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PROJECT

Design bathroom as a new wellness room

BATH TUB WITH A VIEW

Successful change of image: functional bathroom with six square metres?

These times have long gone. More and more people are starting to convert the bathroom into their personal luxury wellness room. The trend is towards superior materials, generous spatial concepts and modern equipment at a spa level. Individually planned and constructed dream bathrooms.



CONSTRUCTION PANELS ENCOURAGE CREATIVITY

Anja und Dietmar Frank made use of the conversion and the energy-related renovation of a 40-year old bungalow in Monheim am Rhein to make their dream bathroom come true. They did the planning and conversion themselves. Dietmar Frank, as the building owner, was not only able to fully exploit his own creativity, but also his expertise. As an employee in the construction department for exhibitions, trade fairs and models at LUX ELEMENTS, he had the know-how required to put his vision into practice.

The entire room concept is based on his employer's hard foam support elements. Whether round, curved or angular, the easy to process products are all-rounders when it comes to design, as they can be individually cut to size for any construction project. Specialists all over the world make use of the knowledge of how to do it and which design

options these systems offer. They benefit from the regular LUX ELEMENTS training courses, which are extremely popular and therefore in great demand.

FROM OLD TO NEW

The bungalow, built in 1972, with a floor space of 132 m² was completely renovated, including all energy-related aspects. Everything was changed, right down to the floor plan, which the Frank family adapted to its individual wishes. The owners created new wall openings for modern windows, moved walls and enlarged rooms. A former study and the adjacent hallway were turned into an 18 m², modern bathroom facility.

The special feature: the arrangement of the sanitary elements is not parallel to the side walls, but is turned out of the central axis of the room by 10 degrees. The shape of the wall areas underlines the position of the new main axis.



■ **Before** – when it all began: the Franks built their dream bathroom from scratch.



■ **Planning** – how it was supposed to become: the planned bathroom as a 3D model.

TURNED OUT OF THE ROOM AXIS

The individual bathroom design separates the room into two parts. The bath tub area, designed as a small separée, is surrounded by walls on three sides and has a very

sophisticated real walnut parquet cladding. There are broad, rectangular window elements in the walls above the edge of the bath tub, enabling a view of the garden or of the

adjacent bedroom. When relaxing in the bath tub, one can look directly outside into the garden. The bath tub cladding, also turned out of the room axis by 10 degrees, was made by Dietmar Frank using LUX ELEMENTS®-ELEMENT-EL construction panels.

LUX ELEMENTS produces polystyrene hard foam and specialises in processing it into products for the building, sanitary and wellness markets. The expanded foam (EPS) is ideal as a base in wet or damp environments, as it does not swell when wet and is permanently stable as regards shape. This base material forms the basis for the hard foam support element. Registered by LUX ELEMENTS with the patent authorities in 1981, it has successfully proven itself in practical applications since several decades.

MOULD RESISTANT WITH BEST ADHESIVE PROPERTIES

Due to its reinforcement with glass fibre fabric, the polystyrene hard foam has a high degree of stability. The reinforcement is embedded on both sides in a cement-mortar coating, which is mould-resistant on the one hand, and on the other hand provides an optimal substrate with excellent adhesive properties for tile adhesives or plasters. Dietmar Frank processed the products in compliance with the system using the appropriate components such as adhesive and wall plugs.

As the hard foam support panels are easy to process, cutouts for the taps can be quickly and easily made. The specialists chose the panel thickness – 30 mm and 50 mm – such that the ledge of the bath tub has load-bearing properties and can be used as a bench seat.



■ **Implementation** – the 18 m² large room was completely re-designed and the long, rectangular windows newly installed.

CONSTRUCTION PANEL AND SEALING IN ONE SYSTEM

Opposite to the bath tub, taking up the larger part of the room, there are the washstands, WC and the flush with the floor shower. A substructure in rib construction was first fastened to the wall for the shower on two sides.

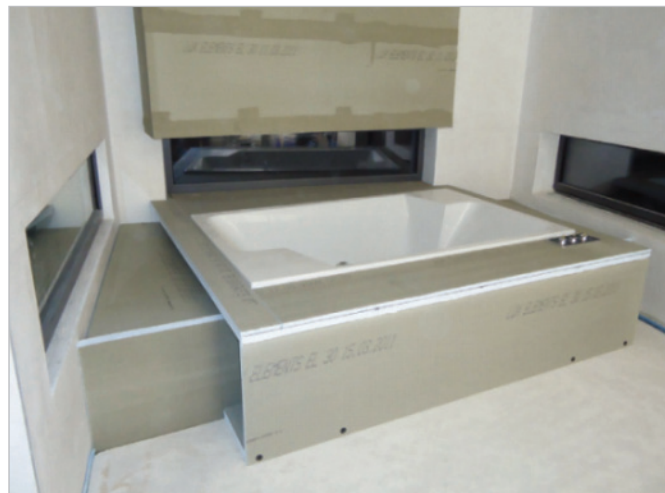
This was followed by the installation of the actual walls – turned out of the room axis by 10 degrees, just as the bath tub construction. The construction panels used here originate from the LUX ELEMENTS®-ELEMENT-VK series. This product has the great advantage that it is already factory-equipped with a waterproof seal that acts as a vapour barrier. A general building authority approved test certificate has been issued for LUX ELEMENTS®-ELEMENT-VK construction panels in combination with the harmonised system components (sealing tapes, inner and outer corners).

CLEVER DOUBLE CONSTRUCTION

A storage niche for care products was integrated in the shower during processing simply by cutting the construction panels to size accordingly. The double

construction of the newly built intermediate wall closing off the shower area is also a clever solution: at the same time, the rear side of the wall is used as the basic construction for the washstands.

Whilst the ready-sealed construction panel was used in the wet area on the rear side, Dietmar Frank used the same construction panel as in the bath tub area for the front panel, which does not come into contact with water, namely the universal LUX ELEMENTS®-ELEMENT-EL. Parallel to the storage niche in the shower, the openings for the taps on the washstands were simply cut out of the support material and a washstand panel was integrated. Then the connection of the taps was made before the design washstands made of cultured marble were finally installed. For the design of the wall areas, the Franks decided on natural stone strips, resulting together with the other materials in a harmonious overall image, forming at the same time a contrast to the white of the cultured marble.



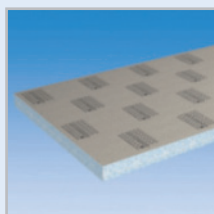
■ **Easily recognisable** – the diagonal arrangement of the cladding. The panel thickness of 50 mm enables the use of the bath tub ledge as a bench.



■ **After completion** – the bath tub area is surrounded by walls on three sides and has a very sophisticated real walnut parquet cladding.

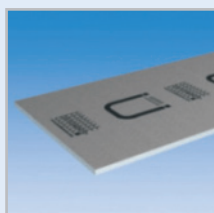
Products used:

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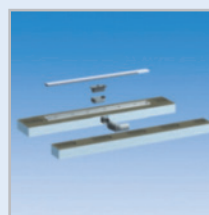
LUX ELEMENTS®-ELEMENT-EL

Hard foam support element with a mortar coating and stabilising glass fibre fabric on both sides.



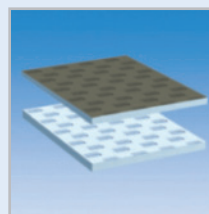
LUX ELEMENTS®-ELEMENT-VK

Factory-sealed support element with vapour barrier properties.



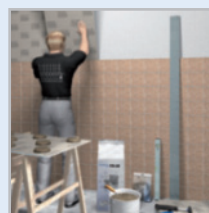
LUX ELEMENTS®-TUB-LINE COMBI

Particularly flat hard foam channel support element with sealed, floor channel drain including integrated, horizontal drain connection fitting with odour trap.



LUX ELEMENTS® – Gradient elements

Matching gradient elements are optionally available for all channel support elements TUB-LINE COMBI. They can be attached to one or both sides of the channel support. If necessary, they can be cut to size on the higher side to adapt them e.g. to a niche.



LUX ELEMENTS® – System components

The proven and tested system components are fully adapted to the installation of our hard foam support elements. Specially developed adhesives and mortar, sealing tapes, mounting angles and dowels ensure trouble-free working.

FLUSH WITH THE FLOOR SHOWER WITH CHANNEL DRAIN

In the freshly created area behind the washstands, Dietmar Frank installed a flush with the floor shower with a sealed-in floor channel drain from the LUX ELEMENTS®-TUB-LINE-COMBI series.

This hard foam channel support element with a height of 70 mm is strikingly flat, as the horizontal drain connection fitting is already integrated. The product is particularly

suitable if a high installation height is not given, as is the case in the redevelopment of old buildings. Cover rail and frame are of stainless steel. The system offers two design options due to a reversible channel cover rail. One side has a brushed stainless steel surface; the other can be tiled to match the entire shower base. By simply turning, the desired side faces upwards.

LUX ELEMENTS offers matching gradient elements made of hard foam support material for the formation of the slope when installing a channel support element. These can be attached to one or both sides of the support element and can be shortened as required to fit into a niche. In the bungalow in Monheim, Dietmar Frank installed the gradient element using the so-called "dot

technique". For this, dots of mortar are applied to the substrate at regular intervals, onto which the gradient element is positioned and aligned.

This technique levels out irregularities in the floor.



■ In the shower area, factory-sealed construction panels were applied to a substructure in rib construction.



■ Gradient elements were processed in the flush with the floor shower with the drain channel using the "dot technique".



■ After completion – the shower was tiled with fine stoneware, and anti-slip material was used for the floor covering.

FREELY SELECTABLE SURFACE DESIGN

The surface design is individually selectable for all hard foam support elements. Whether tiles, mosaics or natural stone, the surface design is solely a matter of personal taste.

In Monheim, the walls and floor of the shower were tiled with fine stoneware. For safety reasons, the owners decided on a matt floor covering with anti-slip properties. Anja and Dietmar Frank have made their dream bathroom come true and enjoy it immensely every day. "Designing a bathroom to our own ideas was something we had wanted to do for ages", explains Anja Frank. "The result even surpasses our expectations. A wonderful place to relax and leave the day's troubles behind you."



■ Two construction panels with different requirements are used for the intermediate wall. The factory-sealed and vapour-barring product LUX ELEMENTS®-ELEMENT-VK was used in the rear shower area.



■ After completion – the white design washstands made of elegant cultured marble form an attractive contrast to the natural stone strips.



OBJECT DETAILS:

Object:

18 m² private bathroom, conversion,
in Monheim

Customer:

Anja and Dietmar Frank (private)

Planning:

Dietmar Frank, employee in the construction department
for exhibitions, trade fairs and models at LUX ELEMENTS

Products used:

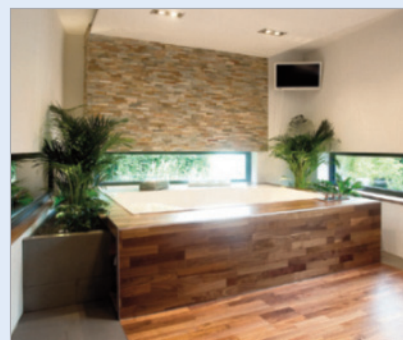
- LUX ELEMENTS®-ELEMENT-EL
- LUX ELEMENTS®-ELEMENT-VK
- LUX ELEMENTS®-TUB-LINE
- LUX ELEMENTS®-SYSTEM COMPONENTS

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