

CASE STUDY



Application	External facades
Building type	Education
Architect	Pool Architects
Product	TESS™ 660
Location	Switzerland
Project team	Storama

ABOUT THE MUTTENZ UNIVERSITY

Exterior shading which can withstand high winds

The Kildare Civic Offices, or Áras Chill Dara, is no ordinary government building. It won a Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) European Architecture award, described as setting an example for large scale sustainable building.

Around 4,500 people study, research and work at the Muttenz University in Northern Switzerland. The spacious and attractively designed campus buildings provide students and employees with a diverse but balanced environment.

Switzerland's climate and the specific location of the campus dictated the requirement for high wind resistance, as stipulated by the designers in the shading brief. The TESS™ 660's sidelock mechanism stops the fabric blowing out of its guides and the single barrel drive mechanism keeps the fabric constantly under tension, to produce a smooth travel with no risk of the hem bar jamming.

The designers were keen for the systems to be integrated into the building and sympathetic to its features. An anodized finish for the systems was developed to match the colour of the façade while the side guides were designed into the façade structure, fully integrated and invisible when retracted.