

Case Study

IntenCity, Schneider Electric Grenoble



In 2020, Schneider Electric inaugurated its new innovation buildings in Grenoble. The group called on Groupe-6, an architectural agency, to lead the project. The construction, made possible by a close collaboration between different industrial groups, is part of a sustainable and energy efficient approach. Beckers, the number one supplier of coil coatings, was involved in this project to provide innovative coating solutions.

Project overview

Schneider Electric's dedicated Innovation department has an approximate area of 40,000 square meters. The building is covered with a precious skin of gold-coloured anodized aluminium which highlights the prestige and excellence of the premises it houses. The structure, which is designed by Groupe-6, is ambitious and exemplary and is considered a global reference regarding performance. The main goal of the project was to ensure durability and energy efficiency.

Product overview

Beckers supplied the paint system, a 4-layer PVDF system, defined in accordance with the conditions and requirements of the manufacturer. Beckry®Fluor is a PVDF coating comprising a minimum resin content of 70% PVDF resin and 30% acrylic resin. It possesses exceptional weathering properties such as a UV resistance level 4, making it suitable for use in the most challenging conditions.

Project challenges

- Prove to Groupe-6 the advantages of coil coatings over anodised aluminium in term of costs and durability.
- Elaborating countertypes while meeting the requirements of Groupe-6.
- Realising a quick scale-model for the architect with the support of the Industrial Coatings division (spray version).

Solutions offered

At the beginning of the project, ELVAL COLOUR positioned itself on the market with a French facade contractor. Certain that it was possible to elaborate the project in coil coating, ELVAL alongside with Beckers, met Groupe-6 to introduce all advantages that the coil coating technology can offer in terms of aspect and durability. Even though the anodized aluminum remains superior in terms of durability compared to coil coatings, a 4-layer PVDF chemistry was the right alternative to respect the location and specifications of the building.

Anodised aluminium is difficult to colormatch because there is no flop (the colour and the gloss applied on the surface does not vary depending on the angle of vision). Due to this complexity, several samples were produced by Beckers.

Beckers turned to its Industrial Coatings unit to elaborate the chosen colour for spray application. This allowed Beckers to present a scale-model of the project in the form of a small construction on-site, creating a realistic vision of the aesthetic rendering in natural light in its final environment, without having to run a coil coating line trial. Following this prototyping, we were able to modify the colour of the selected proposal to fit the requirements of the architects and deliver the paint to ELVAL COLOUR.

Product features

Beckry®Fluor has proven its durability over time, undergoing various exposure tests over a span of 30 years and enduring extreme environments.



A scale-model of the Schneider Electric Building visualized the effects of the coating.

The use of Beckry®Fluor will help to attain long durability and especially resistance to colour change, with durable protection to withstand the toughest indoor and outdoor conditions and many qualities required for high-end products.

Conclusion

The successful completion of the Schneider Electric buildings highlights the performance of Beckers coatings at all levels as well as its support along the entire value chain. Beckers offers an extensive range of high-performance coating solutions for large-scale projects combining durability, quality and aesthetics.