



The screen-printed "Iso-Pyran S-D" glass used in the roof area clearly reduces the solar energy transmittance (g-value). Tests have shown that the room temperature is 1° C and the perceived temperature 2° C lower.

Ralf Daute
Kleve

A Futuristic Office Building

Optimized energy consumption, innovative construction, modern technology – these features characterize the new administration building of the Westdeutschen Immobilien Bank in Mainz. All this was achieved with state-of-the-art engineering materials, including "Pyran S" from Schott.

► When visitors enter the atrium of the Westdeutschen Immobilienbank's new administration building, the first objects to catch their eye are no doubt the stone finds dating from the time the city was ruled by the Romans and called Mogontiacum. This evidence of the city's history is quite ingeniously linked to the office building's modern architecture. After all, the ancient Romans were also masters of the production and application of glass, the material without which the fundamental features of modern architecture – transparency, elegance and verve – could not be realized.

Conventional window glass is clearly not capable of meeting today's high demands in

terms of protection against sunlight, heat and fire, which is why the Westdeutsche Immobilien Bank selected "Iso-Pyran S-D" produced by Schott Jenaer Glas for the roof of its atrium. This high-performance glass compound was developed in close cooperation with the Frankfurt architects AS&P Albert Speer & Partner, who were in charge of the planning.

To provide protection against heat, thus ensuring an optimum energy balance, the glass is first covered with a fine grid using screen print technology. This refinement, which is nearly invisible to the naked eye, carries a physical risk because the tensile stress caused by the high heat absorption

can lead to tiny cracks in the glass. Prestressed Pyran S glass was chosen to avoid this problem.

The special glazing applied by Interpane, a company located in Lauenförde, provided the required sun protection. "Pyran S" multipane safety glass was necessary for the overhead application. These "Iso-Pyran-S-D" elements were used at the outer edges of the atrium, while the remaining areas were fitted with single pane safety glass. The result is a perfect interplay of comfort and safety. And that is exactly what the planner Albert Speer envisioned: "an office building for the 21st century." ◀