

The image shows a large, modern office building with a courtyard. The building has a mix of light-colored and grey facades, with many windows. There are trees and greenery in the courtyard. The sky is blue with some clouds.

Stainless steel fire protection

Safety and hygiene for WMF Metallwarenfabrik, Geislingen

Comprehensively renovated, the WMF headquarters in Geislingen has been a multi-purpose building with modern office workstations and a company restaurant since 2023. An elegant architectural language ensures a high quality of stay. This goes hand in hand with technically sophisticated solutions, for example in the passageways: Teckentrup doors as fire protection closures or stainless steel doors with special hygiene requirements in the canteen also blend harmoniously into the overall appearance.

Württembergische Metallwaren Fabrik – WMF for short – has a 170-year tradition. In its long history, the company has established itself as a supplier of high-quality cutlery and kitchenware and is also an important supplier to the catering industry, particularly in the coffee machine segment. Since the beginning, the company has been based in the town of Geislingen an der Steige in the district of Göppingen. This is where the central administration is located, “Gebäude 80” – built in 1912.

The six-storey building measures around 140 meters long and 22 meters wide, with three access towers each measuring 15 x 12 meters and a height of around 45 meters.



The task

The project presented various challenges due to the special hygiene requirements in the area of a large kitchen including washrooms and a place with a high volume of people, the canteen. These included highly complex smoke and heat extraction systems, fire alarm systems, opposing escape routes and opening and closing doors using technically sophisticated drives. These have a pass-through function and access authorisation on the food serving side. In the event of a fire, the doors open automatically to extract smoke.

The company canteen on the ground floor with high hygiene requirements. The aesthetic solution: stainless steel doors.



Renovated by 2023: 111-year-old building modern again

The extensive renovation of the building was completed in 2023. Architecturally, the historical elements were retained – but the workspaces on the upper floors were upgraded to today's standards. The company restaurant is located on the first floor and has bright, friendly seating.

High hygiene standards apply to the kitchen and food counter, for that reason stainless steel doors are used here. They are resistant to germs and can be easily disinfected. At the same time, these components with their high-quality appearance blend in perfectly with the WMF ambience: There is a kind of connection between the product world and the matt steel doors. Doors with high traffic flows are fitted with a large porthole. This view increases safety and is an ideal visual match for the kitchen.



The porthole makes it easy to see whether there are people behind the door.

The doors in the access routes must be robust: As fire protection closures, they must close reliably, but these elements are also subject to particularly heavy loads. At WMF, the areas most affected are reinforced with metal. Visual trick: The line is continued in the corridor, providing orientation and a colourful accent on the exposed brickwork wall.

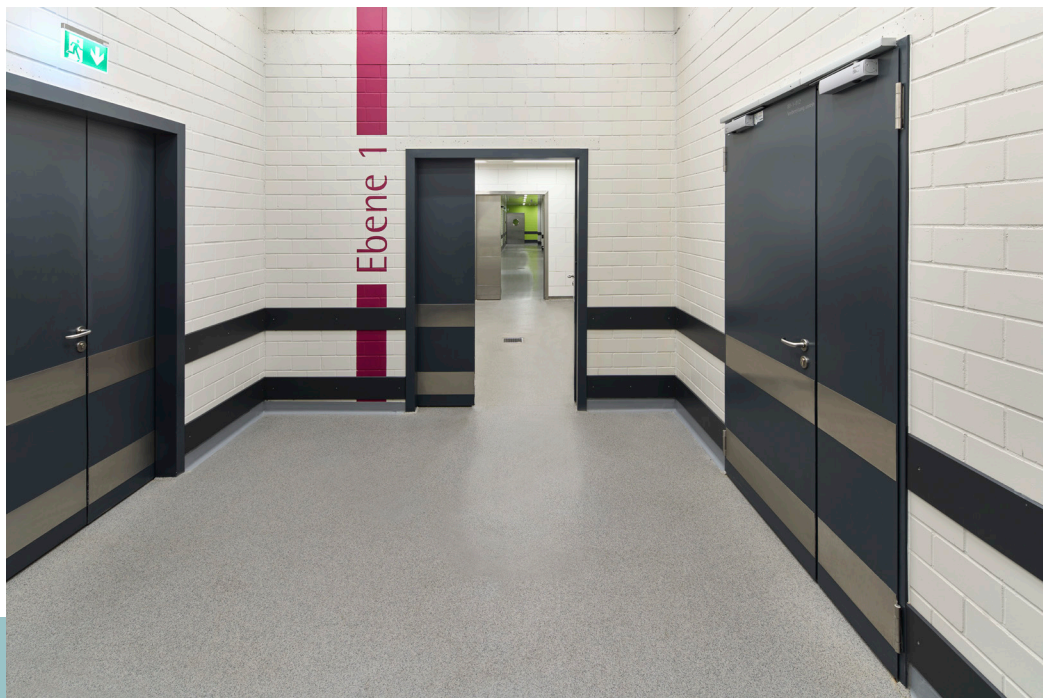


Photo credits: Christian Ebbenkamp / Teckentrup

The planning office also focused on the symbiosis of aesthetics and technical reliability in the access routes. Here, the doors are designed as fire protection closures. Wide, anthracite-coloured steel doors in frames of the same colour were installed in the white exposed brickwork. The structural elements are reinforced with stainless steel plates at base height and at a height of around 60 to 80 centimeters. This allows the doors to withstand impacts, for example from transport trolleys or steps. The design trick: anthracite-coloured hinges continue on the walls at the height of the steel reinforcements and, together with the door solutions from Teckentrup, ensure a consistent image – hygienic, safe and visually appealing.



Fact sheet

Facts and figures

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Building owner

WMF GmbH,
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Architects

asp Architekten GmbH

Fabricator

CHK Bauelemente

Teckentrup products

Fire protection closures, stainless steel doors

Construction time

Completion 2023

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