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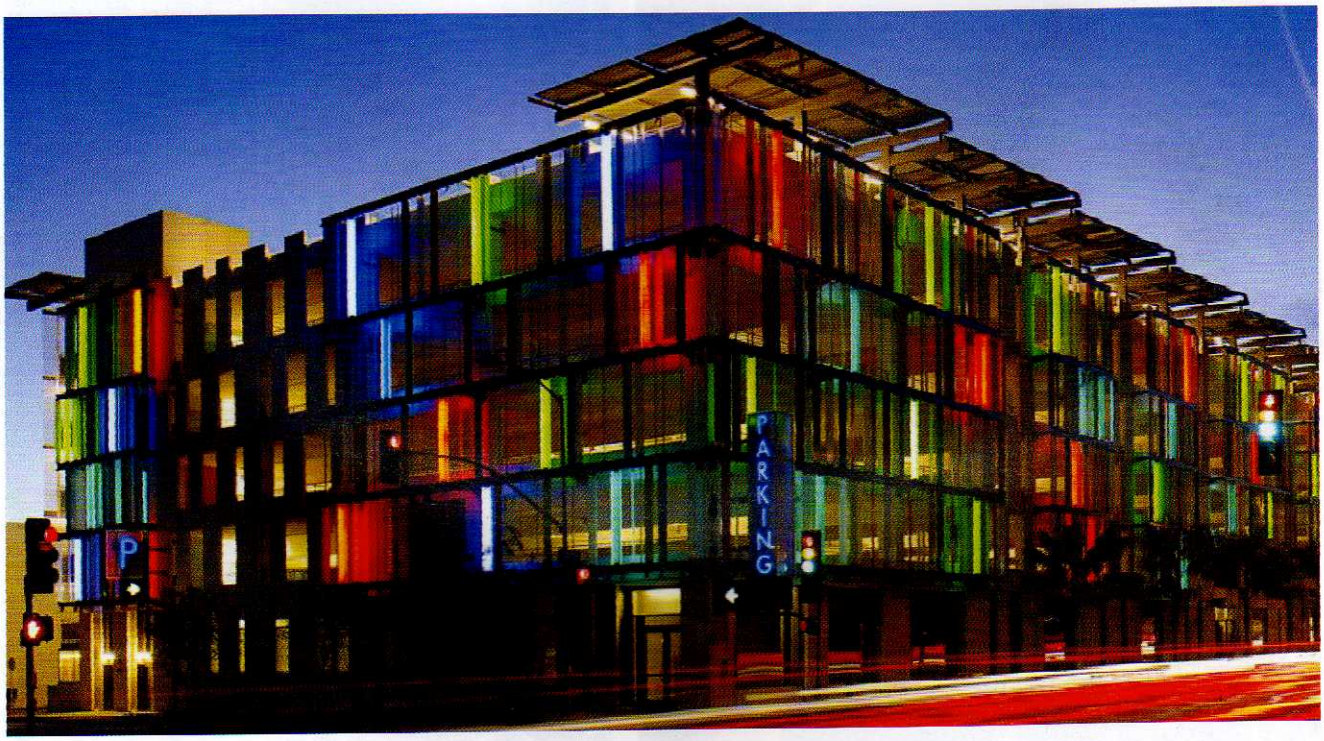
One of the key developments in architecture during the last decade was the effort by architects and designers to allow as much natural light into a building as possible. The only way to accomplish this is by using transparent or translucent materials wherever possible. There are two products that are innovative and may change the way we think of glass building facades.

Lamberts Linit from Germany is a channel shaped glass (an alkali-lime glass consisting mainly of sand, lime, soda and dolomite) is a special form of molded glass. The glass strip taken from the oven is bent into a U-shape whilst still in its plastic phase. It is then cooled and hardened. After the precisely controlled cooling process, the desired lengths are automatically cut. The resulting glass channels all have an individual optical character, which gives the effect of a lively, light-refracting glass facade.

Facade industry is now creating unique exteriors

Compared to flat panes of glass and due to its U-shape, Linit glass has excellent load-bearing capacities and can therefore be installed in very considerable lengths of upto 7m, without any intermediate support. The result is a façade which provides a maximum of glass and a minimum of frame profile.

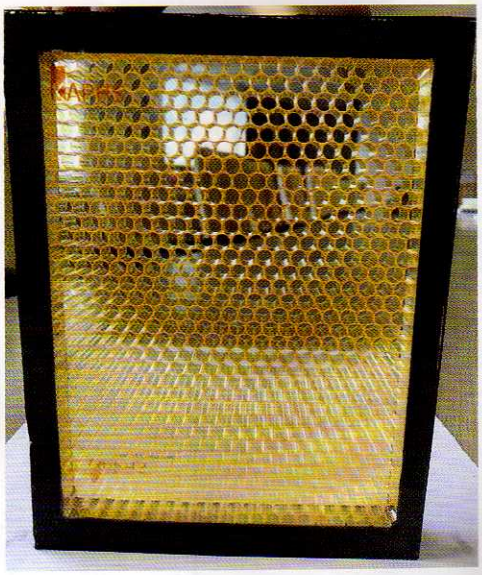


Civic Center Parking Santa Monica

Linit is produced using non-structure rollers, and its good transparency from the rolled-glass provides the observer with an additional aesthetic attraction. However, it should be noted that the optical qualities of rolled-glass are fundamentally incomparable with the surface and transparency of float glass as the production techniques are completely different.

Kaplux is a product that combines honeycomb polycarbonate structure sandwiched between two glass panes to create insulating glass units that is both aesthetically interesting and functionally suitable for regions with high heat. Developed by Kaphs S.Aswitzerland, these high performance insulating glass units are available using standard honeycomb panels of 12 to 20mm thickness.

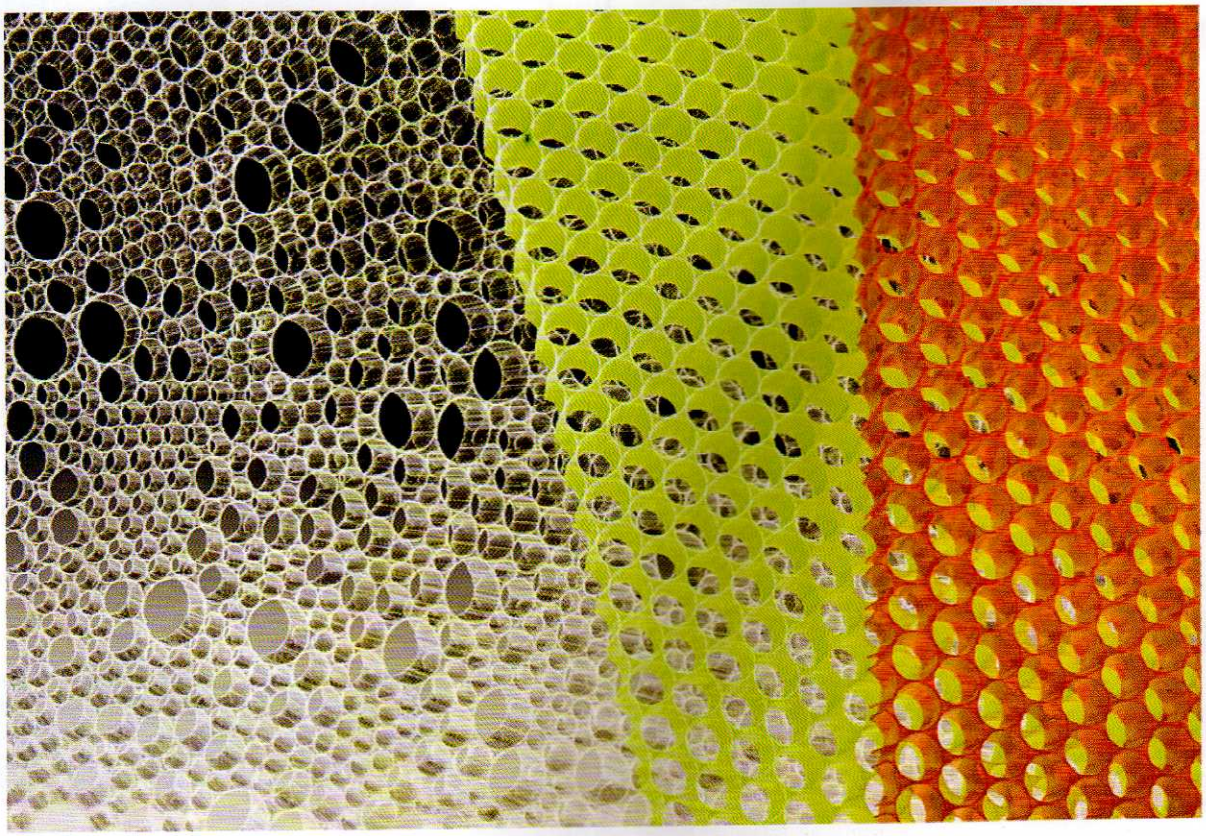
Through Kaplux insulating glass units, direct light is redirected and transmitted into the building, thus reducing glare substantially. Unlike light reduction from tinted and high reflective glass types, this transmits between 55-75% of day light depending on thickness and type of honeycomb panels. Due to its high light transmission, artificial lighting during the daytime is minimal as well as thermal performance, thus reducing heat gain into the building and resultant airconditioning costs. and improving overall comfort for occupants.



Honeycomb polycarbonate sealed glass unit

Kaplux insulating glass units can also be combined with Low-E or other multifunctional coatings as outer or inner glass to further reduce solar transmission into the building whilst maintaining higher light transmission.

Façade industry has come a long way when style was followed in every building structure creating an era, to creating a statement that's different and unique.



Kaplux insulating glass