

# Nussbaum **live**e

## Beauty and the best

The view extends to the northeast far into the hills around Lake Lugano, to the west across the plains of Lombardy. This magnificent landscape is home to architectural students from all four corners of the globe living in the «Casa dell'Accademia», a part of the Accademia di Architettura in Mendrisio founded by Mario Botta.

The building designed by the two architectural practices Könz & Molo and Barchi stands out for its remarkable aura: a regional identity in combination with cosmopolitan openness. The material reduction to concrete, wood and steel underlines the clear intention to do justice to the aims of this university and the aesthetic aspirations of the students.

### The Nussbaum complete solution

The high architectural standard is matched by craftsmanship of the highest order. «We knew from the outset that our aim was to reach a quality equally convincing in design and aesthetics», explains Valerio Luraschi, Managing Director and owner of V. Luraschi SA, one of Ticino's leading sanitary companies, responsible for all



installations in the new building. Therefore, the choice of an installation system to meet with these requirements was simple. Valerio Luraschi: «A complete system from a single supplier and service from one company is our trump

card when talking to engineers as well as to architects. And, not least, a constellation of this nature also offers us cost advantages.»

And the outcome is that the «Casa dell'Accademia» in Mendrisio is fitted exclusively with Nussbaum water and sanitary installation systems: from the distribution manifolds and shut-off valves to Optipress and Optiflex pipe work to the Optivis-Tec masking wall installation system. «Right from the planning phase, Optivis-Tec, in particular, seemed the perfect match for the requirements specified by the planning engineers», explains Valerio Luraschi. This also provides the perfect way to fulfil the SIA standard 181 concerning sound insulation. An important detail in student accommodation in which people from all over the world with widely differing habits are living next door to each other.





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## Involved in the project

Client:

The "Casa dell'Accademia"  
foundation  
(President: Pietro Martinelli)

Architecture (planning):

Könz & Molo  
Carola Barchi  
6500 Lugano

Architecture (execution):

Schnebeli, Ammann, Menz  
6991 Neggio

Sanitary planners:

Colombo & Pedroni SA  
6500 Bellinzona

Sanitary installers:

V. Luraschi SA  
6574 Vira-Gambarogno

Start of construction:

January 2005

Completion:

June 2006

## R. Nussbaum AG

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Luraschi also goes on to emphasise: «The fact that we discussed Optivis-Tec with the planners here at a very early stage led to an optimum result for everyone involved. "36 bathrooms in the "Casa dell'Accademia" were equipped with Optivis-Tec. "Two men installed three bathrooms per day, a figure we regard as optimum", says Egon Simoni, the chief technician responsible for the entire project. The simplicity of the system, in particular, with its multifunctional rails and its flexible connectors for every constructional requirement was to prove of decisive advantage in this major project. "We were extremely well advised here with Optivis-Tec", was the general opinion of all involved.

## The Nussbaum complete service

As far as Valerio Luraschi is concerned, quick installation, "just-in-



time" deliveries of the components as well as optimum support from Nussbaum in the practical implementation are the decisive factors in favour of the leading manufacturer. "It is the first major project that we have undertaken completely with Nussbaum and the first major project that we have implemented with Optivis-Tec. We will undoubtedly work with this system again", declares Valerio Luraschi in this connection.

## The contractor

V. Luraschi SA, based in Vira-Gam-



barogno, ranks among the leading sanitary installation companies in the south of Switzerland. Founded as long ago as 1919, it has grown steadily over the intervening decades. Today, with a workforce of around 30, the company operates in the fields of sanitation and heating, swimming pools, alternative energies and project planning.