

## PRESS RELEASE

### Mermet at the Feltrinelli Foundation: the Satiné 5500 offers the perfect solution

It is the most eagerly anticipated architectural project in Milan: the Feltrinelli Foundation is also the symbol of the renewal of the historical district of Porta Volta in the north of the city.

Thermal comfort, light control, transparency and seamless integration within the facades were the main objectives of this exceptional project.

This unique technical challenge was successfully met by Mermet, the market leader in the design of solar protection fabrics. The award-winning Pritzker Prize architects selected the Satiné 5500 fabric for its astounding levels of performance and its ability to adapt to the unusual constraints specified for the building.

### Comfort of critical importance for this fully transparent building

Designed by Herzog & de Meuron, the Feltrinelli Foundation represents the typical farms from the Lombardy region: long and narrow with a 2-pitch roof. In this ultra modern version, the facades and roof are fully glazed.

Over its 7 floors, the premises accommodate multifunctional areas designed to host artistic screenings and events, alongside offices, meeting rooms and the head office of Microsoft Italy.

Light control was therefore of fundamental importance in order to:

- Eliminate backlight in the offices, notably on projection screens;
- Provide optimum visual comfort for users occupying the rooms;
- Combat the glare caused by reflected sunlight;
- Guarantee thermal comfort by offering protection against heat;
- Provide perfect transparency with a clear view over this historical district whose architecture dates back to the 15th century.

Furthermore, certain facades with a 30-degree slope and fitted with trapezoidal windows represented a particular challenge for the fitting of blinds.

Accordingly, 320 ZIP roller blinds in the Satiné 5500 fabric and colour 0130 Grey Charcoal by Mermet, covering some 6,000m<sup>2</sup>, have been deployed on the southern facade, composed of:

- 192 vertical ZIP blinds 3.49m high and 2.14m wide;
- 128 ZIP blinds, developed as a world's first (traction kit system by Resstende) and specially designed for vertical, horizontal and oblique applications,

with the ZIP system giving the fabric an ideal tension to create a perfect finish and offering excellent wind resistance.

### Satiné 5500, the most extensive range on the market

Available in 50 colours and width sizes of up to 320cm for equipping large bay windows, the **Satiné 5500** fabric stands out due to its many properties:

- Unrivalled protection against heat: up to 96% of the solar energy is reflected back in exterior applications (g<sub>tot</sub> of 0.04 with standard glazing g<sub>value</sub> = 0.32 and U<sub>value</sub> = 1.1);
- Ideal visual comfort with excellent glare control thanks to its diagonal satiné weave while optimising the intake of natural light: up to 96% of light rays are filtered out (VT: 4%);
- Lower costs: 6 width sizes to optimise the utilisation of the fabric and reduce wastage;

The Satiné 5500 also stands out for its:

- Excellent dimensional stability for large-dimension vertical blinds and its perfect suitability for ZIP applications;
- Excellent mechanical resistance when stretched;
- M1 fire protection classification to meet the requirements of public buildings;
- Remarkable durability: 10,000-cycle mechanical endurance test, Class 3 NF EN 13561.

Selected to equip this building so emblematic of the renewal of the entire district, Mermet once again demonstrates its expertise and ability to satisfy the most demanding of architecture in terms of solar protection: by being incorporated at the design phase, it is no longer an isolated element and is even able to become a source of innovation.

Client: Feltrinelli - Porta Volta, Milan - Italy  
Architectural design: Herzog & de Meuron  
Installer: Resstende  
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