

Case Study Klaus Kada's Festspielhaus, St. Polten

The project

Klaus Kada has provided a new vision of what a concert hall should look like, using glass in an innovative manner to make his building radiate light and give the observer the impression that it is several buildings in one.

Dow Corning's structural silicone sealants were again used in developing a new glass bonding system for the roof of the building and the entrance facade, helping Kada to realise his vision. The insulating glass used in both areas was 'semi-drilled'. For the internal panes, the standard bolting system was used, with the bolts being fixed through the glass; for the external glass, however, the bonding was achieved using Dow Corning® 993 silicone sealant, with no drilling taking place.

This 'semi-drilled' system for bonding glass, takes advantage of the benefits of a bolted system, but provides the architect with a totally smooth glass facade. The absence of drilling on the external glass enhances the thermal properties and longevity of the insulated glazing unit and also significantly reduces the manufacturing costs. This system has been more widely used than the 'no-drilling' technique used for Hans Hollein's Ausstellungshalle, but awareness of the benefits it brings is still low among many architects.

Dow Corning continues to work with architects and companies to develop products and techniques that allow the boundaries of what is possible to be constantly pushed back and enable architectural wonders such as those in St. Polten to be realised.



Building:	Klaus Kada's Festspielhaus
City:	St. Polten
Country:	North Austria
Products:	Dow Corning® 993
Architect:	Klaus Kada
Curtainwall:	Officine Lorenzon SNC

The project:

- The concert hall was built with glass in an innovative manner to make the building light, and to give the observer the impression that it is several buildings in one.

- Dow Corning's structural silicone sealants were used in developing a new glass bonding system for the roof of the building and the entrance facade. The insulating glass used in both areas was 'semi-drilled'. For the internal panes, the standard bolting system was used, with the bolts being fixed through the glass; for the external glass, however, the bonding was achieved using Dow Corning 993 silicone sealant, with no drilling taking place.