

More colors, sizes und heights: SKALA receives again general building approval

More individuality for aesthetic solar façades with wind loads
up to 100 meters height



Torgau (Germany) – June 10th, 2020

AVANCIS, the leading German manufacturer of premium photovoltaic modules, has expanded its SKALA architectural panel for energy-generating façades with decisive product features. In addition to more colors, lengths and higher flexibility for the type and direction of installation, SKALA is now approved for the façade use with wind loads for heights up to 100 meters. The multiple product design awards winner once again sets a new benchmark for electricity-generating façade cladding elements "Made in Germany". In 2015, the frameless PV module with the hidden mounting system already initiated a completely new standard for solar façade modules as first glued laminated glass module of its kind receiving the German general building approval (abZ).

Façades up to 100 meters height

SKALA is a product platform for architects designed for curtain-ventilated façades. The centerpiece is its unique back-rail concept without mechanical mounting of the frameless front glass. The architecture module is installed completely without visible fastening elements and fits into façades without any disturbing frames. With the new approval, SKALA is certified for loads of up to 3.3 kN / m² in the facade corresponding to wind loads in a building height of up to 100 meter.

Use in portrait and landscape format

The mounting approval for SKALA was expanded from the existing portrait format to the landscape format. SKALA is therefore the only solar module in Germany with a glued back-rail system that meets the high safety requirements of the German Institute for Building Technology (DIBt).



More flexibility for the type of installation

Generally, SKALA can be used on almost any commercially available substructure in the curtain-ventilated façade. The mounting of the module is done by hooking into the building envelope like other facade elements. To ensure a fast, precise and safe construction progress, façade builders and installers can therefore rely on their established systems and processes on the construction site.

Variety of colors and lengths for individual solar façades

Created by its own technology, AVANCIS extends the range of available colors and nuances from subtle, silky anthracite matt optics to intensive, light-dependent color gradients across the entire façade. The surfaces develop a unique color effect because they are not based on conventional screen printing technology. The non-reflective, glare-free and electricity-generating façade cladding material offers architects completely new design options, especially in urban environments.

‘The success of an aesthetic and intelligent product design is no accident. The consequent customer focus, innovative and practical product development, the quality awareness and also the persistence of our teams decide whether product ideas become successful and well-grounded product concepts’, says Dr. Lutz Tautenhahn, Head of Sales & Consulting at AVANCIS. „Our aim is to establish SKALA as the new product standard for architecture, and thus to link energy generation in the building envelope with the highest design and quality requirements to meet all building law requirements.“

SKALA connects with everyone

Based on its platform strategy, SKALA can be combined with any other façade cladding material like mesh metal, plain sheets, stone, wood, plastic or composite materials. Architects, construction planners and façade builders receive all degrees of freedom in planning and executing individual building envelopes.

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About AVANCIS

AVANCIS GmbH, with locations in Germany and South Korea, develops and produces premium-class thin-film solar modules based on the copper-indium-gallium-diselenide compound (CIGS modules) „Made in Germany“. This innovative technology is developed in our own R&D centers in Munich and Torgau, and implemented in the production facilities in Torgau. The AVANCIS technology goes back to the pioneering work at Arco Solar in the 80s and has evolved into today’s thin-film technology via many intermediate stations. The core brands are the SKALA product platform as an energy-generating facade cladding material for buildings and infrastructure facilities, and the PowerMax® photovoltaic module, which is used in open spaces and roof-top systems. Since 2014, AVANCIS has been part of the CNBM Group. www.avancis.de

About China National Building Materials Group Corporation (CNBM)

Founded in 1984, CNBM is the largest Chinese building materials group with a total asset of € 78 billion and 200,000 employees. Main activities of CNBM are manufacturing various construction and insulation materials, flat glass and configuring all requisite production facilities. CNBM has greatly expanded its activities in the field of wind energy and photovoltaics in recent years. Related to this CNBM acquired the Sinoi GmbH, a manufacturer of rotor blades for wind turbines in 2007 the CTF Solar GmbH, a manufacturer of thin film solar modules in 2012. CNBM is now one of the largest producers of highly transparent front glass for solar modules. Moreover, CNBM is also active in the field of acquisition, planning and construction of large PV installations through its engineering subsidiary CTIEC. China is currently pursuing an ambitious program for the expansion of solar energy and the growth plans of CNBM are an essential part of this strategy.