

DURLUM WINS AWARD FOR ITS JOINTLESS METAL CEILING LOOP

For its new ceiling system LOOP, durlum, the leading manufacturer of metal ceilings, lighting and daylight systems, received the "Special Award" at the Innovation Prize Architecture and Construction, which was presented at the BAU trade fair in Munich in January. The jury thus paid tribute to the superb collaboration between durlum and the architects' firm Love in the restructuring of Vienna's Gerngross CityCenter. durlum developed the LOOP metal ceiling together with Love and designed it specifically for the requirements in this project. The result is an entirely innovative metal ceiling that convinces with its jointless appearance.

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In the course of the general restructuring of the renowned traditional shopping store Gerngross in Vienna over the last year, durlum equipped a total of 21 shop areas with the open metal ceiling system LOOP. The respective ceilings of the shops are of different sizes and shapes so that each design is individual. Deep-drawn, round openings offset in rows define the surface structure of the metal ceiling and thus permit the integration of variably insertable light spots and ventilation, without the need for separate ceiling sections. With its characteristic appearance, LOOP acts as an optical delimitation of the individual shop areas from the remaining interior of the four-storey shopping store.

The innovative durlum metal ceiling thus meets the requirements with regard to design as well as functionality. For the architects at Love drafted a special room concept for the redesign of the traditional Vienna shopping store. From the central atrium, star-shaped path systems structure the individual shop areas on the floors in a clear and transparent manner. The individual shops are marked by the use of different floorings and ceiling systems. This thus creates an orientation system for visitors which is easy to understand and makes the store appear large and orderly. The apparently jointless open LOOP metal ceilings form a fundamental element in the design, which clearly distinguishes the sales areas from the closed plaster ceilings of the corridors and walkways.

The challenging architectural concept not only required a multi-functional, flexible ceiling system in which the primary room technology, the safety technology and the merchandise lighting are located. It also required a ceiling system that supported the lightweight, dynamic character of the new interior architecture with soft shapes and round edges. durlum and Love developed LOOP specifically to meet these specifications.

The "Special award" at the Innovation Prize Architecture and Construction pays tribute to the cooperation between durlum and Love, resulting in a project-specific product innovation. According to the reasons giving by the jury, the LOOP system from durlum convinces with its jointless appearance. In addition no additional measures are required to install technical fittings, producing a symbiosis of aesthetics and technology.

About the project | Gerngross CityCenter, Vienna

Building owner: Deka Immobilien Investment GmbH, Frankfurt a.M.

General planner: Delta Projektconsult GmbH, Vienna

Architect: Love architecture and urbanism Ziviltechniker Ges.m.b.H., Graz

Metal ceiling: durlum GmbH, Salzburg Office