

MEDIA RELEASE

Haus zum Falken, Zurich

Sculptural precision in glass

Bützberg, January 2026. *With the 'Haus zum Falken', a new architectural landmark has taken shape at Zurich's Stadelhofen railway station. Designed by the internationally acclaimed architect Santiago Calatrava, the project sets benchmarks both in its architectural expression and in the technical execution of its façade structure. At the heart of the design is a complex glass-and-metal façade, developed and realised by Aepli Metallbau AG in close collaboration with BGT Bischoff Glastechnik, a company of the Glas Trösch Group.*

The building's volume responds to the urban edges of its surroundings and closes a striking gap within the cityscape. At the same time, the recessed ground-floor level expands the public realm, creating a generous new pedestrian zone. Calatrava's façade draws on the rhythmic, organic language of his recent art pieces – a sculptural composition of lines, light, and transparency.

Precision in façade construction

The realisation of this complex geometry was achieved through scaffolding-free installation of the unitised façade – a method that demanded a high degree of logistical, technical, and safety coordination. The façade combines powder-coated aluminium profiles with double to quadruple screen-printed glass, each pane produced as a one-off element. The perfectly aligned screen printing (dot- or perforated-sheet pattern) was applied to the exterior of each insulating glass unit. The façade elements were engineered to absorb building movement without any visible structural compromise. A thermal transmittance value of 0.82 W/m²K underscores the project's strong energy performance.

Glass design with purpose

For the 1,800 m² glass façade, BGT Bischoff Glastechnik supplied customised triple insulating glass units – around 1,680 unique panes with double to quadruple screen printing. The technical



finishing was carried out using the COLORPRINT process. The glazing incorporates SILVERSTAR COMBI Neutral 51/26 coatings, which combine high solar control with excellent thermal insulation and offer a neutral reflective appearance. In addition, SILVERSTAR EN2plus T was used as an extra thermal insulation layer. The triple glazing achieves Ug-values of up to 0.5 W/(m²K) while maintaining high light transmittance.

Unique elements with technical finesse

The laminated safety glass SWISSLAMEX VSG was used in building areas requiring the highest levels of safety. With high-tear-resistant, tough-elastic interlayers, SWISSLAMEX VSG keeps the fragments bonded if the glass breaks. In addition, the rear faces of the outer laminated safety glass panes received a continuous edge screen print, enhancing the appearance and concealing the insulating glass edge seal. This made it necessary to produce all panes as unique pieces using SILVERSTAR COMBI Neutral 51/26. Because the edge screen print could not be applied directly to the coating, it had to be placed beneath it. This defined the production process: first the edge printing, then pre-toughening the panes, and finally the application of the coating.

In areas with elevated safety requirements, the heat-strengthened glass SWISSDUREX TVG was installed. It provides significantly higher resistance to mechanical stress than float glass, along with improved thermal shock resistance.

Where aesthetics meet engineering

The glass units were coordinated not only functionally but also with great visual finesse. The double screen-printing technique on the exterior generates subtle depth effects and enhances the façade's sculptural quality under changing light conditions. Colour and surface structure blend harmoniously into the urban environment while retaining their strong architectural presence.

Signboard:

Project:	Haus zum Falken, Zurich
Architecture:	Santiago Calatrava (Calatrava Valls SA)
Client:	AXA Anlagestiftung, Winterthur
Façade planning:	Aepli Metallbau AG/PBF Fassadentechnik AG
Façade construction:	Aepli Metallbau AG
Glass manufacturer:	BGT Bischoff Glastechnik (Glas Trösch Gruppe)
Glass products:	SILVERSTAR COMBI Neutral 51/26 SILVERSTAR EN2plus T SWISSLAMEX VSG/SWISSDUREX TVG COLORPRINT double to quadruple screen printing
Glazed area:	1,800 m ²
Façade U-value:	0.82 W/m ² K
Completion:	2025

Visuals:



The 'Haus zum Falken' by Santiago Calatrava at Zurich's Stadelhofen station features an expressive glass-and-metal façade realised by BGT Bischoff Glastechnik and Aepli Metallbau. Photo: Ingo Rasp



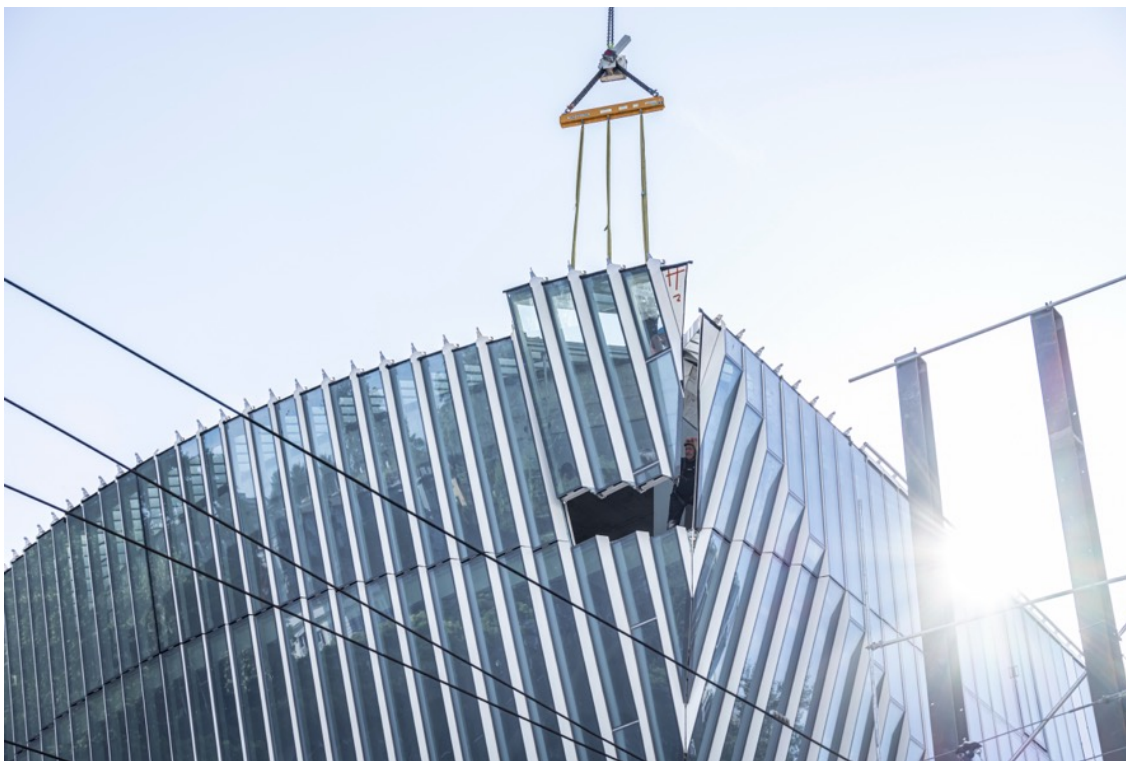
Special coatings on the triple glazing combine high solar control with efficient thermal insulation and a neutral reflective appearance. Photos: Ingo Rasp



The rear faces of the outer laminated panes were finished with a continuous edge screen print, refining the appearance and concealing the insulating glass edge seal. Photo: Ingo Rasp



The four-storey atrium and the sculptural staircase form the spatial heart of the building. Photo: Ingo Rasp



The glass-and-metal façade elements were installed without scaffolding, requiring exceptional logistical precision and stringent safety coordination. Photos: Ingo Rasp



The 'Haus zum Falken' completes the urban ensemble at Stadelhofer Platz, linking public spaces from Lake Zurich to the Opera House. Photo: Ingo Rasp

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