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Press release

BAU 2019 exhibition spaces

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Architecture, Materials, Systems – Part 3

BAU 2019 is bigger than ever. On 200,000 m² exhibition space the BAU presents architecture, materials and systems for commercial and residential construction, as well as for interior design of both new and existing buildings. In a new series of articles we report on the key topics coming up in the individual exhibition spaces. The third part deals with the topics of Aluminum, Glass, Floor Coverings and Gate / Parking Systems.

Aluminum

This metal is not only characterized by its stability and corrosion resistance, but also by the possibility of reuse. As a construction material, aluminum is therefore predestined for a variety of applications.

Due to its robustness, the material is frequently used for shading elements, but also for window profiles. The “Seamless” system, for example, allows for a nearly frameless transparent architecture – and has been awarded the iF Design Award 2018 and the Red Dot Award 2018 for this. The glass of the sliding fixed wing is connected with the facade structure by means of a specifically developed junction profile, the coupling being concealed by the filigree facade mullion. The connection to the building structure is also concealed as the facade waling and the sliding reveal are flush-mounted in the floor, wall and ceiling: overall, this results in an invisible connection of two highly thermally insulated structures with a flowing transition from the sliding system to the facade system.

Manufacturers at BAU 2019 will present a great variety of application examples and products for windows, doors and facades, including the corresponding slid-

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ing, ventilation and security systems. Besides the most diverse aluminum profiles, this exhibition segment includes solutions for sun protection, energy production and smart building. In addition, visitors can gather information on machines for aluminum and steel processing.

Glass

Glass has long since become firmly established in modern architecture. The amenities that it brings about are contrasted by a multitude of challenges: solutions for sun, heat and noise protection and for light guidance will therefore form a thematic focus at the upcoming BAU.

Here, depressurized insulating glass, for example, promises new possibilities. Whereas traditional, hermetically sealed insulating glass may deform or even break as a result of severe strains due to climate, depressurized glass allows for pressure compensation between the interspace between the panes and the atmosphere: this reduces the risk of glass breakage and facilitates the integration of sun and weather protection in the interspace. Other positive effects are larger structural depths with reduced thermal bridges and the improvement of airborne sound insulation.

Another perennial issue is break-in resistance. For windows required to be resistant against burglary, glass bonding has become the standard meanwhile – proving the material's fitness for use has hitherto merely been difficult with wooden windows due to the diversity of materials. Therefore, the ift Guideline VE-08 has now been revised and an assessment procedure has been described by means of which a reliable assessment by the manufacturer is possible.

Manufacturers in the glass segment will present numerous new products in the area of glass building materials, films and glass structures. In addition, visitors can gather information on solutions for energy-producing systems and facades.

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Floor coverings

In the coming year, too, manufacturers in this segment will present a great variety of elastic and textile coverings, parquet flooring, laminate, terrace planks, baseboards and profiles, but also solutions relating to laying and application techniques. In respect of the material, the topics will place a clear focus on sustainability and ecological compatibility – in the form of design floors that ensure a healthy living environment and are free of PVC and plasticizers, for example. Laminate floors that are water-resistant or suitable for wet rooms are also strongly gaining in popularity.

In terms of design, a festival of colors is to be expected, and diversity is trumps also for structures and decors. In addition, the possibilities of real wood imitations are optimally exploited in the case of vinyl and laminate floorings – be it through haptic surface design or an elaborate digital printing procedure that minimizes repetitions of the decor.

As far as real wood floors are concerned, oak timber continues to enjoy great popularity. Just like another classic: in high-end interior design, the laying of parquet floors in fish bone pattern celebrates its comeback.

At the same time, a strong trend towards generous country-style planks can be noticed. In the course of the conversion of an old stable on the grounds of the Austrian private brewery in Hirt [*Carinthia*], country-style oak planks were harmoniously integrated into the overall concept: the office and administrative center which has been redesigned by skape architects combines regional origin and tradition with natural raw materials – and received the “Office of the Year” Award as an outstanding example of sustainable building use.

Gate / Parking systems

The door and gate industry is one of the forerunners in the building sector in terms of digitalization. Within the scope of the upcoming BAU, manufacturers will present a variety of solutions focusing not only on gate and door drive technology but also on gate and parking systems including accessories.

Automatic systems ensure greater comfort, security, energy efficiency and health – and are therefore not just used for functional buildings. A growing number of private builders also appreciate their benefits. Front-doors, garage doors and

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sun protection systems which are driven automatically or controlled via smartphone provide comfort and security, particularly for individuals with physical limitations. Automatic doors are also used in public buildings, care facilities and assisted living: additional advantages such as central locking, alarm function or “open/closed” status messages can be easily integrated here.

Besides focusing on the downsizing of components, product development in the area of drives and locks currently aims at the integration of actuators and limit switches as well as sensor and transponder technology into the drives which are mounted and concealed inside the door or gate structure.

A decisive factor for optimum automation is that the sensors and the control system are compatible with customary building control systems such as KNX, for example. With this “Smart Home Ready” principle, the only thing left to do is to mount the component and to install the connection of the power supply: the connection to the domestic electrical system and the programming of the control system can then be carried out by the building services trade or even by the fitter or the building owner themselves.

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About BAU

BAU is the world's leading trade fair for architecture, materials and systems, the largest and most important event for the industry. The next BAU will take place on the exhibition grounds of Messe München from January 14 to 19, 2019. Some 2,200 exhibitors from around 45 countries, and more than 250,000 visitors from all over the world are expected to attend.

On an area of 200,000 m² - the site has been fully booked up for years - BAU is presenting architecture, materials and systems for commercial, residential and interior construction in 18 exhibition halls, both in new and existing buildings. Every two years, it brings the market leaders of the industry together at this overarching building trade exhibition, which is unique worldwide. The range of products and services is structured according to building materials, product sectors and theme areas.

BAU addresses all those involved in the planning, construction and operation of all sorts of buildings. BAU is also the world's largest trade show for architects and engineers, attracting over 65,000 design professionals.

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The supporting program with numerous attractive events on the agenda, including top-class panels with experts from all over the world round off the show.

Messe München

Messe München is one of the world's leading trade-show companies. It organizes more than 50 own trade shows for capital and consumer goods and key high-tech industries. Each year, a total of more than 50,000 exhibitors and some three million visitors take part in more than 200 events held at the Messe München trade-fair center, the ICM – Internationales Congress Center München, the MOC Veranstaltungszentrum München as well as abroad. Jointly with its subsidiaries, Messe München organizes trade shows in China, India, Brazil, Russia, Turkey, South Africa, Nigeria, Vietnam and Iran. Messe München has a global business presence with a network of affiliates in Europe, Asia, Africa and South America as well as some 70 foreign representatives serving more than 100 countries.