



A Tata Steel Enterprise



## Case Study

### Office building Avaloq SA in Bioggio, Switzerland

**Products:**

237 m <sup>2</sup>	MONTALINE® 26/200 F-K
60 m <sup>2</sup>	MONTALINE® 26/250 F-K
300 m <sup>2</sup>	MONTALINE® 26/300 F-K
470 m <sup>2</sup>	MONTALINE® 26/400 F-K

**Building owner:**

Tigestim SA, Bioggio, Switzerland

**Client:**

Officine Ghidoni SA, Riazzino, Switzerland

**Architect, Engineer & Construction Management:**

Tigestim SA, Bioggio, Switzerland

**General contractor:**

Tigestim SA, Bioggio, Switzerland

**Realisation:**

2018 / 2019





# Filigree finesse

The office building in Bioggio is adorned with an elegant façade made of MONTALINE® cladding profiles.



Attractive appearance and new space for an additional 300 employees: both are combined in an office building in the municipality of Bioggio, where software and financial services provider Avaloq had its Ticino location expanded by around 4,600 square metres of administrative space in 2018.

The façade is striking and, thanks to a harmonious interplay of different colours and shapes, exudes a relaxed elegance with simultaneous playfulness. This was made possible by MONTALINE® façade cladding profiles from Montana Building Systems Ltd. (Villmergen) in different heights, lengths and shades of colour. But what seems almost random today required meticulous planning during the construction phase: every single one of the aluminium profiles had its exact place in the architect's design.

Industrial buildings are not always exciting to look at. Office buildings are no exception. This is different in Ticino, or more precisely in Bioggio: the local site of the software and finance specialist Avaloq was expanded in 2018 with a building that breaks with the aforementioned prejudices. Right next to the original premises, a place was created where innovation is already visible from the outside. This was achieved

with a special type of façade design: generous glass surfaces have an equally inviting effect on visitors and daylight. The latter also finds a dance partner in the filigree aluminium elements of the façade, which manifests itself in an appealing interplay of light and shadow. This spectacle is supported by the harmonious interplay of different shapes and colours in the cladding profiles: Three nuances between

anthracite and titanium have a timelessly elegant effect. Added to this are the different heights and lengths of the individual profiles, resulting in a creative mosaic of different structures. The result sometimes reminds viewers of a slide rule, which could hardly be more fitting for the purpose of the building – Avaloq is known for its banking software.

### Flexibility for every project

What appears so light and playful actually required meticulous planning and a great deal of effort during construction and assembly. All MONTALINE® elements installed had to be adapted exactly according to the design scheme of the architectural office Tigestim SA (Bioggio). Another challenge was the partly minimal quantities of the required profile types of individual construction heights or colours. For this reason, too, the decision was made in favour of the products of Montana: small quantities of different elements can be

realised here without any problems. Thus, the MONTALINE® façade cladding in Bioggio now forms the basis for an elegant façade on which no fasteners are visible.

But the possibilities of the MONTALINE® system go much further thanks to its flexibility. For example, the façade cladding is produced with bended ends on both sides, which gives it the character of a significantly more expensive flat panel façade. With different construction widths – as well as in combination with a large selection of colours and coatings – further or convex rounded MONTALINE® profiles

are also available to planners for the design of façades in industrial, administrative or residential buildings. A particularly delicate design with or without joints as well as the already mentioned concealed fastening visually distinguishes the MONTALINE® façade panels from trapezoidal or corrugated profiles.

In Bioggio, the versatile elements were used in three colours, four heights and various widths to create an exciting interplay of light and dark over an area of around 1,000 square metres of façade. The result speaks for itself and inspires with a visual symbiosis of liveliness and order.







### **Inspiring environment for innovative thoughts**

But the new Avaloq building is also convincing behind its façade: it is equipped with a modern ventilation and building management system, and there are solar panels on the roof. The structural coherence is particularly interesting, because the room utilisation concept also shows clear parallels to the external impression: the employees find

elements for dynamic working here, but also have their own fixed workplaces – again a harmonious balance of creative flexibility and structure-forming specifications. Between the new building and the old building, which is still in use, there is also a "piazza" that invites people to linger. From spontaneous meetings to informal gatherings and leisure activities, all kinds of interactions are conceivable here. A courtyard has also been created, which offers additional open space in a sheltered area.

With the new building and a total capacity of more than 800 employees, Avaloq now unites the entire workforce in Ticino at one location. At the same time, there is still room for further growth in Bioggio. The office building, which is as elegant as it is modern, thus offers plenty of space for good ideas and at the same time creates an inspiring environment for its users – not least thanks to its unconventional look.

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