles from the outset so that

multi-part as well as single-part units are possible.

The solution to noisy surroundings

Construction space in cities is in notoriously short supply. The German government is therefore pushing for redensification of inner city areas. This is leading to residential buildings being constructed even in urban areas with high levels of noise, not least in the Hafen City district of Hamburg, which has lent its name to a new generation of windows with a high level of sound reduction.

The box windows, which boast high sound reduction and thermal insulation, combine a Schüco Living profile (outside) and Schüco Corona CT 70 or another Schüco Living profile (inside) in a thermally broken aluminium frame trim construction. The result is an overall basic depth of 252 mm for the complete unit. 42 dB sound reduction glass is used as glazing on the outside, while the inside consists of 10 mm laminated safety glass.

The window therefore achieves an impressive sound reduction of Rwp 62 dB when closed. But what's really special is that the sound reduction is still Rwp 36 dB even when the window is (partially) open. Anyone who wants to sleep with a window open can do so with this system, even in a noisy environment.

The effect is reinforced by the sound-absorbing material in the intermediate area of the unit. In addition, the window has excellent thermal insulation properties with a U_f value of $0.92 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2\text{K})$.

Casement window

For the markets in which outward-opening window units are the norm, Schüco offers the ideal solution, based on the Schüco Corona CT 70 system. Both projected top-hung and side-hung windows are possible, with the appropriate fittings available from the Schüco VarioTec series.

Are the windows shut?

In the future, you won't have to roam the house to find out. This is made possible by an energy self-sufficient system for monitoring of closing for Schüco PVC-U window units, which transmits the status of the window to a central control unit such as a smart home system. Here, Schüco uses the battery-free technology of EnOcean, making the wireless,

concealed system solution which is fully integrated in the profile an ideal solution for subsequent installation and renovations.

QR codes provide information

If problems occur with windows, it is generally difficult for end users to know the window type and the profile and fittings system used. A possible solution is a QR code in the window rebate, which the user can use to find the necessary information about their window with the help of an app. This could be information about the profile system and fittings used, in addition to the dimensions. This makes searching for the component required for a repair or the correct accessory significantly easier.

Safety barriers in four versions

With glass or bar safety barriers, as well as a combination of the two, Schüco already offers three tested safety barrier systems. The range has now been extended by a vertical bar safety barrier, which has also been tested.

Two fixing options are available in the form of profile anchors or a rebate strip, whilst screws are concealed. Widths up to 1.99 m and flexible heights up to 1.10 m (infill bar length) are therefore possible. The spacing between bars can be flexibly selected.

The integrated system solutions are supplied complete with fixings that merely have to be adjusted to the correct length by the fabricator. The aluminium profiles can be supplied raw, anodised or powder-coated as desired. Corresponding test reports in accordance with DIN EN 13049 are available.

Discreetly integrated sun shading

For the Schüco Living and Schüco Symbiotic systems, the system provider offers an internal roller system in the form of the Integralmaster, which is integrated in a compact aluminium box and replaces the upper glazing bead. If used in the Schüco Symbiotic system, this can even be done without any projection. The blind is guided from the side via a groove in the special lateral aluminium glazing beads.

By choosing the appropriate blind hanging, various functions such as sun shading, glare protection and screening can be combined.

The blind can be driven using a self-locking chain gear or a motor. Schüco thereby offers



With the new safety barrier with vertical bars, Schüco now offers four tested versions.

its partners the opportunity to generate interesting additional business around the window unit itself.

Combatting dirty air

Schüco provides four different ventilation systems for user-independent ventilation. By far the most powerful is the new electric motor-driven Schüco VentoTherm Twist device, developed in cooperation with Renson. The device can be integrated either horizontally above the window or vertically in the façade. Demand-driven regulation for the best possible indoor climate is ensured by integrated air quality sensors. This reliably prevents elevated humidity and possible mould growth. Schüco VentoTherm Twist also offers protection against draughts and irritation from insects and pollen.

A modular construction with six device sizes, from 2x1 to 2x6 ventilators, allows it to be tailored to individual ventilation requirements.



The option for additional business: the film roller blind integrated into the glazing bead for sun shading, glare protection and screening.



Window information can be accessed using the QR code and an app.

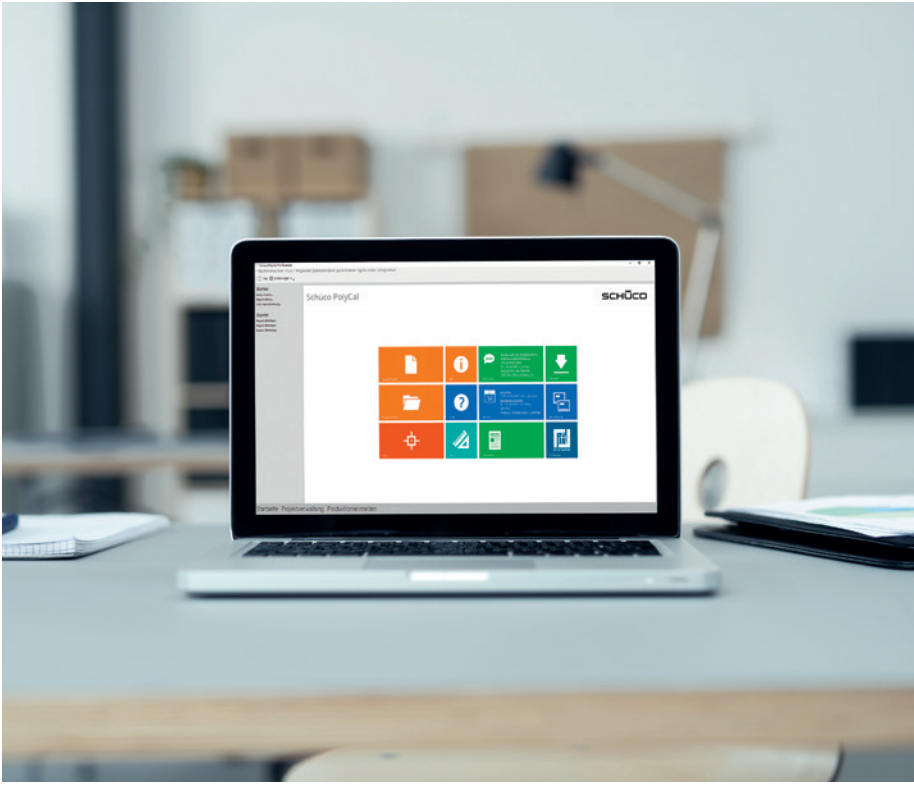
The volume flow achieved is sufficient for use in offices of up to four people or for residential spaces up to 100 m². An 80% heat recovery rate ensures a high degree of energy saving.

The ventilator can be combined with the following window systems: Schüco Corona CT 70, Schüco Living, Schüco Living Alu Inside, Schüco Living Variant and Schüco Symbiotic.

■ www.schueco.com

New digital tools

Schüco PolyCal: the solution for small and medium-sized businesses



Schüco PolyCal, a joint development by Orgadata and Schüco, represents a software solution for calculation and production that is tailored to the needs of small and medium-sized window fabricators. Photos: Schüco Polymer Technologies KG

In the “golden gallery” of the exhibition stand, the new software solutions Schüco PolyCal, Schüco PolyPlan and Schüco PolyWeb for the design, specification, calculation and order of PVC-U units and special constructions are presented to trade visitors under the heading of “Service”. Visitors are also shown how Schüco supports its partners in the planning stage with BIM or the product database Plan. One. In addition, new machinery for processing gaskets, glazing beads and locking bars are also introduced.

With the Schüco PolyCal software, a joint development by Orgadata and Schüco, the company aims to make it possible for small and medium-sized window businesses in particular to be able to produce all Schüco PVC-U systems using a master data set for profiles and fittings.

“This is our own software solution with fully-integrated Schüco data sets in the basic

module,” explains Markus Herbst, CEO of Schüco Polymer Technologies KG.

Schüco PolyCal offers the option for unit entry, calculation and cutting optimisation of PVC-U windows and doors. The software also contains tools for section detail display, statics calculation and machinery control. The transfer of CNC data to three, four and five-axis CNC machines and the cutting of profile bars on a CNC machine are also available as options.

Always up-to-date

With the new Schüco PolyPlan on the other hand, the company is targeting architects. The software offers a wide range of calculation and display options for planning and specifying PVC-U windows and doors. It is based on the current standards and regulations, therefore providing the user with the requisite security. The application is a web-based solution. Regular online updates ensure that it is always up-to-date. All of the

elements for BIM applications in IFC and Revit can be downloaded.

The challenge of special units

The calculation and ordering of special units present particular challenges. With Schüco PolyWeb, the systems manufacturer has therefore developed an online platform for the easy and efficient calculation and ordering of special Schüco PVC-U units. This makes the entire special project, from planning and creating cutting lists through to calculation and optimisation, significantly easier. When calculating multiple units, cutting optimisation is also possible. There is even the option to use the software for Schüco safety barriers. The aim is for the Schüco VarioTec fitting to be added in the near future, in addition to the Schüco lift-and-slide and sliding door systems.



Find the right product

Plan.One was set up in 2016 as a new start-up company of Schüco International KG offering a manufacturer-independent comparison platform for construction products. It is available online at www.plan.one. Using this portal and the extensive product database behind it, architects and specifiers can not only find the right products for their building projects, they can also compare the properties of the products they have found. As well as window and sliding systems from Schüco being listed, users can also download BIM files, section detail drawings, brochures, videos, specification texts, maintenance handbooks, installation instructions and much more.

Manage projects successfully

The Schüco start-up PlanToBuild has developed a cross-trade, web-based software solution for the effective management of

construction projects, benefitting managing directors, workshop and project managers, installers, architects and investors in equal measure. With modules such as scheduling, task management, incident management, reporting, daily construction report and defect management, the solution covers everything relevant to a project. A collaborative approach allows a comprehensive overview of the processes to be provided and enables digital networking and communication with all those involved in the project internally and externally. By assigning individual access rights, each person only receives the information that is relevant to their role.

www.plantobuild.online

Virtual showroom

Not all companies have the spatial or financial capacity to set up a showroom displaying the

whole range of their products. An alternative or supplement to this is the Schüco Virtual Showroom. It makes it possible for an infinite number of products to be visualised. The properties of the products can be demonstrated in interactive, virtual installation scenarios. ■

www.schueco.com

Schüco Virtual Showroom.

It makes it possible for an infinite number of products to be visualised.





The DCS SmartTouch system is made up of the DCS SmartTouch module, the Schüco app and the Schüco Cloud.

Photo: Schüco Polymer Technologies KG

Smart solutions for entrance doors

Access control solutions with added prestige factor

In the "Arrival" exhibition area, Schüco is showcasing smart solutions for entrance doors. Taking centre stage is without doubt the new Schüco SmartTouch Door Control System. The Schüco BlueCon access control module is also being presented; it offers keyless operation of the entrance door via Bluetooth technology using your own smartphone.

The Schüco SmartTouch Door Control System (DCS) comprises a camera, door bell and access control system in one. All of the components are commissioned and controlled via the new Schüco app. The integrated 4.3-inch touchscreen means DCS SmartTouch can be operated just like a smartphone.

The app allows you to create house numbers and PIN codes and manage contacts. The Schüco app can also be used on the go – the door call can be received on your smartphone through the app, even when you are outside of the local area network. With the surveillance function, any available internet connec-

tion can be used to access the camera and microphone when you are out and about, even if the doorbell has not been rung.

Simple fabrication, fast commissioning

The rectangular recess for the module and a separate installation box, which offers additional protection against moisture and swarf, enable rapid fabrication and installation. With the help of a test mode, all of the important functions can be tested in the workshop beforehand. Using step-by-step instructions, the commissioning process is designed so that it can be carried out by the end customers themselves.

Retrofit option

DCS SmartTouch is available for Schüco aluminium and PVC-U doors as an integrated version for the outer and vent frame. DCS SmartTouch can also be incorporated into the door communication system retrospectively. If a door has an existing doorbell system, regardless of the provider, the standard doorbell can be replaced with DCS SmartTouch as

a surface or flush-mounted version. The existing two-wire technology is used to supply the power and communication is enabled via WiFi.

Keyless access thanks to smartphone connection

Schüco BlueCon uses Bluetooth technology to enable you to use your smartphone to operate your entrance door without a key. The module, which is concealed in the door rebate, checks access authorisation when a person approaches the door. The Schüco BlueCon app can be used to open the door automatically or manually, depending on the settings. Access authorisations can be set individually, flexibly and for specific people. Schüco BlueCon can be retrofitted if the electronic equipment is already installed (Schüco cable kit or at least a 3-core cable). ■

www.schueco.com

Towards carbon neutrality

Schüco develops modern, high-quality PVC-U and aluminium systems which are used by partner companies to create sustainable buildings that retain their value. The window and door systems are energy-efficient, resource-friendly and therefore designed to protect the climate – a sign that the company takes its responsibility towards people and nature seriously.

At Fensterbau Frontale in 2018, Schüco Polymer Technologies KG was the first company in the industry to be awarded the VinylPlus label in recognition of its active contribution to the sustainable development of PVC-U applications. At this year's exhibition, the plan is for the certificate for recertification to be awarded, which Schüco is once again the first PVC-U systems provider to receive. The VinylPlus label signifies, for example, that the procurement of raw materials, controlled material recycling systems, the use of energy, raw materials and additives, and the reduction of emissions, all meet the required sustainability criteria.

With regard to the introduction of a pallet deposit scheme, Schüco was also one of the pioneers in the industry. The company introduced a return system for steel stillages back in 2014 and therefore already meets the requirements of an industry-wide solution that will be implemented throughout Europe in spring 2020 together with other European systems providers. With this deposit scheme/returnable packaging solution, the entire industry is taking a crucial step towards greater sustainability, improved circular economy and better conservation of resources.

Partnership with the WWF

The ambitious CO₂ reduction targets that Schüco has set out for its business activities together with the WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) will contribute to limiting global warming to 1.5°, in line with the Paris Agreement. This is confirmed by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), which supports companies in the transition to a low-carbon economy. In partnership with WWF, Schüco is



From left: Andreas Engelhardt, Managing Partner of Schüco International KG, and Eberhard Brandes, Chief Executive Officer of WWF Germany, shake hands on the sustainability partnership. Photo: Sonja Ritter WWF

therefore driving forward sustainability in the construction industry.

From a technical perspective, there are many ways to reduce CO₂ emissions in the construction industry. Nevertheless, it is still lagging behind significantly – both in terms of the reduction targets set by the German government and the Science Based Targets initiative to limit global warming to 1.5°. However, environmentally friendly construction is urgently required in order to meet the aims of the Paris Agreement.

"Buildings we construct today or renovate to make energy efficient will be used for decades to come. They are therefore significant in determining how much energy we will need to live and work in future. The consumption of resources during the construction phase also has a significant impact. This makes it all the more important for us to take the right steps without delay," says Andreas Engelhardt, Managing Partner of Schüco International KG. "We have worked together with our partner WWF to analyse how we as

a company can contribute to this change of direction. One result of this is the clearly defined CO₂ reduction targets. We are delighted that the SBTi has now verified these targets."

Integrated climate strategy

In concrete terms, Schüco is striving to reduce its absolute CO₂ emissions by 30% by 2025 compared to the reference year of 2018. The target equally incorporates the emissions from in-house production (Scope 1), purchased energy (Scope 2) and those from the production of all primary materials, further processing and the use of Schüco products (Scope 3). Furthermore, the company is pursuing the target of no longer generating any emissions that are harmful to the environment by 2040. The basis for this is a neutral carbon footprint across the entire value chain which Schüco has set out in its latest sustainability report – one of the few companies in the construction industry to do so.

The absolute reductions in CO₂ behind the aims have been checked by the SBTi and recognised as scientifically based. This means

that they meet the level of decarbonisation stipulated by climate scientists in order to meet the 1.5° limit. The company is thereby joining the ranks of pioneering German businesses with climate objectives that are more ambitious than those set by the German government.

"Companies play a key role in achieving the climate objectives of the Paris Agreement. With its aims, Schüco is sending a strong signal that companies are also ready to take responsibility in the climate crisis," says Eberhard Brandes, Chief Executive Officer of WWF Germany.

Sustainable building solutions as a lever

Over the course of the year, Schüco will work together with the WWF to turn its confirmed climate objectives into specific measures and enshrine them in its everyday business. The partners believe that the most crucial factor lies in the provision of sustainable building solutions with maximum energy efficiency. This approach covers the purchase of specific materials as well as the production of environmentally friendly products that are pro-

ven to conserve resources. For Schüco, sustainability also means that the window, door and façade systems are fed back into the recycling process following the usage phase. As a member of the Rewindo and A|U|F recycling initiatives, the company therefore places great value on the recyclability of the materials used for its products and, during the design phase, pays increasing attention to their subsequent separability. Rewindo is the association of leading German manufacturers of PVC-U profiles with the aim of increasing the recycling of dismantled windows, roller shutters and doors made from PVC-U, and fostering economies which use resources efficiently. The A|U|F e.V. promotes the sustainable disposal and recycling of dismantled building components and profiles from windows, doors and façades made of aluminium, so that the material can be reused. Through members like Schüco, the A|U|F initiative ensures suitable, product-specific return and recycling processes.

Schüco has been recording its climate-related emissions based on the GHG Protocol since 2011. And since 1 January 2012, the company

has been purchasing green energy for all its sites in Germany. It has therefore been possible to lower energy-related emissions to less than 10% of the previous value. In order to fully exploit the reduction potential in future, the window and façade specialist is taking responsibility for the implementation of measures across all areas of the company. Corresponding agreed targets aim to increase motivation and systematically further reduce the consumption of energy and resources. ■

www.schueco.de/nachhaltigkeit

Display



Sometimes taking a look is even more worth your while!

We have expanded the range of information available on our website www.bauelemente-bau.eu even further:

- New section for new appointments
- Series on process optimisation, legal tips etc. available to download
- Exclusively for our subscribers: All editions from August 2008 available as e-papers!

See you at bauelemente-bau.eu!

bau.
DAS MARKETINGMAGAZIN FÜR BAUAUSSTATTER