

TECHNOLOGY SEVES GLASSBLOCK

Incredible performance from Technology, the technical collection in the Seves glassblock catalogue. Offspring, from a production point of view, of the German trademark Solaris, acquired in 2005. Solaris was well known in the market for its glass blocks with a high technological content. This line contains Seves glassblock's high-performance products, which are ideal for all applications that require, in addition to normal features relating to the passage of light, higher standards in terms of **safety** in order to face external events (fires, break-ins etc), **insulation** (thermal and acoustic) or **impact resistance** (horizontal or pedestrian structures).

The Technology line is high tech and reliable, in keeping with the best German building traditions. It includes *glass blocks for vertical structures that are highly competitive as regards fire resistance and protection, thermal and acoustic insulation, impact resistance and the controlling of light transmittance*. There is a complete range of formats and sizes. Moreover, there is also a *complete collection* of products especially designed for horizontal structures.

This combination of excellent technical properties and numerous formats, from standard glass blocks with a wide range of finishings and sizes to special solutions, such as curved blocks for 45° angles, corner and end blocks, blocks for horizontal structures and fire-resistant blocks, makes the glass blocks from the Technology collection extremely versatile construction materials: an indispensable element in modern structural architecture, which is light and technological.

When the lighting conditions present particularly difficult problems, this line offers glass blocks that can make full possible use of the sunlight, regulating its overall intensity, and diffusing and directing the rays of light in specific directions.

The ability to transmit light and vary its intensity by altering the degree of transparency of the glass blocks and by choosing from a wide range of finishings ensures an optimal use of daylight in all areas.

While sand-blasted glass blocks prevent visual intrusion in private spaces, the **Light Directing and Light Diffusing** blocks respectively direct the light and prevent annoying glare, and are particularly suited for buildings at major road junctions and along motorways, where the law requires that the risk of people being dazzled should be kept to a minimum.

In addition to the basic proposals providing improved light control, Technology Collection also offers different types of special products to satisfy the most demanding performance requirements.

The Technology collection also contains a series of **glass blocks for pedestrian use**, ensuring new uses for this material and preparing the way for lighter, more transparent horizontal structures.

This is interesting from a functional point of view as it means that natural light can easily be directed into basement floors or underground constructions, with interesting light effects.

This technical line of Seves glassblock also includes a specific range of glass blocks corresponding to different classes of fire protection.

While almost all the basic products in the collection can achieve a fire protection level of E*30 and E*60 (=in terms of integrity of the panel realized), the **fire resistant glass blocks range** specifically realized for this purpose (available for vertical and horizontal panels also) can achieve the highest fire protection levels, E*90 e E*120.

The wall and floor blocks of the same series offer the highest level of fire resistance F(EI**) (=in terms of integrity and isolation of the panel to fire resistance) and, depending on the type of module, guarantee the classes of resistance F(EI**)30, F(EI**)60 or F(EI**)90.

These highly versatile glass blocks also guarantee the highest standards of protection against intruders.

All the Technology glass blocks are resistant against knocks, vibrations, tremors and applied loads. The level of protection can be improved by choosing the most appropriate type of block for each type of operation and the most suitable reinforcing for the joints between one element and another.

For applications that require particularly high levels of resistance, there are the new impact-resistant blocks from the **BSH20 series**. The high levels of performance means that these blocks are frequently used in sensitive areas, such as cash withdrawal areas in banks.

Technology does not just mean security and protection, however. There is also an excellent range of products for thermal and acoustic **insulation**: an example is the F(EI**)90 series of glass blocks, where the acoustic insulation properties reach 49 dB .

For greater **energy savings** in accordance with existing legislation, special glass blocks, such as the recent **HTI BLOCK**, make it possible to achieve a better thermal insulation for surfaces, and consequently also for interior spaces, thanks to a coefficient of thermal insulation equal to just 1.8 W/(m² x K).

The excellent performance of the glass blocks from the Technology line, as well as their ability to meet many different requirements, both functional and aesthetic, means that these blocks can be used in numerous different types of applications. They can be used for the facades of multi-storey buildings, and for the interior of public and private buildings, including the flooring, as is demonstrated by the recent use by Calatrava of highly fire-resistant glass blocks of the class F(EI**)60 for pedestrian use at Liège Station.

E*= index of integrity of a panel to fire resistance

EI** = index of integrity and isolation (heat and smoke) of a panel to fire resistance

Seves glassblock

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