

**PARTNERSHIP
FOR PERFORMANCE**
at Belgo Metal headquarters



**Press
release**



Summary

- I. Partnership for performance** **p 4**

- II. Natural light and insulation,
the advantages of the double-skin façade** **p 5**

- III. Mermet M-Screen fabric,
the perfect match for glass-fronted buildings** **p 6**

- IV. Modulight® solar protection fabrics by Mermet,
partners for long-term comfort** **p 8**

- V. Technical data sheet** **p 9**

PRESS CONTACTS
CÉLINE VARENNE-SOUCHON
& CHRISTELLE GUITANOU
c.varenne@saatchi-lyon.com
c.guitanou@saatchi-lyon.com
Tel: +33 (0)4 72 33 85 85



Partnership for performance

Mermet M-Screen fabric dresses the glass façade walls of Belgo Metal headquarters.

Belgo Metal (Permasteelisa Group), a company specializing in façade architecture, has designed its new headquarters in Wetteren, Belgium, as a national technology display window.

The design is the work of the architecture agency MDW & A Verbeke.

The company's management and the architects wanted to create a workplace where offices and workshops entwine in a single area.


This architectural concept promotes contact and team feeling in the different parts of the business.

The 2430 m² of office space on 3 floors is designed as an open space wrapped in a **double-skin glass façade letting in an optimal amount of natural light** and with high operating flexibility. The factory of 6310 m² meshes with the volume of the landscaped office space. A glass curtain 3 metres high, it is designed for **total transparency** allowing visitors a direct view of the production line.

In partnership with the blind manufacturer Boflex SA., Mermet has fitted all the façades with interior blinds covering about 800 m², in transparent M-Screen 8505 fabric in charcoal/grey 3001.



Natural light and insulation, the advantages of the double-skin façade




Glass is the building material that epitomises modern architecture. With the double-skin techniques, glass façades have made definite progress in the reconciliation of natural light and insulation.

A double-skin façade consists of layers of glass (in single or double glazing) separated by a ventilated cavity which enhances insulation from both heat and noise. Controlled circulation of the air prevents heat from accumulating between the layers of glazing. Incoming air can even be cooled in summer or heated in winter.

The framework of the building, consisting solely of pillars, beams and slabs, provides great flexibility for fitting out the inside, **unrestrained by windows or load-bearing walls.**

The double-skin façade lets in the light of day while keeping the temperature and summer sunlight under control. Inside the building, air renewal is mechanically controlled.




To reap all its benefits, abundant natural light needs to be well controlled. Double-skin façades can be fitted with blinds outside, inside or between the glazing.

The "Transparent" fabrics for exterior and interior blinds in the Modulight® collection are the partners of glass and double-skin façades because they give protection from heat and control glare.

Because they are made of coated glass fibres, they are exceptionally transparent and have many technical qualities, notably dimensional stability, even when exposed to temperature variations. The width ranges available, up to 3.10 metres for M-Screen 8505, prevent having to weld seams which could spoil the look of the glass.



Mermet M-Screen fabric, the perfect match for glass-fronted buildings



At the Belgo Metal headquarters, user comfort was integrated into the general building process right from the design stage. The glass façades are fitted with interior roller blinds.

To comply with to the open design criterion defined by the architects MDW & A. Verbeke, the blind manufacturer Boflex SA chose **M-Screen 8505 solar protection fabric** in the Mermet Modulight® Collection.

To give the façade a uniform appearance, the 225 blinds are electrically powered and automated. They are centrally controlled by a timer which lowers or raises them according to the light at different times of the day. They can also be operated individually to suit the needs of users.

The enhanced performance of the M-Screen 8505 solar protection fabric ensures that light is successfully combined with comfort, an essential criterion for double-skin façades. The 3001 charcoal/grey colour provides very good outside visibility, high glare control and protection from heat.



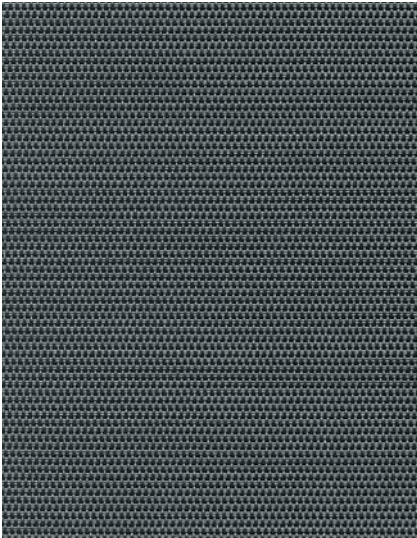
The best of natural light

Visual comfort is a decisive factor for productivity. To combine well-being with efficiency, solar protection regulates variations in the luminance* of glass façades throughout the day and the seasons.

The "Transparent" fabrics in the Modulight® range, such as M-Screen 8505, help to create an open and congenial work atmosphere. Its open weave filters the rays of the sun and leaves behind the best of natural light.

* Luminance measured in candela/m2 gives the brightness radiated by a source surface.

Mermet M-Screen fabric, the perfect match for glass-fronted buildings



M-Screen 8505 fabric in charcoal/grey 3001

Glare control

By selecting the M-Screen 8505 fabric in a dark colour, blind manufacturer Boflex chose the optimal solution for eliminating sources of glare. The fabric has a $T_v=7\%$ factor, which means it filters 93% of the light rays. Controlling the light in this way ensures total comfort for working on screen.

Enhancing glass architecture


With its "all glass" architecture, the Belgo Metal HQ was designed to be completely open to the exterior.

The M-Screen 8505 fabric in charcoal/grey 3001, a dark colour, tones perfectly with double-skin façades, since it provides an optimal answer to the technical problems of solar protection (heat and glare control) while maintaining the transparency of the glass.


The extensive range of widths available offers great flexibility for fitting out all picture windows, both large and small. The fabric's dimensional stability is such that it is possible to make very wide panels (up to 3.10 metres for M-Screen 8505) without any seams in the middle. Transparency and good looks are guaranteed.

In addition, Mermet is the only manufacturer to measure the transparency of its fabrics on the basis of the quality of outside visibility.

The CV factor – Contrast Vision in the Modulight® Rapid'Selection guide has a scale of 1 to 40 to compare the transparency of the fabrics in the range.



Modulight® solar protection fabrics by Mermet, partners for long-term comfort



The "Transparent" fabrics in the Modulight® collection have all the advantages of an exceptional material – glass fibre coated prior to weaving.


Their outstanding mechanical resistance guarantees **excellent resistance to breaking and tearing.**

They are also resistant to chemicals and mould because coated glass fibre is rot proof.

Other assets are the stability of their colours and ease of maintenance ensuring that blinds will stay immaculate for a very long time.

Non-toxic, the "Transparent" fabrics in the Modulight® range carry the Oekotex Standard 100 label.

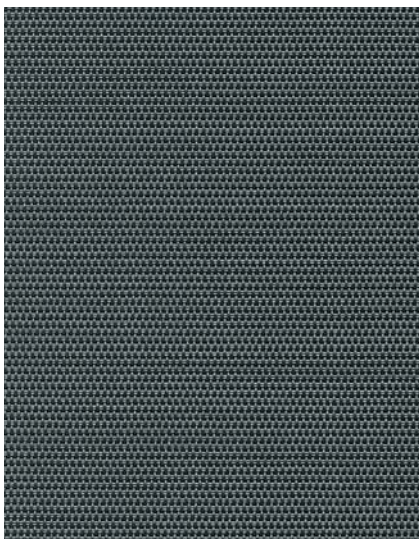
This guarantees that they contain no chemicals that can be harmful for the health and safety of end-users.



On the subject of safety, M-Screen 8505 is **non-flammable** (fire-resistance categories M1, FR, BS476 Pt.6 Class 0, AS 1530-2/3).

It is therefore in perfect compliance with current technical standards, in particular for very tall buildings and buildings open to the public.

Technical data sheet



M-Screen 8505 fabric in charcoal/grey 3001

Specifications

- Reference: M-Screen 8505 in charcoal/grey 3001
- **Modulight® Rapid' Selection comfort factor** on a scale of 1 to 40
NL – Natural Light: 14, optimised natural light
EC – Eye Comfort: 22, good glare control
CV – Contrast Vision: 25, very good outside visibility
- **Function:** interior roller blinds
- Fire resistance categories: M1, FR, BS 476 Pt.6 Class 0, AS 1530-2/3
- **Non-toxic:** Oekotex label
- **Visible transmission:** 7% (percentage of visible light that can pass through the fabric). In this case, this means that the fabric filters 93% of the light.

Contacts

Blind manufacturer

Boflex
Genkersteenweg 164, B 3500 Hasselt
www.boflex.be

Client

Belgo Metal, Vantegemstraat 39, B 9230 Wetteren
www.permasteelisa.com

Architects

- TV MDW+A, Papegaaistraat 55, B 9000 Gand
Architecture agency A. Verbeke, Papegaaistraat 55,
9000 Gand
- MDW-architecture, Rue Van Meyel 30, B 1080 Bruxelles



Photo library



Photo credits:
Mermet / Boflex / Belgo Metal / TV MDW+A

Photo library



Photo credits:
Mermet / Boflex / Belgo Métal / TV MDW+A

PRESS CONTACTS

**CÉLINE VARENNE-SOUCHON
& CHRISTELLE GUITANOU**

c.varenne@saatchi-lyon.com

c.guitanou@saatchi-lyon.com

Tel: +33 (0)4 72 33 85 85