



WORLD WIDE WEAVE

Decorative lightweights

Four new aluminum fabrics with unsurpassed openness

As the global market leader, GKD – Gebr. Kufferath AG (GKD) regularly sets standards with technical weaves for industry and architecture. The owner-managed SME now presents a total of four new rigid meshes made of aluminum in response to current architectural requirements. Anodized in on-trend metallic colors, these PC fabrics are a high-grade alternative to common aluminum products such as expanded metal or perforated plate. As variants of popular GKD meshes made of stainless steel and as a further development of the weaver's most successful aluminum mesh to date, they open up new application possibilities for planners in terms of reduced weight and costs.

At the start of the 1990s, GKD opened up a whole new spectrum of architectural design options with metal mesh together with the French architect Dominique Perrault. In doing so, the technical weavers laid the foundation for a building material that is now indispensable in the field of architecture. The combination of aesthetics and function makes metal fabric a product that sets no boundaries in terms of design creativity. Cable meshes follow every architectural form as an optically seamless skin. **Pre-crimped PC mesh**, which is rigid in both directions, is easy to mount to façades or ceilings as homogeneous cladding thanks to its framework design. The lightness of the construction and the way it reflects the light and surroundings are what lend metal fabric its special effect. Properties that can be adapted to the application, such as screening and solar protection, light and air permeability, and opacity and transparency, also combine customized comfort with sustainability and cost-effectiveness. Wherever the mechanical robustness of stainless steel is not required, aluminum meshes



WORLD WIDE WEAVE

are an attractive alternative. GKD is now expanding the range of these successful products with four new PC fabrics made of aluminum and closing a gap in the market in doing so. As yet unseen openness, warm metallic shades like gold, copper, and bronze in various gradations as well as low weight and material-based cost benefits make this fabric a popular solution in an increasingly price-sensitive market. Thanks to a wire diameter of two millimeters, it also has improved load capacity.

Best-selling products made lighter

With **PC-ALU 6020-62**, there is now a significantly more open variant of the hit products PC-ALU 6010 and PC-ALU 6020 available to planners. The open area of 62 percent at a weight of just 1.5 kilograms per square meter opens up a broad scope of design possibilities, particularly in interior design. For example, this mesh type allows sprinklers or smoke detectors to be hidden from view as a suspended ceiling without impairing their function. As a façade cladding, the exceptional openness of the mesh structure impresses with great light transmission. The extremely light weight qualifies PC-ALU 6020-62 for applications where the statics of the façade or ceiling don't allow for heavy claddings made of metal mesh. Lightness and openness are also a feature of the two new PC fabrics **PC-Orion ALU** and **PC-Tucana ALU**. Both are adaptations of the best-selling products of the same name made of stainless steel, however with much larger free areas. PC-Orion ALU has an open area of 64 percent, while **PC-Tucana ALU** sets a new benchmark with 72 percent free area. At 1.7 kilograms per square meter, both fabrics are only slightly heavier than PC-ALU 6020-62. The quartet of new fabrics is rounded off by PC-Atlantic ALU: With this mesh, GKD is now offering a stainless steel classic for ceiling design in aluminum. This mesh type has a weight of 1.9 kilograms per square meter and a free



area of 43 percent. It owes its special look to the flatness of the weft wires, which create refined reflections in conjunction with targeted lighting.

A different approach to warm metallic shades

GKD offers all four PC fabrics in four new anodized colors that answer the demand for warm metallic shades. For the first time, GKD-specific copper shades are available in three gradations – light, medium, and dark – as is a sophisticated metallic anthracite in the form of GKD Gray. Unlike with coating procedures, the PC fabrics retain the visible structure and shine of the metal in the dip-anodizing procedure, which is what lends them their high-quality appearance. One thing that all the PC fabrics have in common is how they play with light: In the lively structure consisting of round or locked wires, the light is broken up so that the woven skin takes on a different three-dimensional appearance depending on how you look at it. They combine this sophisticated look with ease of maintenance and resistance to corrosion, weather, and UV rays. The high light transmission of the new PC fabrics helps to save on electrical lighting and increases user comfort. GKD produces these PC-ALU fabrics in widths of up to 1.45 meters and lengths of up to six meters with an appropriately reinforced frame construction. The way in which their properties combine predestines them for façade or ceiling projects, where decorative aspects and ease of maintenance are key. In areas where the limited load capacity of façades and ceilings or tight budget restrictions in particular once prevented the use of metal meshes, the new PC fabrics offer a high-quality solution that the market has long been searching for.

5.449 characters incl. spaces



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As a privately owned technical weaver, GKD - Gebr. Kufferath AG is the world market leader in metal, synthetic and spiral mesh solutions. Four independent business divisions bundle their expertise under one roof: Industrial Mesh (woven metal mesh and filter solutions), Process Belts (belts made of mesh and spirals), Architectural meshes (façades, safety and interior design made of metal fabrics) and Mediamesh® (Transparent media façades). With its headquarter in Germany and five other facilities in the US, South Africa, China, India and Chile – as well as its branches in France, Spain and worldwide representatives, GKD is close to markets anywhere in the world.

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