

Perforated metal is a real alternative to glass cladding says industry body, Europerf

Perforated metal cladding is already widely used in buildings where it acts as an additional external skin on top of glass cladding to provide added aesthetic or sunscreen qualities, but European perforation industry body, Europerf, believes that in some buildings, it should be considered as a replacement for glass.

Where a building's the external envelope does not need to be fully 'sealed', such as in train stations, bus stations, car parks and other similar structures, then the benefits of light weight, durability and ease of installation can make perforated metal cladding an ideal solution says Europerf.

In addition, perforated cladding with a large 'open' area design not only allows light to enter the building, but also provides natural ventilation while limiting the ingress of rain and gusting winds as it acts as a highly effective baffle, which reduces wind speeds and turbulence.

Olivier Janin, Secretary General of Europerf, explained: "*The purpose of perforated metal in architecture is to provide architects and specifiers with new solutions and ways of thinking about how a building can be designed.*"

He added: "*We have already been involved on several projects across Europe where perforated metal has been used as the primary external cladding, which provides a range of benefits over glass and other materials, such as reduced vandalism, ease of installation and the ability to use the perforations patterns to create additional design interest.*"

More information can be found on the Europerf website – www.europerf.org

"Europerf is the Association of the European metal perforating industry. Founded in 1962, Europerf represents the interests of some 27 companies active in 13 countries in the European Union and beyond. Europerf acts as the forum for the European metal perforating industry, with the aim of providing information on and promoting perforated metals and their various applications.

