



A Tata Steel Enterprise

## Case Study

### Apartment buildings, Diepoldsau, Switzerland

**Products:**

MONTAFORM® Design Individual  
MFD TOI 50-4/597 AP; MFD TOI 50-4/660 AP; MFD TOI 52-4/597AP;  
Dark Bronze  
1'400 m<sup>2</sup>

**Owner:**

Sonnenbau Projekte AG, Diepoldsau

**Facade construction::**

Fritz Gresser AG, Widnau

**Architect:**

Baumschlager Hutter Partners, Heerbrugg

**Construction time:**

2021

### Single-family house, Altstätten, Switzerland

**Products:**

MONTAFORM® Design Trapezoid  
MFD T 25-12/816  
Bronze Metallic  
520 m<sup>2</sup>

**Owner:**

Rita and Walter Wüst, Altstätten

**Facade construction::**

Wüst Metallbau AG, Altstätten

**Architect:**

Archraum AG, Altstätten

**Construction time:**

2021

## Because clothes make the man

Residential buildings erected in Diepoldsau and Altstätten with individual façade profiles from Montana.



Single-family house, Altstätten

Elegance and individuality for your own four walls – those were the requirements for two residential building projects. Both building owners had a uniquely designed façade in mind that was to be like no other. In order to turn it into reality, the choice fell on the high-class MONTAFORM® design profiles from Montana Building Systems Ltd. from Villmergen. “These steel or aluminium façade profiles offer a particularly large range of design options”, explains David Helfenberger, who is responsible at Montana for technical consulting and sales in eastern Switzerland. Developed as a select design element, the profiles are produced ex works exactly in accordance with the respective customer’s wishes, in the process of which the individual concepts are implemented with regard to profile form, colour, type of metal and coating. Even the perforation of the elements is almost freely selectable.

“Clothes make the man” as the saying goes, and everyone knows that there is more than a grain of truth in that. That’s why most people make sure that their clothing reflects a certain self-conception, and what applies to one’s personal appearance is no less applicable to one’s own home: a residential building thus transports the image of the residents to the outside, while offering them cosiness and security inside. Special elegance and individuality were crucial for two building owners in the canton of St. Gallen in 2021. For that reason, both chose the MONTAFORM® façade profiles from Montana Building Systems Ltd. for their residential construction projects. “We developed the Montaform Design Individual line especially for special and individual design requirements, such as in residential construction”, explains Lucas Rodriguez, product

manager at Montana. “Architects and building planners can have these façades produced exactly in accordance with their wishes directly in our works.” An argument that met with approval both for the detached house of the Wüst family in Altstätten and for two apartment blocks built by Sonnenbau Projekte AG in Diepoldsau.

### See far – visible from afar

From an exclusive hillside location, the Wüst family’s new private home looks out over the rooftops of the district of Altstätten. The cubic looking building, which consists of two flat blocks placed on top of each other, protrudes prominently from the hillside. In this way the architecture of the detached house already directs one’s gaze to the special view. In order to do justice to the exclusive and highly visible location, the commissioned locally based architect

Daniel Eggenberger from Archraum created an architectural concept that not only stood out visually. While the lower block of the detached house with its timeless concrete appearance is slightly set back, the upper block clearly overhangs on the downhill side. The magnificent view of the valley is thus highlighted even further. However, it’s not only this overhang that makes the upper floor an eye-catcher. The appearance of the façade also differs markedly from the lower storey: the design changes from the fair-faced concrete used below to a rear-ventilated metal façade.

Here, the planner and building owners chose the MONTAFORM® Design Individual façade profile. These fine steel or aluminium panels were specially developed for use in residential





Apartment buildings, Diepoldsau

construction and offer a particularly large number of individual design options. In the Wüst family's case, the choice fell on elements in the colour tone Bronze Metallic, which clearly stands out from the fair-faced concrete of the lower façade due to its much darker colour. The narrow perforated ribs of the profiles create an interesting play of light and optically extend the building in height. This is supported by the window cut-outs: here, the longitudinal ribs of the façade extend up to the right and left edges of the windows, while the areas above and below the window consist of flat metal elements. The building thus appears to stretch up towards the sky. Apart from the unusual visual properties of this façade technology, further points spoke in favour of its use in Altstätten. "On the one hand, such a rear-ventilated façade represents a healthy living alternative to other common insulating systems", explains David Helfenberger from Montana. "On the other, metal façades offer a big advantage in terms of weather resistance." In particular the latter was a further incentive to choose this façade variant in view of the hillside location in Altstätten.

### Double luxury in Diepoldsau

Two apartment blocks in Diepoldsau have a similar and yet totally different design. Here, too, the building owners chose the MONTAFORM® Design

Individual façade elements on the advice of the architect Jesco Hutter (Baumschlager Hutter Partners). "Individuality and elegance were the main reasons for the choice of façade", explains Daniel Wüst, member of the executive board of Fritz Gresser AG, the façade building contractor in Diepoldsau. The special feature of the MONTAFORM® trapezoidal profiles used there is the irregular edging. In addition, the profiles are interrupted horizontally at the top and bottom in order to form a line with the upper and lower edges of the windows as well as with the balcony parapets. Whereas the irregular edging of the profiles clearly loosens the façade, especially in combination with the intermediate partial perforation, the regular horizontal interruptions emphasise the terraced structure of the two luxury apartment buildings. The generously sized balconies and interior loggias of the four-storey apartment blocks are thus further highlighted. A total of 1,400 square metres of façade profiles in the colour tone Dark Bronze were installed in Diepoldsau.

"In addition to the design focus, a second important requirement for this project was a modern, energy-efficient and healthy living façade solution", emphasises Wüst. A vapour-permeable film in the MONTAFORM® Design Individual elements thus

provides appropriate wind protection. This guarantees an insulating layer, while at the same time the exterior walls are not fully insulated. In this way a natural circulation takes place and healthy living is maintained. The façade is thus not only the public face of the building, but also ensures the pleasant living situation on the inside that is desirable in a home. The good weather protection that is already provided by the metal façade is supported in both Sonnenbau Projekte AG apartment blocks by drainage via the drip edge flashings. "With their individually manufactured high-class MONTAFORM® profiles, Montana Ltd. offered precisely the right design solution for this project", says Wüst, "and that within an absolutely affordable budget."

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