

HEWI

DESIGN

CONM

CARE

EN
FORT

Design Comfort Care

Competence, inspiration and solutions
for accessible architecture



Awarded with the signet "BEST OF DECADE universal design company" for companies that have been working and designing according to the principles and philosophy of universal design for years.



Awarded with the "ICONIC Award 2021: Innovative Architecture – Best of Best" in the category Communication – B2B Communication for HEWI DESIGN COMFORT CARE / Accessibility in Architecture.

Design Comfort Care

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THORSTEN STUTE
Managing Director, HEWI

We see Universal Design as a future task for a whole society

Universal design is in our DNA. In fact our sustainable design philosophy of developing products that offer added value for people, has determined our actions for over 90 years. HEWI stands for holistic architectural solutions from door furniture to complete bathrooms, which are characterised by meeting the highest demands of both design and function. A wide variety of materials and designs offer design opportunities and make accessible access a matter of course in every area. We design inspiring spaces for everyone.

„In all areas of people’s lives, architecture and design must always meet the need to be intuitively understandable and sustainably usable for everyone.“

THORSTEN STUTE

More than 35 years ago HEWI launched its first accessibility products onto the German market. The needs of society have shifted since then, particularly because of demographic change. People want to live independently and grow old in their own home for as long as possible. Issues such as social sustainability are increasingly coming into focus. New living concepts are beginning to determine tomorrow's coexistence and care. Added to that, there are changing needs in the individual phases of our lives, which in turn are being influenced by changing relationships between the generations. Multi-generational living is proving how a sustainable, viable alternative can offer practicable solutions to many challenges, and at the same time offer a high quality of life.

As a pioneer in accessible furnishing solutions, HEWI have been working for a long time with experts from the architecture and design scene as well as with end users, in a world in which people of all ages and health conditions can live as independently as possible – in all areas of their lives. The idea of universal design has continued to gain acceptance over the past few years. What found its way into lectures and forums as a theoretical model has now become a reality in many areas. And standards have begun to raise-awareness and a planning basis for an ageing society. When it comes to the use of living space and houses, children, families and senior citizens all have specific individual priorities. At the same time, there are many obvious similarities that have not been sufficiently taken into account in the history of architecture.

Our goal is to develop products that are easy and intuitive to use, that help people cope with everyday life independently with little physical effort. Rooms and their fixtures and fittings should be capable of being adapted at any time to meet the specific needs of the user. HEWI stands for product design that combines intelligent function with appealing design. Universal design can only be understood and accepted as a future task for our whole society, if we are able to accept accessibility products not only as an essential element of comfort but also as a matter of course.

The professional care, hotel, public, home and education sectors are all characterised by very different requirements for building fixtures and fittings. From the perspective of an architectural brand, HEWI designs rooms that provide the best possible solutions for all users in every area of application.

Bathrooms in our own homes have moved on from being purely functional spaces to aesthetically sophisticated wellness areas. This is a development that can be universally understood and designed, allowing the bathroom to be used without barriers by all people. Living and working are redefining themselves in both urban and rural areas which means accessibility must go far beyond your own four walls. In publicly accessible buildings, standards determine functionality of accessible equipment. HEWI offers systems and integrated solutions that can be adapted to every area of application. Well-designed architecture helps the healing process for patients in health buildings. With appealing aesthetic and hygienic solutions, an ambience can be created in bathrooms in which patients, employees and visitors feel equally at home. In individually designed hotels, guests enjoy a temporary home from home experience. A bathroom optimally tailored to meet the needs of hotel guests, that they can use regardless of physical preconditions, shows that accessibility can also be implemented in hotel bathrooms for all guests. The learning success of children depends on good educators. Architecture tailored to the particular needs of children helps promote the learning process. HEWI solutions create an atmosphere that invites everyone to play and learn together.

In all these different areas of people's lives, architecture and design must meet the requirements of being intuitively understandable and sustainable for everyone. Holistically, safety and orientation, sustainability and hygiene, represent the guard rails of our competence as a brand. And they are matched by our design standards in the area of accessibility. HEWI offers users an aesthetic sanitary world that is specifically tailored to their needs: Design Comfort Care.



Simple, intuitive use

Standards help lead our way forward. They help raise awareness of the need for clear planning principles in an ageing society. We always take into account the needs and abilities of both the young and the old in our society.

Accessibility today is essential for many, many people. It's necessary for a lot more and represents important comfort and quality features for everyone else, without exception.

HEWI has always taken the diversity of society into account with innovative furnishing solutions. In public areas as much as within your own four walls. Solutions that work together with future-oriented architecture, that are accessible, and can always be simply and intuitively used by everyone in society.



Sustainable solutions

We live universal design as a sustainable and holistic philosophy. All of our solutions work together to create modular, expandable equipment concepts, in a homogeneous, consistent design. As a matter of course, accessories can be interchanged for comfort products with accessible elements, depending on the individual needs of the user. This creates intergenerational bathrooms from a single source, standards-compliant sanitary solutions and ranges for more accessible design of hallways and doors.

At HEWI, design and function are inseparable. All of our products are notable for their reduced and timeless design that blends harmoniously and easily into any bathroom ambience. Intelligent functions mean our solutions can be used simply and intuitively by anyone, at any age or level of personal ability, depending on how much or how little support is required. Universal design is based on people and is designed by people.



Design for everyone

Of course universal design also means avoiding unnecessary complexity. The functions of HEWI products are easy to understand. Control elements are made obvious using several senses so they can be found and used intuitively. And not just standards-compliant products, such as hinged support rails or seats, but also fittings and accessories. Even with very regular tasks like hand washing, washbasin equipment should be designed in such a way that it can be accessible to all generations.

HEWI attaches great importance to even the smallest elements. Take the soap dispenser from the 477/801 series for example. The push button for dispensing the soap is clearly highlighted with a contrasting colour. This makes it easy to identify and offers the user easier access to the product's function. The slightly textured surface of the push button also helps make it more tactile. And of course, the dispenser can be used intuitively with just one hand.

Minimised physical effort

In terms of universal design, an important element for the design of sanitary rooms is to enable them to be used as independently as possible. On the one hand, whilst modular equipment is essential and ideally suited for this, especially in private bathrooms, where maybe not all help is needed right from the start. Rooms and objects should be adaptable to suit individual needs at any time. On the other hand, the products used should, as far as possible, promote independence and thus also self-determination. HEWI products are intended to support a natural posture whilst taking into account appropriate operating forces, and used with a minimum of physical effort.



HEWI

Understanding movement

With current planning practices and innovative product developments, feel-good bathrooms and barrier-free accessibility can easily be combined. Unlimited accessibility, generous areas of movement with flexible support and seating options, benefit not just the disabled, but people of all ages and walks of life – children, adults, those with a short term accessibility need and caring relatives as well as nursing staff.

Kinaesthetics is also a focus of all HEWI product design. It is how we include different movement patterns into our developments and how we create options for use, including for example, right or left-hand use. Our goal is to consciously perceive movement, recognise movement patterns and ultimately to use them for advancing our product development.

Well considered and intelligently designed equipment can help promote a patient's exercise potential. As well as clearly recognising the function of an aid, different surfaces and textures, or high-contrast colours help motivate positivity and intuitive use. Our primary goal here is to support people in movement sequences and thus enable greater mobility.





Providing safety

Holding and support options such as hinged rails or grab handles, support the process of movement at the washbasin, at the toilet and in the shower. By minimising the effort required to sit down and stand up, the handles can also serve as stabilisation while standing.

Depending on personal requirements, HEWI offers a wide range of solutions like hinged support rails with a second level grip, which helps support particularly complex movement sequences, such as transferring from a wheelchair to the toilet. The horizontal level serves as a support when sitting down and as a leverage point when pulling or getting up. The vertical plane supports the quite complex change of position, for example when turning around the body axis.



Hygiene as a social responsibility

It may seem self evident but hygiene has always been a particularly important subject in the care sector. Today, however, hygiene and protection against infection are also becoming determining factors in the interior design of public and semi-public buildings. Even with short cleaning intervals, handrails, door handles and sanitary equipment represent fertile ground for a multitude of pathogens with an increased risk of infection. Innovative materials, hygienic processing and intelligent functions can effectively support passive hygiene and significantly reduce the risk of infection.

Hygienic materials

After the transmission of infection from breath, the second most common source of infection for the transfer of viruses and bacteria is via the hands. Choice of materials has a decisive influence on hygienic product design. Stainless steel is a pore-free and therefore particularly hygienic surface. Minimal care is enough to prevent dirt or microorganisms from accumulating. The material is extremely robust and insensitive to scratches. And stainless steel products are also extremely resistant to cleaning agents and disinfectants.

High-gloss polyamide is another material with a pore-free surface and optimal cleaning properties. The choice of material is an essential part of product development at HEWI. *Active+*, enriched with microsilver, is a particularly innovative surface material, which continuously inhibits the growth of germs on its surface, offering an effective and active hygiene plus for hallways and sanitary areas.

Well thought out details

We do a lot of thinking about the details. For example we make sure our products have the smallest possible number of joints and connection points in which dirt and water might collect. Naturally this thinking is particularly important at the washbasin or in the shower.

With uneven walls, railing systems and their fixing roses are often not completely flush with the wall. With one of our well thought out installation features, a quick and reliable seal solves the problem. With the wall brackets from our System 900 for example, the hinged support rails, as well as their roses can be equipped with these sealing elements. They are also designed to ensure water does not collect on the surfaces and can easily run off.

From entering to leaving sanitary rooms, which are equipped with common dispenser systems, we can touch up to 20 surfaces – from door handles, to soap dispensers, to the flushing lever. To reduce the risk of infection, contactless product solutions are the obvious answer. As well as classic sanitary solutions, HEWI offers a large selection of products with non-contact sensor design.





Design contrasts

To understand colour and contrast means learning to see in a new way. Their interaction always works in the context of the architecture. The need for security and orientation plays a major role in all areas of life – but especially within publicly accessible buildings, offices and commercial buildings, or buildings in the healthcare sector. Colours and contrasts are essential for patients and residents in hospitals and nursing homes in particular. With deteriorating eyesight as we get older or in the case of dementia, the design of rooms and equipment, in hallways or bathrooms for example, can have a major impact on independence and orientation, and thus on people's quality of life and wellbeing.

Colour gives structure

Colours and contrasts can provide an intelligent guidance system throughout a building. Colour structures rooms and clearly differentiate one area from another. A coherent colour concept serves as an aid to orientation, for example making it easier to find a floor, ward or station. Coloured accents give long corridors depth and structure, especially with handrails, door frames and door handles that are colour-coordinated. Rooms with limited access can be merged into the background with neutral coloured doors and door handles.

To allow the clear transfer of information, communication and orientation systems should be designed according to the two-senses principle. This means, the simultaneous transmission of information via at least two senses (sight, hearing or touch). HEWI offers a wide range of solutions when it comes to fittings and sanitary facilities, where a missing or limited perception is compensated for by a different sense.

Functional clarity

Deteriorating visual acuity can make it difficult to grasp the impression of a room. Clear colours and contrasts can really help orientation. The degree of contrast always depends on the colour of both product and background. With the help of light reflectance value (LRV), contrast can be theoretically calculated. As a guide, colours with a low LRV create the greatest contrast against a white wall, for example, a black product on a white wall. HEWI specifies the LRV value for the colours we use to guarantee the best possible design options.

Contrast indicators can also be used within individual equipment solutions. As we've seen, products with contrast are more easily perceived when they stand out against the background. So, if only the functional area of a product is coloured, that contrasting accent signals and supports intuitive use.





Holistic equipment

HEWI's individual equipment concepts are distinctive for their modularity and can be further developed with the respective needs of the customer. Our concepts can adapt to specific living conditions and enable a more holistic way of living. Individuality begins with the room architecture and ends in the smallest detail of its furnishings. Different stages of life or temporarily changed living conditions require a new, advanced way of thinking in terms of equipment solutions. Concepts that can be quickly and easily adapted as well as design-oriented accents, are solutions that enable future-proof living – be it within your own four walls, in healthcare or public buildings.

Consistent down to the last detail

Those who take design seriously must also consider the relationship between individual needs and the challenges facing society as a whole, regardless of whether rooms are holistic or individual solutions. HEWI's system solutions deliver design continuity from door furniture to entire bathrooms, in a unique way. For us, accessibility elements are not a feature or a special series – they are part of our entire thought, design and production process.

This is why our system solutions adapt to the needs of users across all generations. Our systems can be expanded and tailored to suit the needs of the user.

The bathroom is often the key that empowers our own self-determination and the independent use of our living environment. A bathroom designed for several generations to use, can offer solutions for everyone – whether large or small, with a wheelchair or without, or any other aid. However, accessibility goes beyond your own four walls. HEWI enables unrestricted use that meets the standards for all people in all types of property.

Accessories, easy to use products, accessibility elements and fittings form a consistent unit at HEWI, in simple, yet elegant designs that can be expanded at any time, as and when required. In this way, additional supporting solutions can be retrofitted into existing equipment environments. Because of their design, HEWI solutions fit perfectly into any ambience and without attracting attention as a support product. Clear design language, innovative functions and the highest standards of quality and durability, all help to remove negative associations.

The intergenerational bathroom also has a social dimension. It can be changed over time so that this special room, adapts to the requirements of all and future generations. In addition to sanitary rooms, HEWI also creates accessibility solutions with products for corridors, windows and doors, that form cohesive units together with our sanitary products. Diverse designs and materials offer unique design options for every area of application.



Crème Mains Hydratante Rose Sauvage
Avec un pH de 5,5, cette crème hydratante à base d'huile de rose de Damas et d'huile de jojoba aide à protéger la peau des agressions extérieures, tout comme la texture douce et la force de la main confortables et enveloppées de cette crème hydratante. Un hydratant à l'essence d'hydratation douce.

Hand Cream Wild Soie
Avec un pH de 5,5, cette crème hydratante à base d'huile de rose de Damas et d'huile de jojoba aide à protéger la peau des agressions extérieures, tout comme la texture douce et la force de la main confortables et enveloppées de cette crème hydratante. Un hydratant à l'essence d'hydratation douce.

B FNK
NATURAL ENERGY SKINCARE

HEWI

PROTECT-MILK

Skin Type Identifier (pH test)



HEWI

Sustainable design

The essence of the term sustainability, which is deeply rooted in HEWI culture, is not only long term thinking, but also acting. The planet we live on must be preserved and protected. Today's generations should not be responsible for wasting the resources of future generations. HEWI has adapted to changing environmental sensitivity and to the challenges we all face today. We understand the concept of sustainability both individually and economically. What shapes HEWI product development is demographic change linked to both our ecology and the need for sustainability.

Sustainability as a design approach

Social sustainability can often be seen in innovative ways of living and in new concepts for cross-generational building and accommodation. Social sustainability must also be seen as a social responsibility. As a design principle universal design totally supports this approach.

HEWI solutions are recognisable for their future-proof design. Our products can be used equally by everyone across all generations. Modular system solutions that have a completely natural, unobtrusive presence in a room and whose form was developed with the function in mind, are the hallmarks of sustainable bathroom design.

With the highest standards of quality and design, and by insisting on using first-class materials, we guarantee that our products will remain in use for decades without wearing out or becoming obsolete.



Quality and durability

HEWI are a respected and sought-after expert in the field of plastics and injection moulding technology because of our decades of experience and our constant drive for innovation. A state-of-the-art facility with in-house toolmaking, automated assembly lines and innovative storage and logistics systems are the foundations of our production base.

Consistently thinking about quality has long been one of our core values. HEWI products are tested far beyond the norm and the results recognised and certified many times.

At our production facility in Bad Arolsen in Germany, we are fully committed to the climate direction agreed in the Paris Accord and can look back on constant improvements in our energy usage. We have continuously invested in the development of environmentally friendly manufacturing processes. The raw materials we use are subject to strict incoming controls to ensure we produce as little scrap as possible is returned to our circular economy via recycling.

However, all our efforts to make our operations and production more environmentally friendly and ecologically sensitive would be inconceivable, without the initiative and commitment of our approximately 550 HEWI employee partners. Every day, each one of them contributes to making HEWI, our products and our processes a little better.



THOMAS BADE
Managing Director of the Institute for Universal Design, Munich, Germany

Is universal design invisible?

As a design strategy in Germany, universal design has developed steadily but hesitantly over the past 15 years. Its importance was often valued and rated more highly abroad than in Europe itself. Particularly in Asian countries like Japan and Korea, who for many, they are still considered to be the pioneers of universal design. From my point of view, this evaluation needs to be partially reassessed.

To a great extent this is a result of the willingness, or necessity of industry, to deal with demographic change. Here, factors like the environmental fields of lifelong learning, living and working, play a central role.

But where today, is good universal design outstandingly developed and visible? Before we begin to consider that question and look into the future, we should nevertheless take the opportunity to look back to the past.

This retrospective begins with Ron Mace, who sadly died in 1998. It was this American architect, who formulated the guiding principle of universal design that is still valid today. Together with a team of researchers, architects and designers, he described it as follows: "Universal design is the design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialised design."

It is important to know that Mace deliberately did not refer to standards and laws. He wanted to inspire a creative attitude and an awareness that would achieve a self-determined and independent lifestyle for as many people as

possible. With this requirement, Mace went beyond the usual DIN-EN-ISO evaluation scenarios. Similar to the sociologist, planning theorist, economist and art historian, Lucius Burckhard (1925–2003), Ron Mace called for invisible universal design. Even though physically disabled himself, Mace didn't want to be reminded every minute, every hour and every day, that there should be special, specific or particular products, approaches and architectures just for him.

He questioned the then more current view of an externally determined way of life. Perhaps this new and different point of view also travelled from Kassel to Bad Arolsen. Because from 1972 to 1997, Lucius Burckhard taught at the University of Kassel in the department of architecture, town planning and landscape planning. And maybe HEWI was motivated by Burckhard's question "What use is the most beautiful tram when it doesn't run at night?" To think and design not in terms of products, but rather in terms of scenarios, places and life plans.

First and foremost, the "first mover" of this fundamental universal design approach, is clearly the sanitary industry in Germany and Europe. Initially hesitant, but then with increasing intensity, the sanitary industry was challenged by demographic parameters and societal change to orient itself towards the aesthetic, comfort and safety needs for all its customers. Depending on the company culture and its history, this is still interpreted either technically or aesthetically. Even with an objectively critical view, HEWI stands for both – for the technical and aesthetic appeal of its products in the most varied of

„From today's perspective, Universal Design does not see itself as a translator or advocate for specific life plans, but rather functions as a systemic designer of a life and work that is always in motion.“

THOMAS BADE

spatial environments. For maintaining this sustainable universal design approach, the HEWI company was awarded a UNIVERSAL DESIGN SPECIAL MENTION 2020 in its entirety.

What does this mean for the future? The current reality of life describes the challenges for the future almost mercilessly. Living and working spaces are both being rethought, redesigned, digitised and sanitised. In the future, we will have to learn to live with COVID and its unpleasant relatives, and we will deal with a myriad of other, supposedly small details at the same time. The hygienic aesthetics of our living environment will become one of the keys to a sustainable and liveable future. It may sound presumptuous, yet, this makes universal design, both system-relevant and at the same time more digital. Let us nevertheless remain critical and vigilant, because, according to Burckhard, what is its use if the digitised and AI-optimised tram does not run at night?

Where is Germany with its universal design approach compared to the direct and indirect neighbours? Probably somewhere in the middle of the pack? Well, I think at least at the front of the middle. A few quick thoughts on this. The Japanese industry remains the benchmark. In almost every company, universal design is anchored in the corporate philosophy of the big players (e.g. Toyota, Hitachi, Fujitsu and Panasonic). However, on the way to an inclusive universal design approach, there are still many hurdles to be overcome in the socio-economic sector. In South Korea for example, by decree of the mayor of the city of Seoul, work is being carried out on a city of universal design with considerable pressure and remarkable commitment. The end of the path does not seem to have yet been reached. There is still much to do to overcome the stigmatising of accessibility. Universal design in Russia naturally radiates out from Moscow. Here too, there are stimuli that are well worth being aware of, especially from the self-help groups based in the Russian capital. Unfortunately, current political tensions are also contributing to the reluctance of American and Western European sponsors, which appears to have slowed the progress of the universal design philosophy.

The American universal design community is currently concentrating on the equal rights of all citizens and on securing the achievements of the “Obama” era health care plans.

Norway is the undisputed and unequivocal leader in the universal design movement. The overall political consensus is that the principles of a universally designed society should be fully implemented by 2025, for all citizens, in all areas of political, social and economic life. Admittedly, the gap to this ideal is not a small one for Germany, but it can be significantly reduced if “first movers” like HEWI take the lead.

Finally, a request and my wish to readers and fellow co-contributors. In the Weimar Declaration on Universal Design in 2008, a twelfth and final thesis was formulated: “Universal design secures and promotes economic growth.” This thesis is rightly currently being hotly debated. Perhaps this discourse could also take into consideration the following: “Universal design ensures and promotes qualitative and responsible growth.”

THOMAS BADE —

Thomas Bade sees social entrepreneurship as a central element of his work and has been committed to the goal of anchoring universal design in business, science and society for 15 years. He is co-founder of Universal Design e. V., a signatory of the Weimar Declaration, lecturer at the Technical University of Munich, and since July 2016 managing director of the university's Institute for Universal Design.

CA

Professional Care

Making life easier for people is what drives us. And that means creating individually adaptable living concepts that enable independence and provide security. Outstanding design is only possible in conjunction with intelligent technology. The connection between aesthetics and function is firmly anchored in our DNA at HEWI. Our modular principle enables tailor-made planning so that elective service areas or comfort stations can be implemented, as easily as areas for all patients. A well-designed bathroom contributes to the well-being of the patient and at the same time makes work easier for nursing staff. HEWI offers complete solutions, innovative assembly concepts and support in planning and equipping patient bathrooms and sanitary rooms.



ARE



CHRISTINE NICKL-WELLER UND HANS NICKL
Nickl & Partner Architekten AG, München

How architecture turns hospitals into total health care centres

Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not just the absence of illness or ailments. This is how the World Health Organisation (WHO) formulates the concept of human health. In hospitals and care facilities, i.e. where health is restored or maintained, this holistic view of health is all too often reduced to the purely physical condition.

However, we recognise the rethinking that has already found its way into the architectural discussion with the arrival of environmental psychology in the 1970s, and which has become more topical in recent years under the heading of healing architecture.

The impact of a healthcare facility's physical environment on the healing process and wellbeing has proven increasingly relevant to patients, their loved ones, as well as health care professionals. A growing number of studies worldwide that have investigated the effects of physical and psychological well-being, support this thesis. The actual well-being of the patient as an indicator of health and recovery is only one aspect. The

discussion also revolves around questions of safety and hygiene and, with regard to clinical staff, work place efficiency, error avoidance and communications behaviour.

Let's take a closer look at the question of how design can have a positive effect on the indicators described above, by using the example of a patient room. At first glance, the standard bed room in a German hospital leaves the planner with apparently few options. Bed, bedside table, cupboard, chair and bathroom – these are the recurring elements of the patient's room. Leaving aside the question of whether a single or twin room should be planned, important health-relevant factors are at play. Apart from the obvious aspect of greater privacy, the hygienic aspects of single rooms are greatly increased, because they significantly reduce the risk of nosocomial, that is, intra-hospital, infection. Single room accommodation can also help improve doctor-patient communication. During the rounds, doctor and patient can exchange ideas and information in a more focused and confidential way. Twin rooms, on the other hand, are more advantageous in terms of

„Ultimately, Healing Architecture can be beneficial for everyone involved in the care sector. For patients and their relatives, Healing Architecture means improved conditions for recovering and remaining healthy. More efficient processes mean a safer, stress-reducing work environment for staff in health care facilities.“

CHRISTINE NICKL-WELLER AND HANS NICKL

social interaction and mutual control, for example in the event of a fall. And this is how the discussion can continue.

The influences of natural light and the view outside are often cited as factors that help promote recovery. In fact, a relationship between recovery and access to daylight has been established and proven. Patients also appreciate their well-being with greater satisfaction if they experience positive distraction whilst looking out over their natural surroundings.

These considerations of the patient's room can be continued to include the furniture, the room acoustics and lighting planning. We architects are called upon to incorporate the scientific knowledge we have gained into the design process, whilst also entering into a dialogue with industry so we can match design ideas to suitable products.

The wet room is an important part of the patient's room. Although experts recommend individual sanitary areas for each patient, the reality in German healthcare facilities is a shared bathroom per double room. This makes hygiene and infection prevention all the more important. Measures which can be taken include using sensory fittings, for example. In addition, planners in the sanitary area are particularly concerned with issues like accessibility and fall avoidance. More recently research has focused primarily on the needs of certain vulnerable groups. Today, for example, we are in a position to respond to the special needs of people with dementia or to use products that have been specially developed for suicide prevention – an excellent example of a successful partnership between planners, research and industry.

Ultimately, Healing Architecture can be beneficial for everyone involved in the care sector. For patients and their relatives, Healing Architecture means improved conditions for recovering and remaining healthy. More efficient processes mean a safer, stress-reducing work environment for

staff in health care facilities. It also works for the operators of health care facilities, because greater acceptance and satisfaction, both by staff and patients, is becoming more important in view of the lack of qualified nursing staff and represents an advantage as competitive pressure increases in the hospitals and health sector.

HANS NICKL, PROF. —

Hans Nickl studied architecture at the Technical University of Munich. In 1979 he founded his own architecture office and in 1989, together with his wife, Prof. Christine Nickl-Weller, the architectural partnership Nickl & Partner. Hans Nickl was appointed to the professorship of "Constructive Design" at the University of Applied Sciences Erfurt in 1992 and taught as a guest in the department of "Design of Hospitals and Healthcare Buildings" at the Technical University Berlin from 2004 to 2017.

CHRISTINE NICKL-WELLER, PROF. —

Christine Nickl-Weller studied architecture at the Technical University of Munich and in 1989 joined the Nickl & Partner architects' association in Munich. It designs and implements buildings for health, research and teaching at home and abroad as well as development and master plans. From 2004 to 2017 she held the professorship in the field of "Designing Hospitals and Health Care Buildings" at the Technical University of Berlin.

PROJECT

Foyer Atert, De Park,
Ettelbruck, Luxembourg

ARCHITECTURE

Beng Architectes Associés,
Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg

YEAR

2020

PHOTOS

Julien Swol

01 — This 3-storey, U-shaped new building in Useldange, called "Foyer Atert", has a total of 34 rooms, eight of which are adapted for people with restricted mobility.



CHNP De Park Ettelbruck, Luxembourg



02— Colour and contrast: To help the perception and orientation for patients, each floor has its own colour. The ground floor is blue, the first floor is orange and the second floor green.

03— In the sanitary rooms, the architects specified our HEWI 477/801 series. The classic amongst our accessible series products, in pure white.





Three rivers join together in the Ettelbrück valley, in the centre of Nordstad, in northern Luxembourg. Between green hills swathed with forests, Ettelbrück is well known for its expertise in psychiatric rehabilitation and the treatment and care of people with intellectual disabilities. In the De Park facility, young people and adults from all walks of life come together in a spacious centre. Under the motto “Equality in diversity”, De Park in Ettelbrück offers care and socio-educational support for people with intellectual disabilities. The residents are supported by accessible sanitary solutions from HEWI.

De Park is one of the three specialised facilities that are part of the Center Hospitalier Neuro-Psychiatric, or CHNP for short, which was founded in 1855 as a central hospice. The other two areas are aimed at seniors (Pontalize) and a rehabilitation clinic for patients suffering from psychiatric illness.

Approximately 120 residents and clients use De Park's services. In the centre's spacious rooms residents and day clients test their cognitive skills and are assisted to live more independent and fulfilling lives. Respect and tolerance towards everyone, the well-being and personal development of the individual, mark the foundations of centre's therapeutic and educational work. This approach is complimented architecturally by the centre's bright, functional rooms.

The buildings themselves emphasise the concept of the facility with clear and functional details. The aspect of intellectual disability is reduced to the bare minimum to enable the residents to live both in and as part of society

Healing Architecture

The term Healing Architecture was coined with the knowledge that a warm and comfortable environment reduces stress factors in rooms. When even structural and functional requirements in healthcare buildings restrict the design of rooms, there are still many ways to increase the well-being of patients and residents.

As a design-oriented manufacturer, HEWI creates sanitary solutions for hospitals, retirement homes, nursing homes and medical practices, that create a feel-good atmosphere. Colour, smell, light or materials can and do influence patients during recovery. Solutions with pleasant materials, paired with innovative functions, support patients with reduced mobility and ensure a relaxed, healing atmosphere.

Design helps recovery

EDITION MATT

The matt edition adds a homely design alternative to the sanitary room in hospitals, retirement or care homes. Appealing aesthetics and unrestricted functionality are not mutually exclusive and support the human healing process.

Not just patients, but relatives, as well as doctors and nurses should feel safe, secure and in good hands in hospitals and care facilities. Architecture that meets people's needs helps support their recovery. At the same time, functional and hygiene requirements can limit the freedom of design of rooms in healthcare buildings.

HEWI's 477/801 Series opens up design opportunities in sanitary rooms. Our Edition Matt sets sensual accents in the patient's wet-room, with a characteristic, high quality look and a pleasing textured feel. Instead of smooth, reflective surfaces, Edition Matt offers a haptic feel and forms a tactile contrast to the smart high-tech world. This satisfying bathroom ambience creates an environment that has a positive influence on the recovery process – and is also within the framework of planning standards.





Design options for healthcare buildings

In care homes and residences, it can be a challenge to create an interior with high design standards that generates a positive atmosphere for people in need of care. Elective service areas and privately funded health facilities in hospitals can have an impressively hotel like character and ambience.





Composition

The variety of materials, colours and designs within the HEWI System 900 offers unlimited design possibilities for sanitary rooms in healthcare buildings. With so many solutions to suit individual requirements, accents can be skilfully applied.

Surfaces

In areas with high structural specifications, a wide range of surfaces create further options. Surfaces such as stainless steel, chrome or powder coatings, can easily affect the ambience of sanitary rooms allowing them to be individualised.

Design and function

An elegant matt surface sets accents and offers an impressive look and feel. Outstanding aesthetics and unlimited functionality are not mutually exclusive. Rounded design enables safe grip surfaces reducing the risk of falls and injury. Integrated functions increase security and foster peace of mind.



SURFACES SYSTEM 900

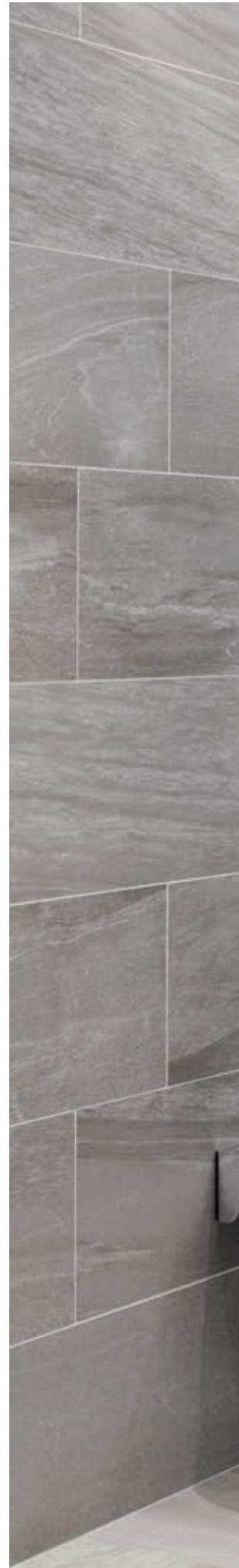
Individuality as standard

WARM TOUCH

This innovative surface feels pleasantly warm to the touch and can help patients with increased sensitivity to cold.

The individual needs of patients and residents must be supported in the best possible way by the equipment installed. Intelligent interior design concepts, well thought-out product solutions and innovative surfaces have demonstrably been shown to make a significant contribution to recovery.

The requirements of healthcare buildings can often be very different as can the requirements within a single property. Factors such as robustness, ease of cleaning and hygiene, play a major role in hospitals. The equipment of wards for regular patients differ significantly from optional service areas. Ambience and support for orientation and independence can be decisive factors for care homes and senior residences.





Individuality seen as a whole

The design requirements for institutional care facilities can be extremely complex. A well thought-out equipment concept takes a multitude of different needs into account, contributes to the well-being of every single patient, and at the same time relieves and assists the nursing staff.

Made-to-measure equipment

We know that the interplay between design, architecture and user-dependent equipment, contributes to the healing process. HEWI offers product solutions that can be made to measure and thus exactly fitted into the structural situation. Custom-made rail systems made of polyamide, stainless steel or with powder coated steel, bespoke washbasins and individually configurable product functions offer even greater design opportunities.





Innovative surfaces

Our antimicrobial surface active+ offers invisible protection against infection. Microsilver, the active ingredient, continuously reduces the growth of bacteria on the product's surface. Its effectiveness against MRSA and MRSE has been proven by independent test institutes.

WARM TOUCH combines the optical properties of high-gloss chrome with the haptic properties of polyamide. Polyamide is a material that feels pleasantly warm, meaning the surface is perceived as particularly comforting by patients with rheumatic conditions, for example. And minimalist design allows a wide range of possible combinations for consistent equipment installations.

Further solutions



· For products that inhibit suicide and self harm for bathrooms with high safety requirements see: www.hewi.com/en/suizid



· For products designed to manage obesity, with support loads of up to 300 kg see: www.hewi.com/en/adipositas

Focus on people

LIFESYSTEM

LifeSystem is flexible, adaptable and expandable. It supports patients as well as nursing staff and promotes the recovery process.

A patient bathroom that focuses on people and can be adapted to their physical characteristics is the ideal. This allows for the many different needs due to body characteristics like height, weight and individual physical ability, to be considered in order for them to feel comfortable and safe.

Sanitary solutions in healthcare buildings that not only offer individual patients more comfort and safety, but also assist the nursing staff, are also ideal. Functionality, flexibility, ease of maintenance and the robustness of our LifeSystem, support the nursing staff in their daily work.

With LifeSystem, HEWI has developed a sanitary series that provides support regardless of the respective physical requirements. Flexible, usable products promote independence. LifeSystem solutions can be adapted to the body size of the user and have been designed and developed to meet both ergonomic efficiency and kinaesthetic awareness.





Colours and interior design

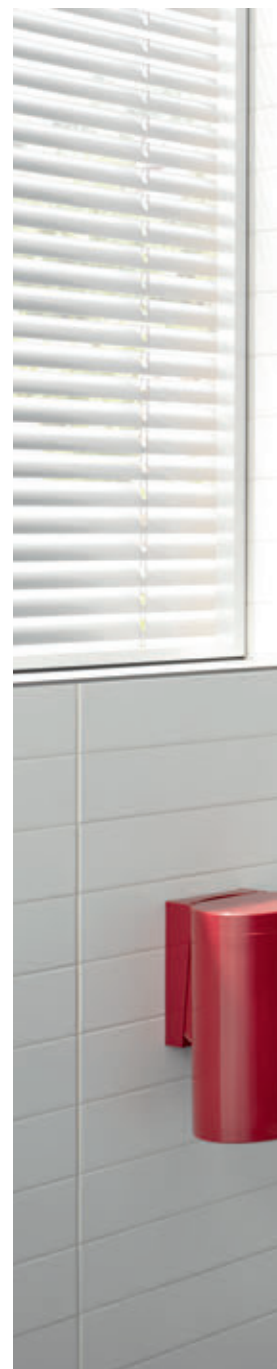
DEMENTIA-SENSITIVE PRODUCTS

In addition to a dementia-sensitive washbasin, HEWI also offers accessories and accessibility products with high-contrast highlighted, functional elements. The colour red plays a special role here.

It is important for architecture to understand ageing as an individual process. Declining eyesight, physical limitations and dementia, trigger different needs in different people.

The task of designing and manufacturing products for the healthcare sector requires putting people and their needs at the centre of the process and just as importantly, understanding the assignment holistically. Architecture, interior design and colour are becoming more and more an integral part of therapy.

The targeted use of colour can reduce fear, induce calm and enable better orientation within a building.





„The perfect shape is complimented by colour marking – the colour red for example, is quickly recognised by the eye on one hand, and linked in the brain to an action on the other. In my institute for age and dementia-sensitive architecture, the dementia washbasin from HEWI was given the nickname 'Hallo-Wa(s)h-Tisch' for good reason!“ Says architect Dr. Birgit Dietz.



DR. BIRGIT DIETZ

You can find a detailed interview with Dr. Birgit Dietz at www.hewi.com/en/dementia

PUER

Public

Equipment solutions for public and semi-public areas represent the character of a building. Atmosphere, well-being as well as economy, sustainability and hygiene have become natural requirements. HEWI offers the opportunity for these requirements to be consistently and successfully met. Consciously selected materials and manufacturing craftsmanship result in high-quality products being used ever more frequently over the years. HEWI products enable the implementation of a consistent overall concept that is tailored to your planning requirements down to the smallest detail – for solutions from entrance doors and corridors to sanitary facilities and accessible bathrooms.



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BORIS SCHADE-BÜNSOW
Editor-in-chief of the architecture magazine, Bauwelt, Berlin, Germany

The accessible city

As strange as it may sound in the 21st century, there is no such thing as an accessible city for everyone. Accessibility has so far not played enough of a role in the consciousness of the public, let alone planners and architects. It doesn't have to be like that and at least from this point of view the USA is one of the most progressive countries in the world. The American disability equality act, the "Americans with Disabilities Act" (ADA), came into force 30 years ago. On the 25th anniversary of the act, then US Secretary of State, John Kerry urged the international community, "to do everything we can to enforce inclusion laws and leave no one behind – everywhere. "

This was preceded by a determination from the 70's to enable returning injured and partially disabled veterans of the Vietnam War to integrate into civilian life with the fewest possible restrictions. This has created a lasting awareness of accessibility in all public areas. For example, accessible building entrances are now integrated into the architecture as a matter of course. In America, nobody needs to enter a library, restaurant or museum

through the back entrance or via a hidden ramp, and all city, government and agency buildings are equally accessible. At the time, a change of perspective was successful in the USA. It was not about adapting to "normal" society, but about viewing the whole of society where people with different physical abilities were regarded as "normal."

So what is to be done in the here and now? First and foremost, we need the awareness to plan for all people equally, regardless of whether they have restrictions or not. For local public transport, this means threshold-accessible, low-incline access to transport locations and the method of transport. So far virtually no one has succeeded in doing this, be it on trains, buses, cars or planes. Even the pavement or route guidance for pedestrians in cities are simply not implemented appropriately. Often, wrongly selected floor coverings make trouble-free movement more difficult than it needs to be. It gets particularly difficult with historical or traditional surfaces like cobblestones or rough pavement slabs.

„Overall, it is about planning and building public infrastructures, public spaces and public buildings in such a way that they can be used by as many people as possible, without further adaptation or specialisation.“

BORIS SCHADE-BÜNSOW

In or approaching a public building, such as a museum, an office or a department store, this can mean a lot, although it may seem natural to most of us, even though accessibility measures are only partially implemented or not at all. We're talking about adequate lighting, existing quiet areas in the immediate vicinity of traffic areas, sufficiently wide, level, step-less entrances. Not to mention clear, unambiguous routing and seamless signage. And guidance systems with operating surfaces made for people with visual impairments, door handles and doors that can be easily opened, lifts and elevators with accessibility aware controls and clear information and control panels near straight sets of stairs. But that's not all. It's about counters, in reception areas for example, which do not force visitors into a subordinate position, and about well thought-out, easy to find sanitary rooms that are architecturally, equally well designed and accessible. The question about the quality of the design for all of these components and building systems must never arise. The quality of the design must be equally good and, of course, congruent.

Overall, it is about planning and building public infrastructures, public spaces and public buildings in such a way that they can be used by as many people as possible without further adaptation or specialisation. In addition, this design must be flexible and robust enough to be compatible with the support technologies that people with disabilities have to use. These people must not be disrespected and discriminated against by subordinate or architecturally inferior solutions. That is the challenge for the planners, architects and industry, charged with delivering appropriately designed products. We don't need new rules, regulations or even new laws to do this. The Basic Law, Article 2 and Article 3 is sufficient. These

enshrine the right to free development of the personality and the equality of all people. The law also expressly refers to the state's obligation to compensate for existing disadvantages. And we have to stick with that. It is our moral and very real responsibility.

BORIS SCHADE-BÜNSOW —

since 2011 editor-in-chief of the architecture magazine *Bauwelt*, Berlin. Before that, he was the publishing manager of *Bauverlag BV GmbH*, Gütersloh, responsible for the content of the publishing house for ten years and prior to that, from 1993 to 2001 he was editor and chief editor of *TAB Technik am Bau* and other construction magazines of the *Bauverlag*.

PROJECT

Axel Springer Publishing Building,
Berlin, Germany

ARCHITECTURE

Rem Koolhaas,
OMA, Rotterdam, Netherlands

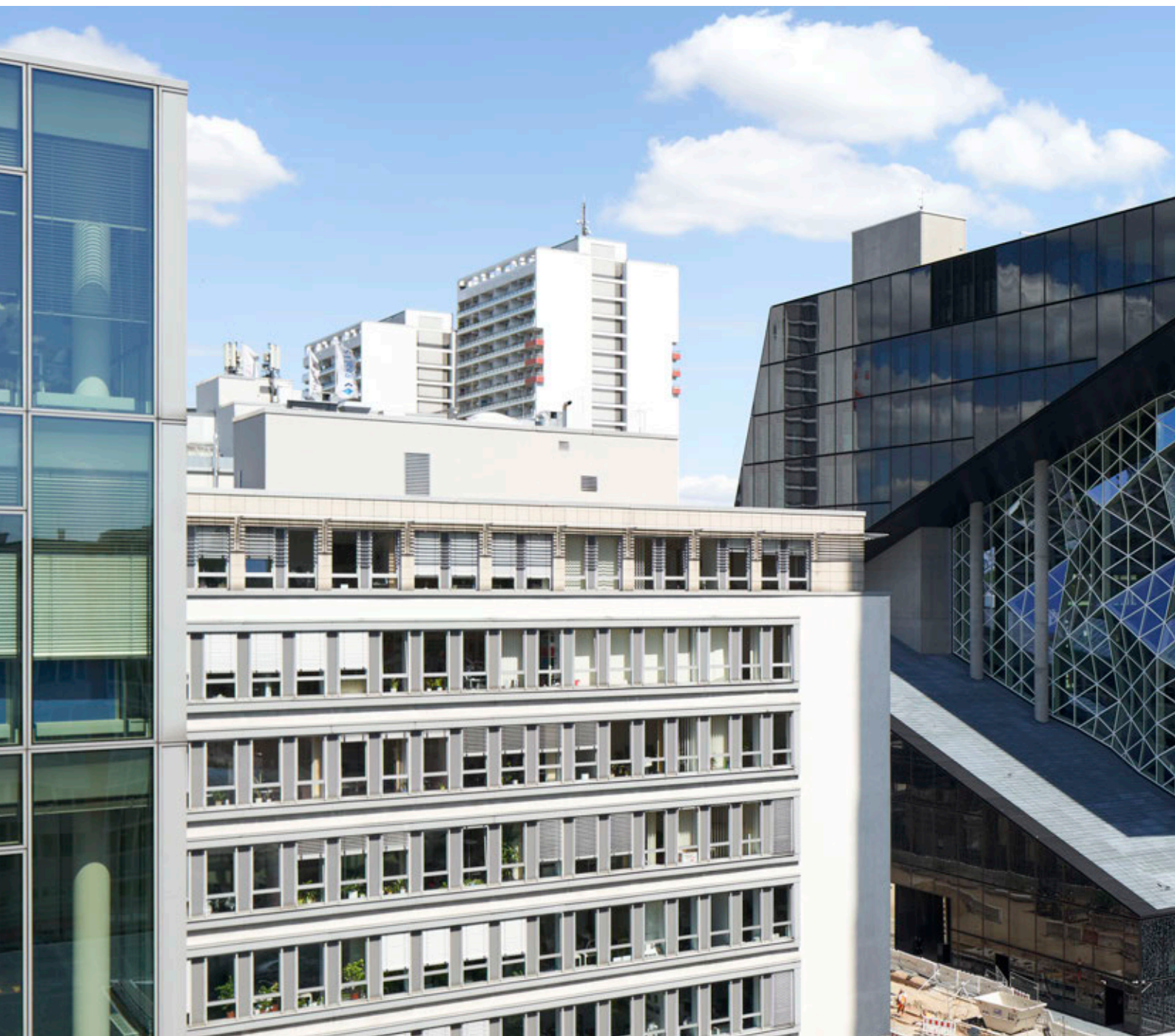
YEAR

2019

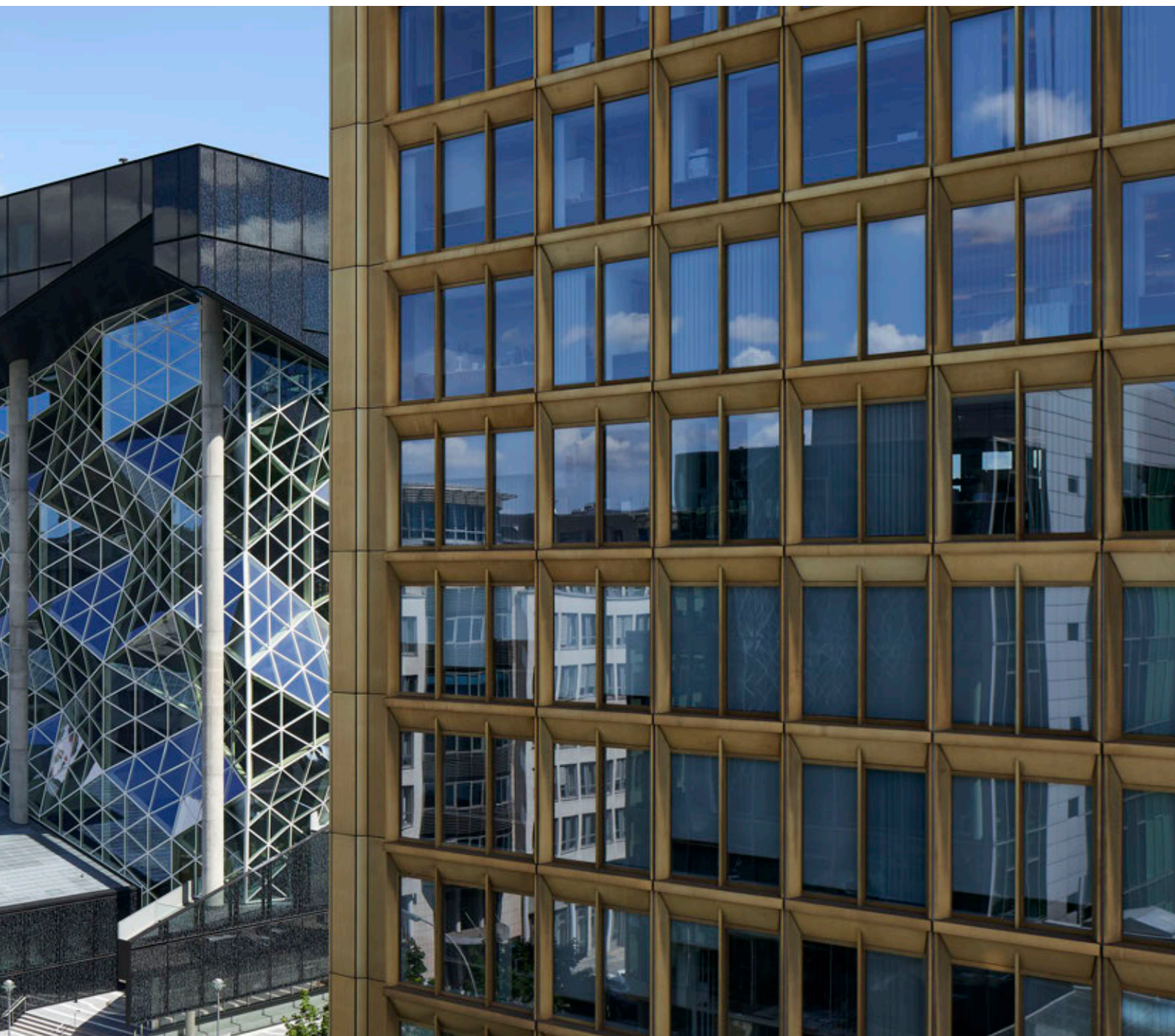
PHOTOS

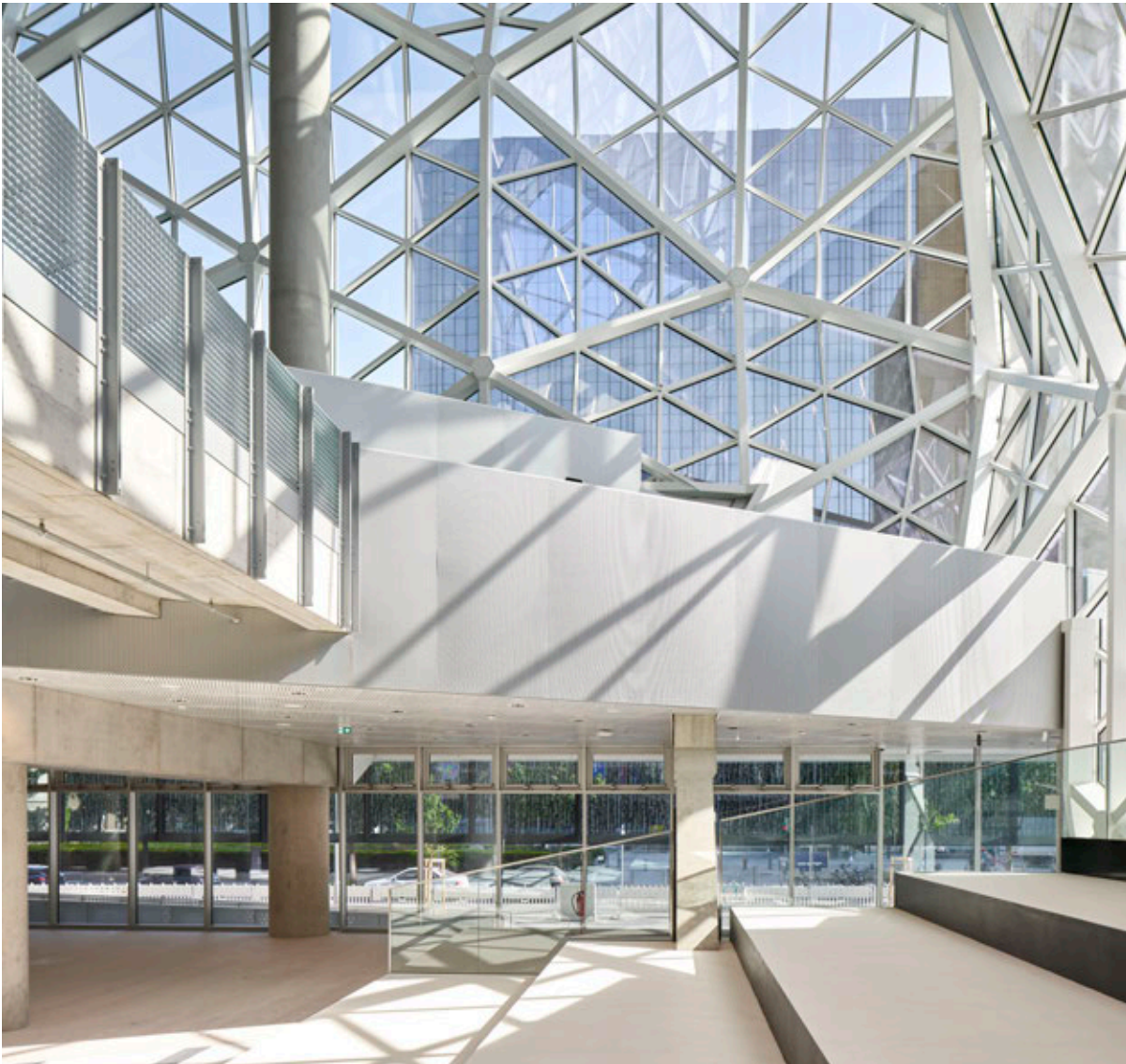
Niils Koenning

01 — Axel Springer has initiated a change from print to digital media. Their new building in Berlin is a symbol and tool for this change.



Axel Springer Publishing Building Berlin, Germany





Communication, exchange and encounter is what characterises the media world of the future. The design of the new Axel Springer building by Rem Koolhaas, architect and founder of the renowned architectural practice, Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA), is the epitome of modern expression. The light-flooded cube between Berlin's Axel-Springer-, Zimmer-, Schützen- and Jerusalemer streets shows where the digital media world can lead within the former newspaper district. The new building directly opposite the golden publishing house, is both a symbol and a signpost for the radical change at Axel Springer in the digital age.



02 — A cathedral-like space penetrates the centre of the entire building.

03 — Terraced floors offer spaces and places to think, discuss and exchange ideas.

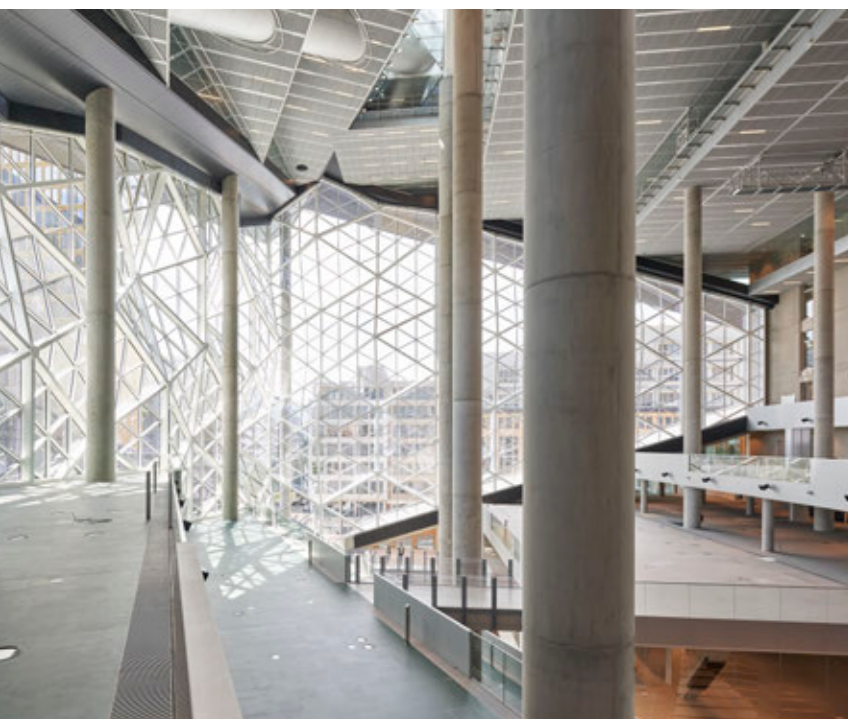
An interior design that invites encounters and communication. In the new Axel Springer building, with space for around 3,000 employees, personal exchange and mutual inspiration is supported throughout by its construction. Employees of the media and technology company work in spacious, light-flooded rooms that play with the idea and the character of an artist's workshop. The "working sphere" seems huge, with a ceiling height reminiscent of medieval cathedrals. The work areas are distributed in the style of open terraces, each of them offering opportunities to meet, exchange and communicate together.

Viewed from the outside, this OMA created design is an expression of the importance the client represents in the German media landscape. This media and technology company is not only conducting a transition into the digital age, but is also pointing the way to new directions in the world of work. Appropriately opulent and yet not out of date, this accelerator of cultural change works. Dark tinted glass surfaces are broken up by lighter elements suggesting a 3-D look. Filigree columns support cantilevered ceilings; bridges, stairs and corridors connect the different levels. Built right next to where a hideous wall once cut Berlin in two, the building stands as a symbol for the answers to challenges now and in the future – and not just in the digital world.

Rem Koolhaas and his team attached great importance to design and quality not only in the shape and form of the building. The architects also placed high demands on the interior, in combination with functional use, accessibility and security in the building.

The Classic variant of the 805 series from HEWI, matches highly functional room design with round, tubular shapes in the sanitary areas. The steel surfaces are fully integrated into the room given its pared back form. Made of matt-finished stainless steel, the 805 Classic series offers many advantages and particularly as the material is so robust and easy to care for.

Another important aspect was safety when planning and equipping the new Axel Springer building. Naturally, securing escape and rescue routes is of vital importance. HEWI panic bars on the escape doors of the new building can be operated intuitively with minimal effort and allow quick escape in an emergency.



New Urban Thinking

Accessibility is a requirement far beyond your own four walls and poses challenges for our entire society. The primary goal remains: To enable as many people as possible to participate in life, in a self-determined manner – including in publicly accessible areas. Because only those who can take part in public life without outside help are able to cope with everyday independent living. An accessible external and internal development of a public building and the accessible equipment therein are decisive features.

Robust solutions for modern architecture

SYSTEM 900

Sanitary rooms in public and semi-public buildings should reflect the character of the building with a representative design. HEWI's System 900 optimally meets these requirements with durable products and a unique range of products.

Public buildings are designed for high numbers of visitors. They should be accessible and unrestricted to as many people as possible.

Accessible access offers the use of a building to everyone. Corridors and stairs should be designed so that everyone can move freely and easily find where they need to go. The fittings for doors and windows in the sanitary areas should also be planned and designed in such a way that they allow unrestricted use for all, without additional help.

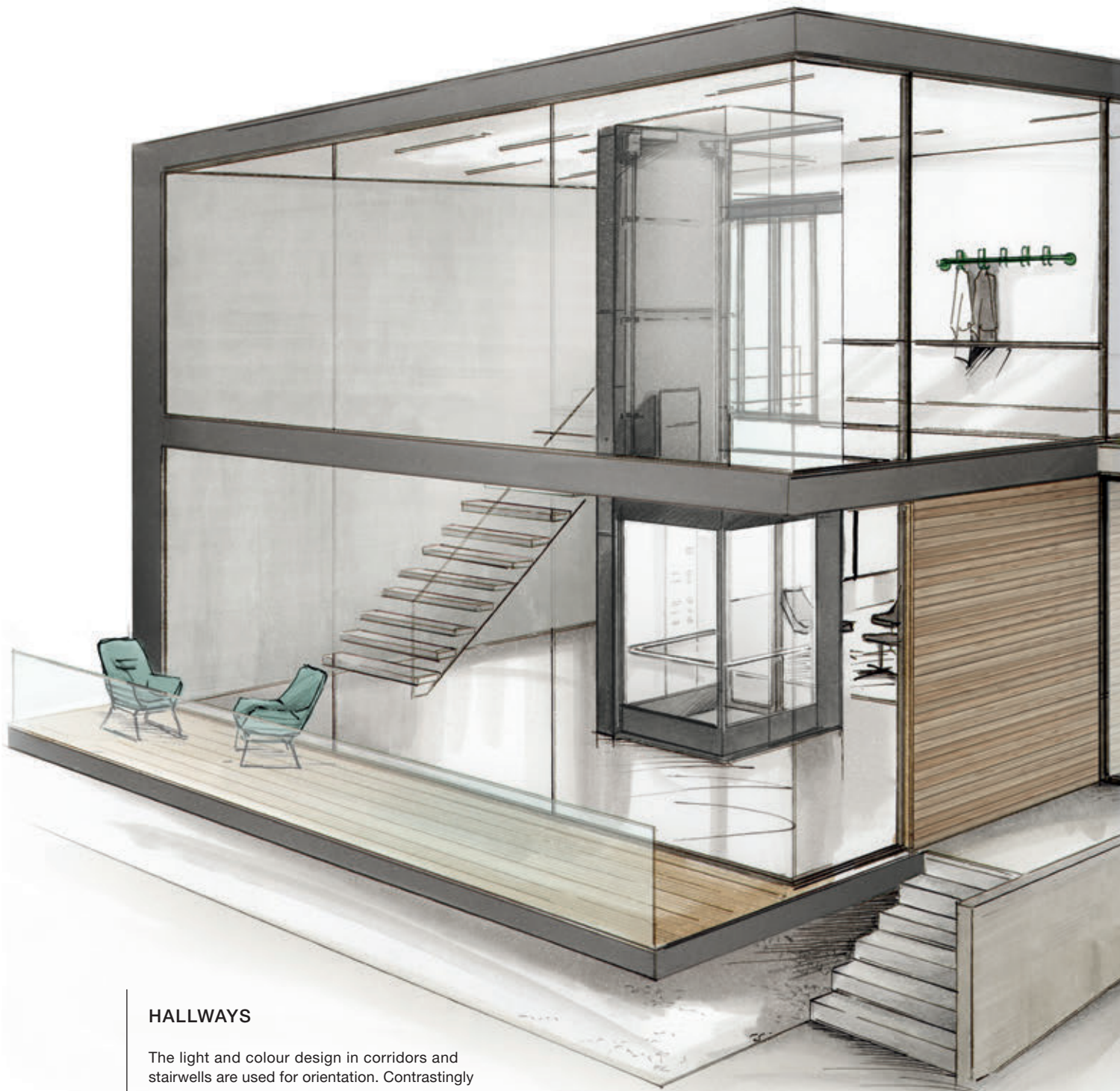
The dispenser systems and accessories from our System 900 are perfectly complemented by HEWI washbasins, system fittings and mirrors, and meet all hygiene and durability requirements.

Of course, hygiene is particularly important in public sanitary rooms. Even with short cleaning intervals, sanitary facilities in office buildings and publicly accessible buildings such as train stations or shopping malls, represent fertile ground for any number of pathogens, and thus an increased risk of infection.





System design for an entire building



HALLWAYS

The light and colour design in corridors and stairwells are used for orientation. Contrastingly designed handrails serve as one element of a guidance system.

ENTRANCE

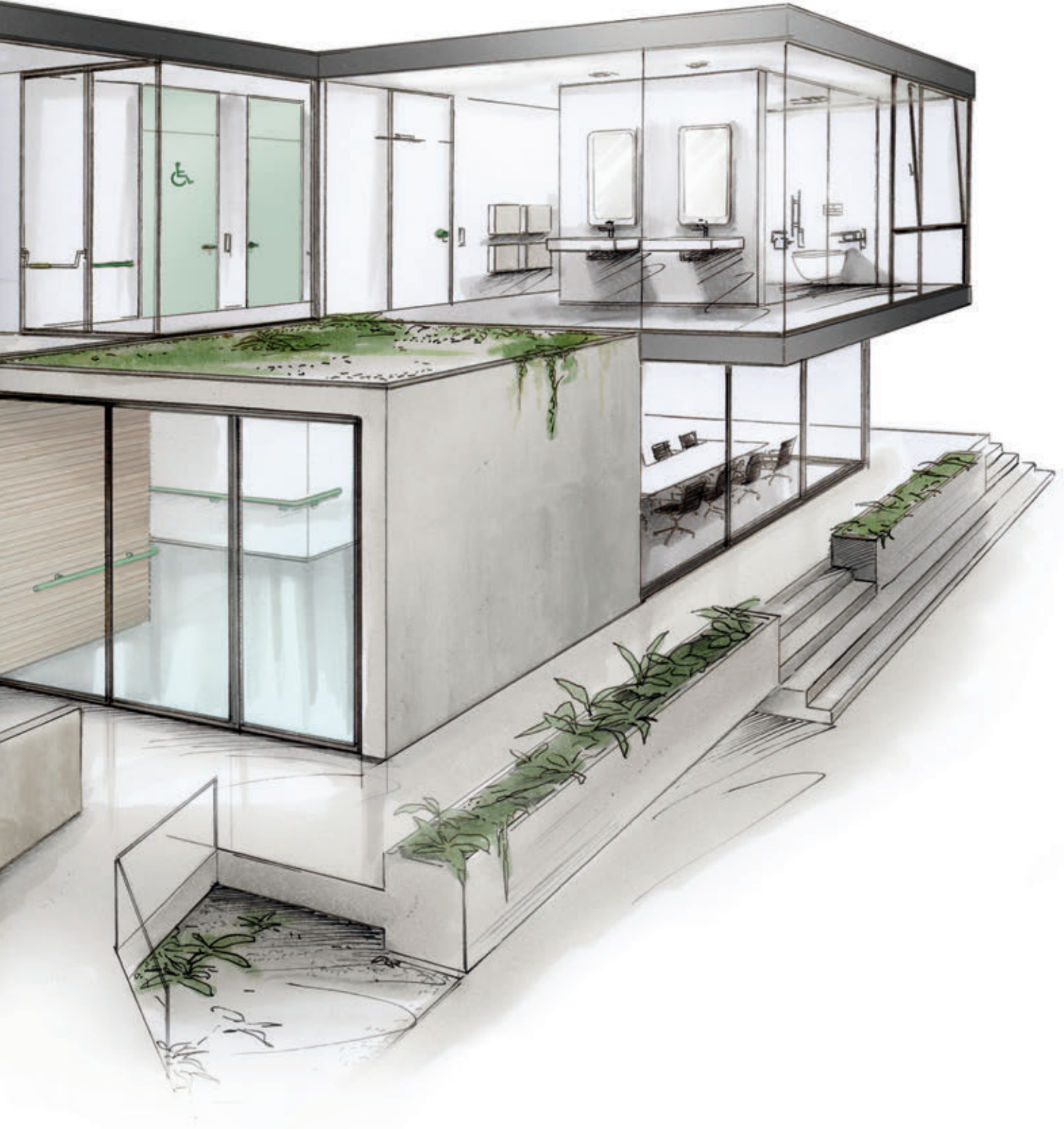
Accessible access is essential for the external development of a building. For example, people with wheelchairs or walkers can also enter a building using a ramp in addition to the stairs.

DOORS | WINDOWS

Accessible solutions for doors enable people with disabilities to move around the building independently.

SANITARY ROOMS

Standard-compliant sanitary areas can be integrated into all toilet facilities. Grip handle options on the washbasins and toilets enable independent use.



Hand disinfection in the entrance area

DISPENSER SYSTEMS

HEWI offers design options with the disinfectant dispenser column and enables an aesthetic implementation of hygiene measures in entrance areas and lobbies.

First impressions count: Hygiene is becoming increasingly important in people's minds.

Companies and institutions are faced with the challenge of enabling visitors, customers and employees to disinfect their hands in the entrance area.

Disinfection dispenser columns in the entrance areas of public and busy buildings offer an ideal solution for increasing hygiene.





Hygiene with style

Even with short cleaning intervals, office buildings and buildings accessible to the public, such as train stations or shopping malls, represent fertile ground for any number of pathogens and thus an increased risk of infection.





Hygiene is particularly important in areas of public buildings that are used by large numbers of people. In addition to sanitary facilities, these include reception counters or elevators, for example.

To minimize the risk in these areas, non-contact, flexible product solutions are the way of the future. HEWI offers a wide range of products in touchless sensoric design for wall mounting or as a mobile solution for tables and counters.

More solutions



Further information on the hygienic equipment of sanitary rooms can be found at:
www.hewi.com/en/hygienicbath

Solutions for hallways and doors

PUSH HANDLES

HEWI push handles offer accessible convenience due to their variable grip height.

Sufficiently wide access corridors and passageways within buildings, not only make it easier for wheelchair users to get around, they also make it easier for people with luggage or prams.

Handrails along the corridors are a natural means of support. They can provide location positioning for people with impaired vision. A clearly structured guidance system, attached to prominent corner points within the building, also provides essential orientation.

The corridor should be designed in such a way that the guidance and orientation systems can also be used by people with limited sensory abilities. To do this, important information must be conveyed through at least two senses. As well as a high-contrast design, corridors can also be equipped with tactile signage and handrails with Braille and profile writing.





HEWI door handles are suitable for escape and rescue routes. They are an excellent solution for section doors. A lever handle makes opening heavy doors effortless with one hand.

HEWI panic bars can also be operated intuitively with minimal effort. Additionally, the double grip area is made of colored and textured polyamide which signals the active element both visually and by touch.

The door handles from HEWI's System 111 are available with two different handle lengths. The version with an extended grip area minimizes the effort required to open and close the door due to its leverage effect.

But door handles and door knobs not only have a function. Like the lever handle Series 270, they set accents on the door and give us a first impression of the room already in hallways and corridors.

HO-

Hotel

Well-designed hotels create an unmistakable ambience, inviting you to relax yet at the same time inspiring their guests. A bathroom that is optimally tailored to the needs of individual hotel guests shows how accessibility can be implemented as a matter of course. Accessibility not only means the fulfilment of perfectly normal requirements. It also creates the conditions for the guest to feel comfortable and supported in their own independence.



TEEL



KORNELIA GRUNDMANN
Architect and Managing Director of the gabana Agency for Accessibility, Ellmau, Austria

An accessible hotel industry

Well-designed hotels create an unmistakable ambience, inviting you to relax yet at the same time inspiring their guests. Attractive and reliable accessibility complements this multifaceted offer for welcoming hospitality with real modernity. Ideally, a hotel room that is optimally designed to meet the needs of individual hotel guests, demonstrates how accessibility can be implemented both naturally and stylishly. Because accessibility means more than just fulfilling regulatory requirements. Well thought-out, accessible design and authenticity gives the guest the feeling of being really welcome. In fact, it also creates the conditions for the guest to feel comfortable, cared for and, above all, safe.

Market potential

Hoteliers are reluctant to discuss the details of their business, and rarely talk about money.

That said, a glance at the big picture could inspire architects, hoteliers and building owners to look again at convenient accessibility as it relates to socio-political responsibility and their own economic prospects.

That picture includes the increasing life expectancy and the demands of the travel-loving group: Generation 65+. A generation who for the most part are financially well resourced and know exactly what they want. This is a group of guests who expect the highest levels of comfort and to be able to travel without restrictions. For example in 2020 there were around 18 million people over 65 years old in Germany, or roughly speaking, the population of London, Barcelona, Berlin and Paris combined. Anyone who inspires these guests and wants to win their custom in the long term would be wise to take their needs and demands for comfort in old age seriously.

A worthwhile investment

On top of that. Many people with mobility, visual or hearing impairments would like to travel more often and would have the opportunity to do that if there were more, modern, accessible hotels available.

HEWI: Ms. Grundmann, the focus of your advice is on the construction and leisure

„In addition to specialist knowledge and making common sense, accessible construction also requires empathy for the needs of people in old age and those with restricted mobility. In plain English, this means that bathrooms should be functional, and still be appropriately equipped.“

KORNELIA GRUNDMANN

sector. As a qualified architect and expert on accessible buildings, what made you decide to write your book “Lust auf Barrierefreiheit?” (“Desire Accessibility?”)

For me as a wheelchair user, the decisive factor was my daily experiences with superfluous and useless barriers in everyday life. When traveling, the problems begin with the incredibly difficult search for accessible hotels. And when you arrive you realise how few hotels really do offer accessibly seamless accommodation. Then there are the carelessly designed hotel rooms with badly equipped bathrooms. Since the latter is undoubtedly the Achilles' heel of accessible hotel rooms, there's still a massive need for education and action with regard to accessibility in hotels.

HEWI: What do you think is the problem?

Several factors definitely come together here. As well as specialist knowledge and common sense, accessible construction also requires empathy for the needs of older people and those with restricted mobility. When building for the hotel industry, it is important to consider the needs of hoteliers and bring them both harmoniously and aesthetically together with the needs of the guests. To be blunt, this means that the bathrooms should be functional, yet appealing. And by no means should they be comparable to the charm of a care home bathroom. This is easily done with an appealing ambience and contemporary, comfortable fittings. Hoteliers, for example, find toilet ceramics for the disabled particularly annoying, as they remind every guest of a disabled bathroom as soon as they enter. There is another way!

The results of a survey of wheelchair users make interesting reading on this subject. When asked how they would rate a typical disabled toilet in hotels, the result was astounding. All but one of the respondents agreed they did not specifically need a disabled toilet at home or when they travelled; they preferred the standard sizes available in the trade, but with added accessibility elements.

HEWI: What opportunities do hotel operators have if they give more importance to accessibility?

The hotel landscape is currently changing dramatically. Hoteliers still live from booked rooms. In these rapidly changing times, future-oriented, sustainable planning would certainly not be a disadvantage. What do I mean by that? If it were possible to convey the market potential as well as the advantages of universal design to the hotel operators, a large, traditionally ignored group of guests would be encouraged into the travel market. This would also mean investments in renovations or new builds would start to pay for themselves more quickly. As an example, I quote Christoph Hochfilzer from AktivHotel Hochfilzer in Ellmau in Austria, who sums it up: “I knew there was a demand for accessible rooms. I couldn't have guessed it was so big.”

KORNELIA GRUNDMANN —

Kornelia Grundmann studied architecture in Mainz. As a sworn and court-certified expert for accessible construction and owner of gabana, the agency for accessible access, she lives in Ellmau in Tyrol (Austria). She has been a wheelchair user herself since she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Ms. Grundmann is an expert in the area of accessibility in the hotel industry and advises the international construction and tourism industry.

PROJECT

Lighthouse Hotel & Spa,
Büsum, Germany

ARCHITECTURE

Architectural Co-Operative
Architectural Practice
Ladehoff GmbH,
Hardebek, Germany

YEAR

2019

PHOTOS

Andrea Flak

01 — The viewer should perceive the ensemble as a single building, which nevertheless should also not hide the fact that they belong together.



Lighthouse Hotel & Spa Büsum, Germany





Büsum, right up on the northern tip of Germany, is a popular holiday destination and blessed with both beach and wind. The land and seascapes are picturesque, but the North Sea has a rough side when storms rage and the waves roar.

Here, the architectural practice incorporated the diverse character of the coastal landscape into the design concept for the Lighthouse Hotel & Spa. The result is a stylish design hotel with 111 rooms and apartments, which are equipped for guests with different tastes, preferences and interests – from beach holidaymakers to wellness guests.

The large building volume was divided into small individual structures and conveys a typical North German harbour charm. To the casual observer, the Lighthouse Hotel & Spa

looks like an ensemble of separate but similar buildings, which including the hotel, also houses three restaurants, conference rooms, a delicatessen, two shops and a harbour bar.

Here is a modern architectural language which blends harmoniously with its surroundings between the dyke, lighthouse and historical harbour. This is a design concept with a mixture of maritime influences and industrial design. The interior is graceful and calm, whilst at the same time, exuding a cool and urban chic.

HEWI products chosen from our System 900, with an elegant dark powder coating, fit perfectly into the industrial red brick and matt black elements of the interior design, and demonstrate how stylish accessible hotel bathrooms can be.

02 — The combination of maritime flair and industrial design in a modern style is consistently implemented through the black steel and lighthouse symbolism in the corridors.

03 — Black construction and design elements a theme running through the design of the entire hotel. The HEWI System 900 solutions are harmoniously integrated into hotel bathrooms and accessible sanitary rooms.



—— Solution

Modern Hospitality

Contemporary hotel concepts are not only inspiring because of their good design or their unmistakably stylish ambience, they must also meet the different needs of the guests. So a universal design concept is increasingly being used in the planning and development of hotels.

Individuality begins in the details

HOTEL BATHROOMS FOR EVERYONE

Universal Design places a number of requirements on the design of hotel bathrooms if they are to meet the complex needs of guests. With its extensive system depth and diversity, HEWI's System 900 enables a design that always works with the universal design concept.

The term universal design is often associated with accessibility in hotels. But the universal design concept is also dedicated to comfort, convenience and intuitive operation for all hotel guests.

Innovative hoteliers have long realised that success often lies with differentiating yourself from the crowd and standing out from established hotel concepts. With individualised fittings and a deep understanding of guests wishes, a decisive competitive advantage can be gained.





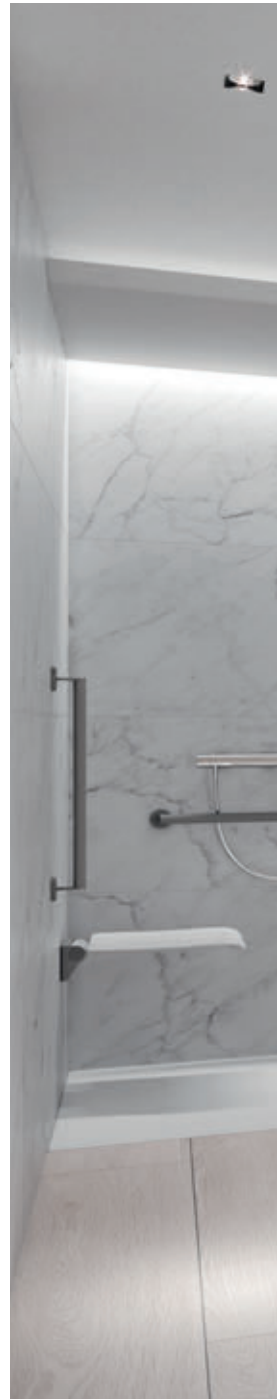
Aesthetic solutions for appealing hotel concepts

CONSCIOUSLY DIFFERENT

The sophistication of a concept can be seen in the architectural details. HEWI's System 900 combines functionality and exceptional design with long term, sustainable quality which creates added value.

Individuality is particularly important in hotel bathrooms – it is the room that matters when it comes to the feel-good and comfort factors. And especially as people with different disabilities have particularly high demands on the user-friendliness of sanitary products.

A bathroom that is optimally tailored to the individual needs of respective hotel guests, which they can use regardless of physical requirements, can have a decisive influence on their evaluation of their stay.





„As a disabled user, the HEWI washbasin with its support rails gives me absolute security. And as an architect, its variable length, guarantees me the utmost flexibility in designing hotel bathrooms,“ Kornelia Grundmann.

KORNELIA GRUNDMANN



A detailed interview with Kornelia Grundmann can be found on pages 92-95.

Coherent concepts

FEELING AT HOME IN A HOTEL BATHROOM

HEWI's System 900 powder coated dispensers and accessories create an impressive statement in our temporary home.

Defining coherent overall concepts is what we do at HEWI. From accessories and comfort elements to accessible equipment, which can also be flexibly adapted to the requirements of the operator and the needs of the guests.

Because rooms should be as individual as the guests that use them.

HEWI's System 900 includes a wide range of useful accessories. From soap dispensers, to cosmetic mirrors, to toilet brush sets and bath towel holders, our System 900 offers a uniquely comprehensive range.

Along with a variety of surfaces, System 900 gives rooms a warm, homely character and offers great scope for design. In this way, the hotel's colour concept can also be underlined or exciting accents can be applied in the bathroom.





A bathroom should adapt to people – not the other way round

TEMPORARY SOLUTIONS

Temporary solutions like shower seats and support rails – can be quickly and easily integrated when required and just as easily removed again.

HEWI offers the option of flexibly adapting bathrooms to the needs of the guests. If a guest requires support, our mobile shower seats and support arms can be quickly and easily integrated into the respective hotel bathroom.

Once the support is no longer required, the shower seat or support rails can just as easily be removed. A discreet cover conceals the permanently installed mounting plate.

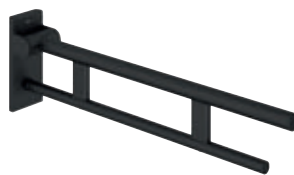
Hoteliers can increase their occupancy by assigning accessible rooms to all guests without them even realising.





1 MODULAR WASHBASIN

This innovative concept enables the integration of an adaptive grab rail and a modular storage system directly on the washbasin – as required by the individual needs of the user.



2 HINGED SUPPORT RAIL

Support rails provide security and assistance. These can be used in all areas of the bathroom.



3 SHOWER SEAT

This shower seat offers comfort and support for people with limited strength and mobility.

FIELD
CAT

Education

Equipment solutions for kindergartens, elementary schools and secondary schools have to meet a large number of requirements. Equipment must withstand heavy loads on a permanent basis and therefore be robustly designed. And the architectural building structure should be adapted to the needs of the respective age group helping to create an atmosphere that invites children to play and learn together. HEWI offers tailor-made solutions to meet specific property requirements. Discover the HEWI product range for the education sector and plan individual equipment worlds with us – from doors to bathrooms.



DU

TION



NATASCHA MEUSER
Architect and Professor at the Anhalt University of Applied Sciences, Dessau, Germany

Why architects and educators need to talk

Good pedagogy needs good architecture. When taken to extremes, this suggestion leads to Loris Malaguzzi's concept of, "The room as a third pedagogue." This is an appropriately concise starting point. But what does it mean? "The room" refers to the meaning of architecture, while "the pedagogue" relates to the act of educating. This sentence evokes the personalisation of space, i.e. the space educates. But that, in turn leads us to a conflict. In architecture, the space is not an actor. Space is only the architect's intellectual product, which is why the reverse question then needs to be asked: does the architect, as the planner and designer of educational "spaces", at least indirectly act as a pedagogue?

If we accept that architecture educates users with designed spaces, that requirement goes hand in hand with the requirement that the architect must be aware of his social

responsibility. And the consequences of his contribution to building culture is that the expertise of the educators is also required. It seems to me, that contemporary educational institutions in general, and equipment solutions for kindergartens, primary and secondary schools in particular, have to meet a multitude of requirements. This demand on architecture is not new. The architecture that is required for children today is an eloquent expression of the fact that, since the dissolution of the classic family structure, experiments have often been surprisingly disoriented by how children can be accommodated, "without a guilty conscience" in an industrialised world. Certainly the premises have to withstand high loads over the long term and inevitably have to be robustly constructed. The interior structure of the building should therefore be adapted to the needs of the respective age group.

„The architect has an unfamiliar task to deal with, as both the standards of the adult as well as the child must be taken into account. The child experiences the room differently than an adult.“

NATASCHA MEUSER

An elementary need of children (and parents) is security. Safety management is therefore an indispensable and particularly complex task, especially in wet rooms, and particularly because some aspects should be visible, whilst others as invisible as possible. Specifically, this means available, reachable and above all, accessible equipment.

So the primary task for architecture is to attempt to solve the structural problems inherent in the system, by adapting the interior structure of buildings to meet the needs of the respective age group. A current trend in buildings for children shows that architecture should offer spaces in which the child can apparently move around without being guided. They should be free to choose the spaces they occupy with increasing self-responsibility, virtually without intervention by adults and, above all, without risk. The fact is, building for children is a highly complex task and is subject to its own laws which depend on the scale of the child. The architect has an unfamiliar task to deal with, as both the standards of the adult as well as the child must be taken into account. The child of course, experiences the room differently than an adult. And planners have to adjust for this, not just with regard to the room dimensions and components, but the fixtures and fittings as well, especially in sanitary rooms.

A child's living space is characterised by four functional parameters: social interaction, opportunities for retreat, freely definable action spaces and recreational areas. Whether in kindergartens or schools, the architect must artificially create these elemental factors and somehow integrate them into the changed environmental conditions, or into the child's environment outside the family. Are large, manageable areas good for children or for carers? The concept of space as the third educator harbours ignorance about the

potential of architecture on the one hand and the search for solutions for human coexistence on the other. The aim must therefore be that both the educators and the professional groups involved in the planning of buildings for children, are aware of how complex architecture can be, in view of the age and developmental characteristics of the children. If we are to learn something from the human-made environment, then it can only be about the feeling of harmony and proportion, light and colour, material and surface – and of course the architectural space.

NATASCHA MEUSER —

born in 1967 in Erlangen. Architect and publisher in Berlin. Studied in Rosenheim (Interior design) and in Chicago at the Illinois Institute of Technology (Master of Architecture). Professor at the Anhalt University in Dessau. Doctorate at the Technical University of Berlin. Numerous publications in the field of design theory and educational buildings as well as research on building history in both architecture and zoology. 2020 Foundation of the Institute for Zoo Architecture at the Anhalt University of Applied Sciences.

PROJECT

Hans-Thoma-School,
Oberursel, Germany

ARCHITECTURE

plus+ bauplanung GmbH,
Neckartenzlingen, Germany

YEAR

2018

PHOTOS

Thomas Ott

01 — The architectural design of the Hans-Thoma School in Oberursel, supports children and young people in their education.



Hans-Thoma Schule Oberursel, Germany





In the picturesque Taunus Mountain area just north of Frankfurt lies the city of Oberursel. Here in this idyllic landscape, on the southern slope of the Taunus, this charming town and its 43,000 citizens have adopted an educational learning concept where every child is offered an optimal development opportunity. The newly built Hans-Thoma-Schule, is another building block in their inclusive educational offer.

Pupils spend a large part of their day in this special needs school and naturally its architecture has a significant influence on their daily well being. When planning and designing the new building, the main focus of the municipal authority and the architects was on supporting approximately 200 children and young people not just in developing their physical and motor development, but their learning as well. The result is a school living space that supports children with handicaps in mental and motor learning. Architecture of course plays a special role in the design of educational buildings. A positive learning

environment promotes learning. With its shape, colours and materials, the architecture in this case, follows this guiding principle.

The buildings are attached to the central square of the school like the fingers of a hand. In each finger there are, amongst other things, four classrooms, each of which opens onto a terrace. The architecture encourages small social units that offer the children both safety and security at the same time. Comfort and the possibility of individual use also play an important role, especially in the sensitive areas of the sanitary rooms. In the Hans-Thoma-Schule, the solutions HEWI supplied for the sanitary rooms address the wide range of different needs of the users. For example, at the push of a remote control button, the washbasin and toilet modules can be adjusted to the height preferred by the user.

02 — A highly differentiated choice of materials and a contrasting colour schemes are the defining design elements of the interior.

03 — The aesthetics of the HEWI S 50 modules fit perfectly into the sanitary room design and offer exceptional ease of use, because they automatically adjust to suit individual users.



Positive Learning

In educational institutions, a teaching philosophy oriented towards the strengths of the learner is equally as important as a positive environment that provides orientation and space for creativity.

The architectural structure must be adapted to the needs of the respective age group. Positive learning, child-friendly architecture and inclusion are the foundations of future-oriented educational concepts that create advantages for all children and young adults.

System solutions for educational institutions

RANGE 477/801

In addition to its classic, high-gloss polyamide surface, HEWI's range 477/801 is also available in a matt finish. In either white or grey versions, this classic range has a warm, modern look.

Equipment solutions for day-care centres as well as for elementary and secondary schools, are subjected to heavy loads day in and day out, so need to be both robust and safe. What is becoming more and more popular is the concept of an inclusive design. All HEWI products intended for the education sector fully embrace the concept of universal design. This means that whatever the interior equipment installation, it will meet the needs of both children and adults in any educational environment.







The inclusive children's bathroom

SYSTEM 800 K

Used in a targeted way, colour contrasts make orientation easier and offer more intuitive use. In the HEWI System 800 K only the functional elements are highlighted to better illustrate the function.

Child-friendly equipment in the sanitary areas plays an important role, particularly when it comes to promoting children's independence. A consistent, coordinated colour concept not only looks friendly, that elusive feel-good factor makes it easier for children to find their way around.

HEWI offers accessible system solutions for sitting, supporting and gripping, which, given their pared back and friendly design, fit perfectly and inconspicuously into every children's bathroom. When functional elements are designed in a colour that contrasts with their surroundings, they are more conspicuous and easily perceptible for children with visual impairments.

The washbasin has integrated recessed grips that provide support for people with limited strength and mobility. Due to its depth, it is easily used by children in wheelchairs. On the soap dispenser, the pushbutton is highlighted both in colour and haptically. Seating and grip support options in the shower make everyday life easier for both children and their carers.

Equipment concepts for joint learning

Inclusive educational institutions reflect the physical diversity of our society. Due to the multitude of different requirements, it can be a real challenge to design a school building that meets the needs of everyone without exception and provide 100 percent accessible architecture.

Orientation in hallways

Accessibility means orientation. HEWI handrails for corridors and stairwells are not only used to hold on to, they are also a visual guidance system through the building. A particularly robust installation in stainless steel is just as effective as a colourful design in polyamide. It goes without saying that handrails should also contrast with their background allowing them to be used as an aid to orientation by people with impaired vision.





More solutions



· Accessible push handles and panic bars at a comfortable reach height:
www.hewi.com/en/exit

Modular solutions for sanitary rooms

HEWI provides the opportunity to implement the optimal solution for every property and offers robust, sustainable systems for toilet facilities and corridor areas. These can of course also be expanded to include accessible elements.





Safe sanitary areas

Safety, reliability, premium quality and hygienic, are the key elements that have made HEWI's 477/801 series a classic in schools. Whatever the requirements of the property and given such a wide range of products, it is possible to specify equipment precisely adapted to suit the conditions. The uncompromisingly user-friendly design of the 477/801 series is both flexible and of course, standards-compliant.

More solutions



· Height-adjustable washbasin and toilet modules for maximum individual support.
See: www.hewi.com/en/s50

НО

Home

The bathroom has developed into a central, very personal and intimate space within our own home. Its design should enable flexible use that can also be individually adapted. Safety and wellbeing have become ever more important. When planning and furnishing our bathrooms, authentic materials, timeless, yet stylish design, together with solutions precisely tailored to our own personal needs are becoming the norm these days. HEWI system solutions offer security and support and, in combination with excellent design, create a blissful feel-good atmosphere that unites functionality, comfort and aesthetics in a unique way.



ME



OONA HORX-STRATHERN
Trend and future researcher

The reincarnation of the bathroom

The evolution of the bathroom is the result of a design success story. And show the power of megatrends. Our homes represent both an expression of socio-cultural changes and a manifestation of our personal identities, needs and demands. There is little doubt the bathroom is the room that has changed and developed the most due to these forces. In the last few decades the bathroom has mutated from a rather sterile and neglected functional space to a design space for our well-being, a reflection of our "self."

We spend a lot more time in our bathrooms today, than ever before. Multifunctional, multi-talented and now also multi-national – bathrooms today have many different roles to fulfil. What has driven this change are individualisation and the "silver society" megatrend.

Today the bathroom plays a central role in not just our physical, but also our mental health.

Not long ago its primary use was purely functional, today it offers a relaxing, welcoming retreat where we not only strive for cleanliness, but also "cocooning", or a space to achieve comfort, peace and rejuvenation.

Today, our "home" – be it house or apartment – represents more than just protection. It is our centre of gravity. Our personal spaces and the objects and furniture that we welcome into our lives, speak volumes about us – and not just our current state of mind, but also about the life we want to lead in the future. "Home" is the place where we truly express our individuality, where we remember who we are. Our individuality is how we express ourselves and our needs through our design decisions. In this age of design democracy, good design is no more seen as elitist or exclusive, but as a bedrock of human necessity.

„The expectations and needs of the baby boomers – the 60s and 70s generation – are about freedom, individuality and independence. This generation is now experiencing the choices and challenges of old age.“

OONA HORX-STRATHERN

One of the greatest social change processes is our "ageing society" – the fact that we are living longer than ever before. What the megatrend named the “Silver Society” shows, is that we are going through a “down-ageing” process as our lifespan extends, in order to stay younger for longer. The expectations and needs of baby boomers – the generation that grew up in the 60s and 70s – are about freedom, individuality and independence. This generation is now experiencing the choices and challenges of old age, whilst wanting to remain as independent as possible. This generation has a keen eye for good design and enjoys a quality of life in terms of health and prosperity that their parents and grandparents could only dream of. If bathrooms are to play a key role as a place to invest in these values, they need to be designed for a lifetime rather than just a phase of life.

We can also see these trends reflected in spacious, colourful, warmer bathrooms more reminiscent of salons, boudoirs or even second living rooms. Today, the bathroom has become a place where we can not only move freely at any age, but where we can express ourselves in every phase of life. In a world where health is the new wealth, our bathrooms play a key role. We no longer invest in just a “bathroom”, but in a greater quality of life.

OONA HORX-STRATHERN —

Oona Horx-Strathern is a trend expert for future ways of living and life in our society. This Human Geographer (Bristol University) has over 25 years of experience in the trend and consulting industry and has been publishing the Zukunftsinstitut's annual HOME REPORT since 2019. The report highlights the most important developments for future living as well as for the construction and architecture industries. As a testimonial, she lives in the “Future Evolution House” on the outskirts of Vienna, which she helped design and build. (Photo: Klaus Vyhnašek)

PROJECT

Loft with roof terrace,
Cologne, Germany

ARCHITECTURE

Architect Borchmann,
Cologne, Germany

YEAR

Renovation:
2018–2019

PHOTOS

HEWI

01 — The glass front of the roof terrace floods the penthouse apartment with natural light.



Loft with roof terrace Cologne, Germany



02 — HEWI's System 900 design with matt black surfaces compliments the entire interior of the penthouse apartment, which was furnished in the style of the 70s and 80s

03 — The sanitary solutions from HEWI's System 900 offer functional and accessible support making a strong interior design statement in the bathrooms.





Lindenthal, much like Marienburg and Hahnwald with their magnificent villas, is one of the most sought-after residential districts of Cologne. Here is where this high-quality, renovated penthouse apartment with roof terrace, is located in a building complex of six houses.

The buildings themselves are staggered and slightly angled away each other. This was an unusual arrangement in the 1950s, yet the original architects created better light and sunshine levels in the individual apartments and an easing of the westerly winds. At the same time, the design emphasises the character of individual living.

The property is surrounded by sycamore trees which helped establish a kind of “tree house” effect during the renovation of the apartment. The owner wanted to create a special relationship with the natural environment and wood is one of the materials seen in abundance in the renovated apartment. Douglas fir floorboards as well as windows and matching window sills made of Ash, provide natural accents and bring the space closer to the tree house idea.

The demands on our homes change within a life cycle. It was one of the reasons the owner not only attached great importance to the details, but also had the foresight to make the property “fit” for the future. No threshold transitions, expansion of the areas of movement and accessible products in the two bathrooms are the result.

The redesign of the apartment was based on the universal design concept. The bathrooms were fitted with an Italian metro tile, a bathtub and shower from Kaldewei as well as accessories and accessible products from HEWI.

HEWI develops design systems based on a modular principle. This offers a high degree of flexibility matched with exceptional design and high quality materials at the same time. Bathrooms of any size can be designed using this principle. It also meets the owner's demand for a flexible concept that can adapt to whatever they require, whenever they need it.

New Homeliness

The future of living lies in a new sense of familiarity and furnishings that are individually tailored to individual needs. Far from the unreal, materialistic world, it is oriented towards the most important element: people.

HEWI is committed to a world in which people of all ages or health conditions can live as independently as possible. With the highest design standards and consistently intuitive functionality, universal design takes everyone's needs into account. HEWI has been living this ideal for more than 35 years as a sustainable and holistic design philosophy.

A bathroom for everyone

MOBILE SOLUTIONS

HEWI offers solutions for every area of the bathroom that requires support and security. With detachable equipment solutions, every bathroom can be prepared for tomorrow today.

In these times of demographic change, awareness of the need for comfort and cross-generational living space has increased exponentially. The desire to stay at home for as long as possible is becoming increasingly important. In many cases, the bathroom is the key that enables people to live independently for as long as possible within the familiarity of their own four walls. As well as comfort and a feel-good factor, our bathrooms should also be functional and usable across generations – in other words, they should be capable of being adapted to the changing needs of the people who use them.





Comfort for every size bathroom

Generous floor plans are often associated with an expanse of comfort and cross-generational usability. These days the bathroom is a relaxation zone, wellness oasis, family space and care bathroom in one, and be able to constantly adapt to changing requirements.

These requirements are naturally met more easily in a spacious new building than in existing, narrow bathrooms with around 5 m² of space. How can self-determined independence be maintained in the bathroom if accessibility according to established standards, is simply not possible due to a lack of space? Well a few individual measures can significantly increase accessibility.

01 — A full-length mirror can be used both while standing and sitting.

02 — Accessible bathrooms should be based on the needs of different users. The shape of the washbasin with its concealed grip combines both design requirements and functionality.

03 — Grab rails can be used in all areas of the bathroom. They offer safety and support for movement.

04 — A seat in the shower has particular appeal to people with limited strength and mobility.





The spacious family bathroom

Today, people insist on well thought out, complete solutions for a bathroom to be considered both functional and aesthetic. When adapted to include accessible support for people, the bathroom should also be capable of being used without restrictions into old age.

HEWI's System 800 offers solutions for all areas of the bathroom. Our high-quality comfort products, accessibility elements and accessories, all work together because of our commitment to the concept of universal design. Due to its minimalist and high-quality design, the system can also be gradually expanded to include comfort elements and accessible solutions when needed. Generous floor plans allow optimal planning, precisely tailored to the individual needs of the people who live there.

01 — In addition to integrated grip options, the washbasin also offers generous storage space.

02 — A stool can be used flexibly where it is needed – as in this example at the washstand.

03 — A comfortable shower seat offers relief when showering. It provides both support and security.





3

The future of care in your own home

SYSTEM 900

HEWI's System 900 offers security and support and in combination with excellent design, creates a feel-good atmosphere that unites functionality, comfort and aesthetics in a unique way.

Being cared for at home and mastering everyday life as independently as possible, is now very much part of people's future thinking. A study entitled, "Bathroom Success Factors for Outpatient Care" emphasises how important it is to create future structural solutions and product solutions that enable those affected and their relatives, as well as outpatient care staff, to live and work in an environment where everyone feels comfortable and supported. Naturally, the industry was also involved in the study. HEWI contributed with its long standing competence for accessible equipment solutions. An important aspect of the study is just how decisively important the washbasin area is for people's independence, their care by relatives or by support staff.



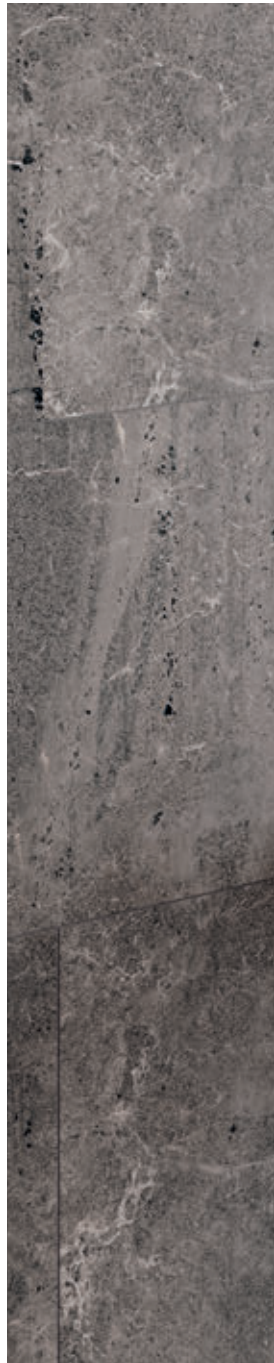


The demand for flexibly adaptable solutions

THE MODULAR WASHBASIN SYSTEM

This modular washbasin system can be expanded or reduced quickly and easily with additional functions. The design solution is particularly flexible and eliminates the need for extensive renovation work.

Today, there's demand not just for new living concepts, but innovative furnishing solutions as well. The "Bathroom Success Factors for Outpatient Care" study, has shown there is traditionally a distinct lack of shelf space around the washbasin. Regularly used items, like toothbrushes, toothpaste or washcloths, often have to be handed to the user by a carer.





The modular washbasin system from HEWI can be individually configured to meet the user's needs. This unique concept enables the integration of an adaptive grab rail, which also serves as a towel holder, and a modular storage system directly on the washbasin.

The washbasin offers security and ensures that bathroom utensils like soap dispensers, toothbrushes and mugs are all within easy reach. They can be quickly and easily expanded with additional functions and just as easily removed again.

This practical storage system is also suitable for wall mounting as shown offering further expandable functionality. Crafted from stainless steel with a powder coating – the system is available in various deep matt variations. Black, shades of grey and white offer design leeway for every bathroom.

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