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[sedak makes facades' joints disappear visually](#)

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Glass Spacer: More Transparency for IGU Joints

In the style of a manufactory, sedak, the expert for oversize glass, has developed the reputation to develop special solutions with potential until series production is possible. The latest development are insulating glass units with glass spacers. Thus, the German glass manufacturer makes the usually typical joints disappear visually. Instead of the conventional, up to four centimeters wide, black joint out of a plastic spacer and silicone, the new glass spacer is used for two visible sides. The result is a nearly seamless overall view with maximum transparency and the same technical characteristics of the IGU. Until now, the almost jointless appearance of large-scale glazing could only be reached with laminated safety glass. sedak was tinkering a year to create the up-to-date solution that would satisfy its own commitment to quality. Because it is based on an extensive research, although the solution sounds simple.

Twenty-five years ago, there were initial tests in the glass industry to build IGUs with spacers out of glass. Few projects were realized which are now in need of rehabilitation. Against this background, sedak started to research with the result that the buildings can now be glazed with IGUs that fulfill not only quality requirements regarding processing and visual appearance but also provide contemporary U_g

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values. It is a future-proof development for which sedak researched intensely into the right composition and the material properties of the single components. The cavity is hermetically sealed by a special adhesive which keeps the gas in the cavity permanently. Thus, all required insulation values are fulfilled in a long term and the glass-to-glass joint is hardly visible.

Simple function, maximum effect

For the two visible glass edges, the transparent spacer is used. That makes the vertical joint of two glass units disappear visually. For the horizontal joints, which are not visible after the installation into the holding construction, sedak uses a common plastic spacer. It provides a desiccant keeping the cavity dry. “The insulating glass units with a glass spacer extend our portfolio of products and additionally offer, besides our laminates, an exciting alternative with up-to-date energy values,” says sedak’s sales director Ulrich Theisen. “This new level of transparency of glass facades and roofs allows for a more honest and open architectural language.”

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Pictures

[18-09_glass spacer]



The harmony of the transparency of glass facades and roofs is often disturbed by clearly visible, opaque spacers. sedak's glass spacer allows for insulating glass units with minimal joints.

Photo: sedak GmbH & Co. KG

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Leading glass

sedak, the glass manufacturer in Gersthofen, Germany, was founded in 2007. The company and its 170 employees have developed into the world's technology and innovation leader for large insulating and safety glass. With a ten-year experience of manufacturing oversize glass and after having increased the level of automation continuously, sedak is regarded as a specialist in this know-how intensive segment. The glass units reach dimensions up to 3.51 m x 20 m - processed, tempered, laminated, printed, coated, and cold bent. The core capabilities are the lamination of glass, edging, and the company's special knowledge of producing glass components with additional functional and decorative elements. sedak's production has been optimized for extraordinary glass sizes and weights; all finishing steps are highly automated and handled in-house. As a full supplier for glass up to 20 m, sedak sees itself as a partner for architects, designers, and façade constructors. Outstanding references are for example the House of European History in Brussels, the Faculty of Medicine in Montpellier, the Torre Europa in Madrid, Brookfield Place in New York City, the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Apple Cube in New York City, the science center experimenta in Heilbronn, as well as numerous premium flagship stores worldwide.

Application

- glass façades
- glass roofs
- glass stairs
- glass balustrades
- ship building
- safety glazing
- all-glass constructions
- interior design
- custom-made glass units