Blick

OBO Bettermann Group Magazine

1 2016

Building Connections
OBO at Light + Building 2016

Rough and Tough Challenge
Distributors tested

Versatile
Diverse trunking – Rapid 45/80

GES R2
Elegant underfloor solutions for restricted spaces

Light + Building 2016
Special edition

Building Connections

OBO BETTERMANN

OBO BETTERMANN

Building Connections

Building Connections 2016

OBO builds connections. And you can discover just how diverse and versatile these connections are at Light + Building in Frankfurt, from 13 to 18 March. At our 550 square metre booth in Hall 8.0, Booth E90, visitors can experience the perfect synergy between the latest and long-standing solutions for electrical installation – made by OBO.

Building on solutions
For several years we have been focusing on building up existing product systems and fine-tuning them to the needs of modern electrical installation. For example, products from our TBS area now protect not only buildings and distribution boards against lightning and surge voltages, they reliably guard highly sensitive areas at risk of explosion and safeguard sensitive equipment that communicates using modern data lines and Wi-Fi. Our solutions are always tailor-made structures in their own right.

Elegant connections
What planners and architects want are effective, modern electrical installations which blend discreetly into the architecture of buildings – and OBO has been providing them for years. OBO systems connect electrical installations that span large areas and multiple storeys. An example of these are underfloor systems from Ackermann made by OBO.

OBO has been creating tailored connections, such as those found in modern offices, for 60 years. To mark our anniversary, we will be presenting the latest underfloor highlights together with long-standing solutions at Light + Building, and we will be looking back on the history of these systems.

Connecting the generations
OBO connects generations of products as it does generations of employees. Rooted in our native Sauerland region, we know exactly when to pursue a new trend and when it is better to fall back upon long-standing, tried-and-tested tools of the trade. It is this interplay between young and old, the latest technology and years of practical experience, that sets our company and its products apart.

Worldwide connections
In the age of globalisation, OBO is globally networked. Close connections have grown up over recent decades to subsidiaries and partners on every continent. As digitalisation takes hold, OBO's experts grow closer together throughout the world. By exchanging experience and developments directly, we grow together and build new connections – between cultures and between our product systems.

Connected on location
We build connections – at Light + Building 2016 in Frankfurt and with our products throughout the world.

Come and experience the perfect synergy between the latest and long-standing solutions for electrical installation.

Find out all about the latest product developments. Ask us, and come away knowing how you can use our solutions to connect buildings and systems in the best possible way.

Regards,
Andreas Bettermann

Frankfurt Exhibition Centre

Light + Building

Date

13.03.2016 to
18.03.2016

Location

Hall 8.0
Booth E90

“There’s a better way to do it – find it.“ *Thomas Alva Edison*

ROUGH AND TOUGH CHALLENGE

VBS

Impact-proof – in every situation

OBO Bettermann's distributor boxes can stand up to quite a lot, and this versatile plastic housing is completely new to OBO's range. It's tough and reliable, ensuring that electricity remains available at all times in the adverse environments of industrial production.

The distributor boxes can be supplied in two different materials, depending on the demands of where they are used. One casing, in tough tradesman's quality, is made of polystyrene. Distributors made of high-grade polycarbonate (PC) offer even more strength and safety.

Impact-proof plastic
Distributor boxes made of PC protect electrical installations that are exposed to extremely harsh conditions. They fight off abrasive cleaners, cold and heat, as well as impacts and knocks in both industrial and public areas. With a protection grade of IP66, OBO distributor boxes are also safe against powerful jets of water and against dust. This makes them suitable for every kind of application, including in protected outside areas.

Thanks to the use of high-grade, specialised plastics, the new OBO SDB series can deal with anything required of modern distributor boxes. They are also easy and especially versatile to install and offer lots of useful details. The casings can be attached using interior, exterior and corner mountings. Easy to open and close, the cover offers a robust closure contour. The products come with self-adhesive pictograms so that the installation can be clearly marked.

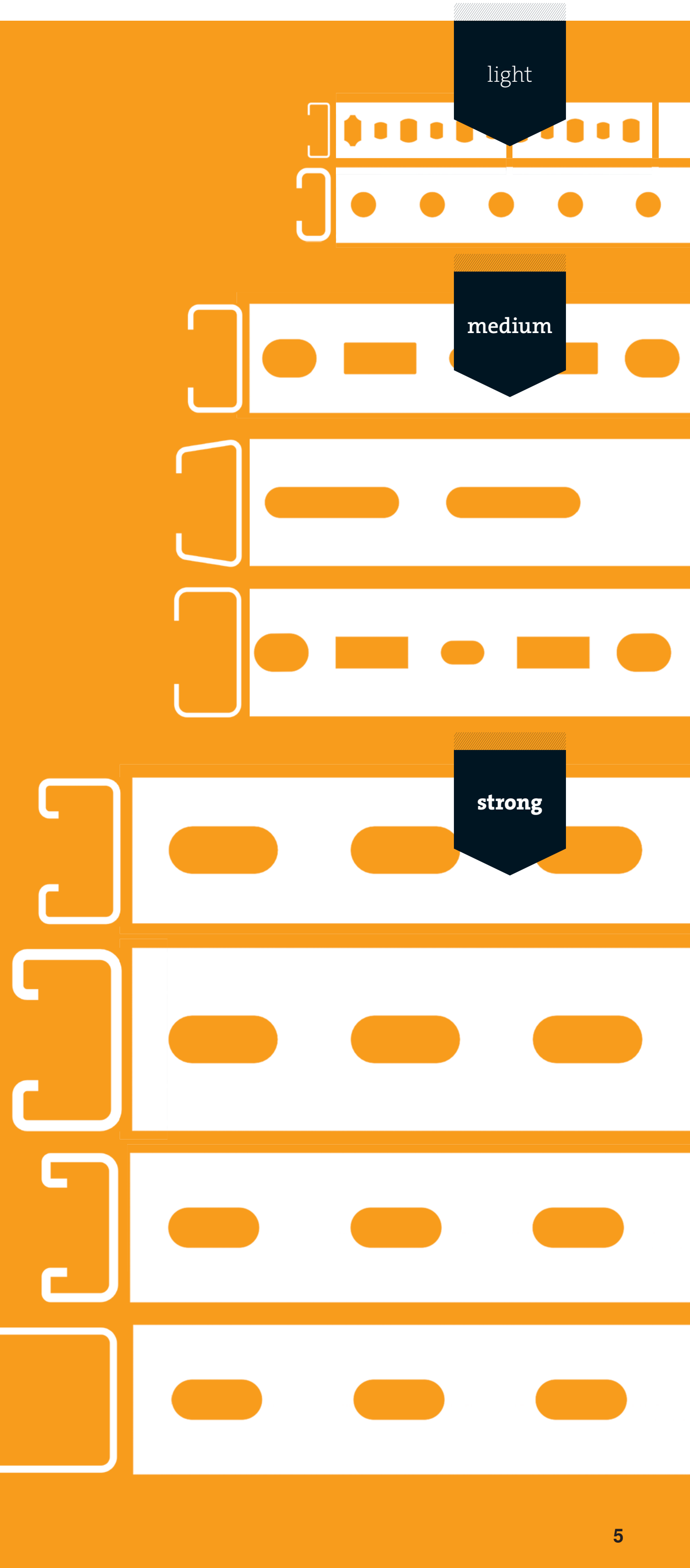
Four sizes incorporating three, five, nine or twelve divider units offer flexible installation space for installed devices on hat rails. The high-grade polycarbonate distributor boxes are supplied with innovative PE/N screwless terminal points. Each of these has one 25 mm² and one 16 mm² screw terminal point, two 4 mm² and twelve 2.5 mm² screwless terminal points. The tradesman's quality distributor boxes are available with our popular OBO screw terminals.

Tested in practice
All of our distributor boxes have been tested in practical scenarios, and of course in compliance with all the relevant standards. But there is one test still to come – the Rough and Tough Challenge. What happens when an ice hockey player gets together with the Product Manager of our VNS department? Does an ice hockey puck pose a threat to the OBO SDB series?

The answer's worth a look...

WATCH TRAILER

At a glance



OBO's tried-and-tested rail system is now even more clearly sorted. You can choose at a glance between the three duty types, light, medium and strong. The accessories that go with them are also listed in the selection guides. That makes it easy to choose products that match each other perfectly.

These tough rail systems are used worldwide in conjunction with many other OBO products for things like suspending cable support systems, providing attachment rails for clamp clips when laying cables, and using as mounting rails. As well as the different duty categories, these rails are of course available in different widths and with a range of different perforation patterns. Our range of rails is available in two finishes: strip galvanised and hot-dip galvanised, depending on where they are to be used, as well as in V2A and V4A stainless steel.

"Customers can now find the rail system that suits them really quickly in our newly structured range."

Fabian Faust,
Director of VBS Business Unit

TBS

Banish ignition sparks completely

Danger: explosion

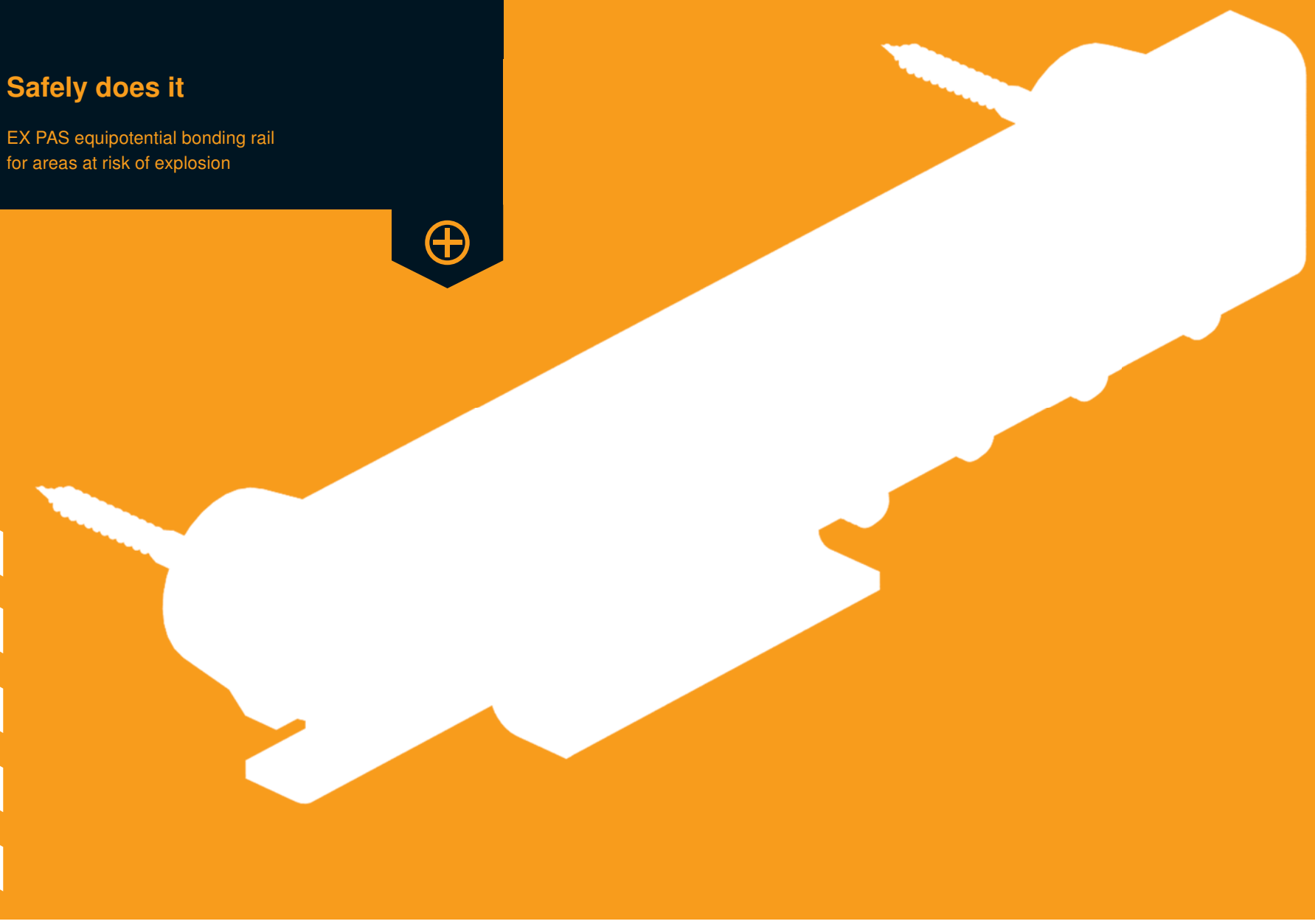
There is a risk of explosion wherever gases, vapours, mists or dust collect and are able to form explosive mixtures together with air. Explosion protection aims to prevent damage to products, plants and other facilities. Three factors have to occur simultaneously to create an explosion:

- Flammable substance
- Oxygen
- Ignition source as described in the Technical Regulations for Operational Safety (TRBS) 2153: static electricity, electromagnetic waves or lightning

This means lightning protection is essential for areas at risk of explosion. That is because every lightning strike, ignition spark or even a lightning conduction pathway which heats up a lot can cause ignition. Surge voltages can also damage electrical equipment, systems and components used for instrumentation and control, and in a worst-case scenario can cause an explosion.

Safely does it

EX PAS equipotential bonding rail for areas at risk of explosion



Playing it safe

OBO's tested, patented EX PAS equipotential bonding rail is an important element of the explosion protection concept. They have been proven to be free of ignition sparks in an explosive atmosphere in compliance with the most stringent explosion group, IIC. This means the EX PAS provides protection in any explosive gas-air or vapour-air mixture in explosion category IIA, IIB and IIC, as well as explosive dust-air mixtures.

The equipotential bonding rail has also been tested under the high loads of Class H in compliance with VDE 0185-561-1 (IEC 62561-1). It can be used indoors and out, such as in the chemical, pharmaceuticals, food and automotive industries, and in biogas and sewage treatment plants. Another important area in which it is used is the oil and gas industry, where liquid gas storage tanks, gas compression stations, petrol stations, and filling and emptying points can all pose a significant risk in the event of a lightning strike.

Protection for VDSL and IP connections

The Tele Defender TD-2D-V from OBO now provides even more versatile protection against the risks of surge voltages in telecommunications systems. Whether in small business establishments or at home, this protection device is suitable for VDSL and IP connections with its high-frequency bandwidth extending to 225 MHz.

Product and installation information can now be viewed using a QR code on the device. Simply scan it with your smartphone or tablet and immediately access technical information about the Tele Defender online. This means product information is also available on the road.

Tele Defender TD-2D-V

NEW

Lightning monitoring

The new LSC I+II lightning current meter helps you keep an eye on lightning incidents at all times. It captures pulse currents and saves them permanently with their dates and times. So you can check at any time using a practical LCD window whether and when lightning has struck the lightning protection system. That is important because, according to VDE 0185-305 (IEC 62305), a lightning protection system has to be serviced after being struck.

Thanks to its IP65 protection type, the lightning current meter is suitable for use indoors and out. Its cable clips enable it to be fitted to round and flat conductors. The meter can be fitted straight onto the lightning conductor or on the PE line belonging to the surge voltage protection device. The meter's internal, long-life lithium batteries allow it to be used for extended periods without maintenance (five years).

Lightning current meter LSC I+II

NEW

At the highest frequency

Added safety at high frequencies. The new coaxial surge voltage protection device from OBO can be used for applications involving frequencies of up to 6 GHz. This allows the product to protect against lightning current and surge voltages in lightning protection zones 0 to 2. It is suitable for use in conjunction with all the latest transmission standards such as WLAN and SAT-TV.

The areas in which this coaxial surge voltage protection device can be used range from high-performance Wi-Fi categories such as "HaLow" (IEEE 802.11ah), ac-WLAN and n-WLAN, to high-frequency applications like WiMAX, all the way to SAT-TV C-band. The device provides a very low attenuation connection due to its optimised transmission behaviour. It is available as a Type N plug-in connector.

NEW

DS-N-6 M/W

Protection Ball – innovative protection cap for connection lugs

You can now make any connection lug easy to see on a building site using the OBO Protection Ball. This new protective cap makes them visible thanks to its reflective covering. It is even easy to see in bad visibility and dark basement areas. "The Protection Ball is currently the only protective cap for connection lugs which fulfils the stipulations of DIN 18014 on real-life building sites," says Martin Bischoff, TBS Product Manager at OBO Bettermann. This new OBO product significantly reduces the risk of injury.

The versatile OBO Protection Ball is suitable for many sizes and types of conductor. It can easily be slotted onto round and flat conductors.

Protection Ball

- **Required by foundation earth electrode standard DIN 18014**
- **For protection during the construction phase**
- **Conspicuous, reflective markings**
- **Slots onto round and flat conductors**

With the OBO Protection Ball, connection lugs are now easily seen on buildings sites.

KTS

High-strength connections

Welded cable ladder

Tough and easy to fit – these reliable attributes have marked out OBO cable ladders for decades – whether riveted, clinched or welded. These cable ladders run mile after mile through industrial plants all over the world. And one thing's for certain: every single piece is sophisticated in its design and firmly fixed in its place.

New generation of welded cable ladders
OBO has now completely reinvented its popular welded cable ladders and optimised them for use in industry. With their special design and intelligent rungs, they now provide even more installation space and flexibility in installation, whether vertical or horizontal.

The remarkable way in which the new, patented rung is welded perfectly suits the requirements of different industrial installations, as does the ladder's sophisticated perforation pattern. The rungs can be laid along from both sides with the right clamp clips, which allows the installation space to be used to the full, and that in turn means that narrower – and therefore more economical – ladders suffice. There are plenty of different materials, too. The ladders are available strip galvanised and hot-dip galvanised and in A2 and A4 stainless steel. The new ladders can also be powder-coated.

PATENT PENDING

"Our cable ladders combine maximum stability with numerous installation benefits."

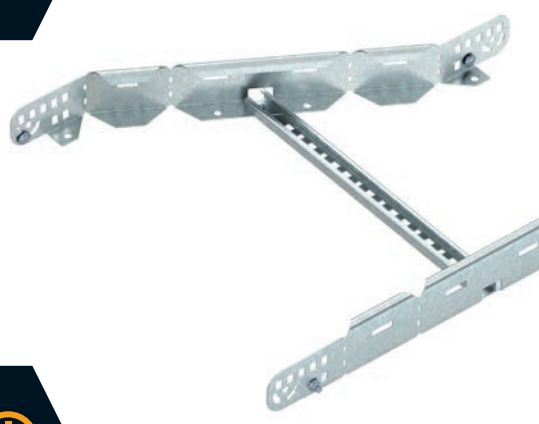
Michael Schmidt,
Director of Product Management
KTS Research and Development

Key benefits

- **High-strength rung connection**
  Firmly bonded, high-strength welding to lower flange
- **Large volume**
  More installation space for cable and wires thanks to bottom-mounted rungs
- **Sophisticated perforation pattern**
  Rungs can be laid along from both sides
- **Tested**
  Strength and reliable corrosion protection: tested in our own BET Test Centre
- **Practical clamp clips**
  A wide range with fixing elements to suit every installation scenario
- **Multifunction connectors**
  New component enables versatile changes of shape and direction
- **Expansion connector**
  Ideal for thermal lengthways expansion and expansion joints on buildings

More installation space for cable and wires thanks to bottom-mounted rungs

Rungs can be laid along from both sides



Multifunction connector enables versatile changes of shape and direction

Safeguarding your every step

Different installation types

The BKRS system can be installed in different ways.

1) On support brackets
2) On Z support profiles
3) Straight onto the floor

Safeguarding your every step

Materials have to withstand a vast range of inconveniences in everyday industrial use, and this certainly applies to electrical installations. Effective protection against being kicked and stood on, and against dust and many other adverse factors, is essential if plants are to be supplied reliably with power and data.

To help achieve that, OBO has expanded its system of heavy-duty, walkable BKRS cable trays. With wall heights of 100 and 110 mm they are designed for the harshest environments such as in areas around machinery and in automated production facilities involving robotic systems. Six different widths of between 100 mm and 600 mm mean there is a cable tray for every occasion.

Walkable cable tray systems from OBO provide safe access to machines and plants. The trays, covers and Z-shaped separating retainers can all withstand heavy loads thanks to their design. OBO guarantees them under walking-loads of up to 9 kN, depending on the installation method and provided that all the installation requirements have been met. Covers with aluminium chequer plate are non-slip and safe to stand on, minimising the risk of accidents in daily use.

- **High walking-loads**
  Walk-proof at up to 9 kN – depending on installation method and provided installation requirements are met
- **Material stability**
  2 mm cable trays, covers and Z-shaped separating retainers
- **Additional installation space**
  Installation is possible beneath an elevated tray
- **Non-slip**
  Chequer plate means they are safe to stand on
- **Preventing accidents**
  Optional guard plate
- **Dust protection**
  Protective elements prevent dust from finding its way inside

NEW

Lay cables safely in tunnels

OBO's cable support troughs are the ideal complement to cable support systems. They are a viable alternative for laying cables quickly and easily in tunnels and other places with little room for installation. Because cable support troughs have a large support surface, they can carry heavy loads despite being narrow. Rounded edges make them safe for laying cables.

The KTW 100 FT version is suitable for fitting straight onto walls. It can also be attached to a profile rail. Whole cable groups can easily be laid onefold to tenfold using the KTW 100 system, as it is already pre-fitted to a mounting rail. The cable troughs have been tested to EN 61537. Our cable support troughs are all available in hot-dip galvanised versions compliant with DIN EN ISO 1461.

Hot new products

PYROCOMB® Intube CTS-HP200

Seal with half-shell in system flooring

Our PYROCOMB® Intube insulation system is ideal for cables that have already been laid. The new CTS-HP200 version is a half-shell, used primarily in underfloor installations. Simply place the half-shell around the lines and position it with the insulating surface on the floor using adhesive tape. It is important to completely fill the interior space. You then close off the half-shell with just one foam plug at one end, and seal the surface using the ASX fire protection coating. This enables it to be done from one side.

In the event of fire, the interior coating of the PYROCOMB® Intube foams up and closes off the half-shell completely, safely preventing the transmission of fire and smoke.

Rockwool Conlit® CL-KS

Well wrapped

A safe solution, especially for smaller openings, is CL-KS fire protection bandage which is used to insulate individual cables as well as bundles of cables and electrical installation pipes inside buildings. In the event of a fire, the material foams up and shuts off fire sections for 90 minutes. This flexible bandage can be fixed in place quickly and easily using wire. You do not have to open the cable bundles. It is important to wrap at least three layers of bandage around flexible electrical insulation pipes, and at least two around rigid electrical insulation pipes and bundles of cables. The bandage can be used right up against pipe seals and insulating materials made by Rockwool.

PYROWRAP® Wet FSB-WLS

Barely any smoke – more safety

PYROWRAP® Wet FSB-WLS cable bandage prevents fire from transmitting along large bundles of cables and cable support systems within fire sections. Its fabric has a fire protective coating and is flexible and unbreakable. If, for instance, a short circuit ignites the beginnings of a fire, the bandage suffocates it at the outset. In the event of an external fire, this low-smoke-emitting material does not burn and prevents the transmission of fire very effectively – both vertically and horizontally. Clear colour-coding makes it easy to wrap cables correctly: the bandage is charcoal-coloured on the inside while the outside is silver-grey and can be wiped down with a moist cloth. The bandage is flame-retardant. Its improved behaviour in the event of a fire allows it to be used in escape and rescue routes in building categories 1–3, as stipulated in the Sample Building Regulations (*Musterbauordnung*, MBO). PYROWRAP® Wet FSB-WLS is more economical than fire protection ceilings or cladding using boards.

BSS

PYROLINE® Rapid BSKM 0407 in new sizes

Slim on the outside, spacious on the inside

A fire protection duct with a highly active interior, PYROLINE® Rapid provides reliable fire protection when mounted on walls or ceilings and when suspended. Its special feature is that an inner coating foams up in the event of fire, preventing smoke and flames from being transmitted. This duct fulfils fire resistance categories I30 to I120.

OBO now offers this metal duct in size 40 x 70 mm, including accessories. PYROLINE® Rapid is supremely easy to install in a small format and ensures safety.

Volume increase

PYROLINE® Rapid

Fire resistance categories

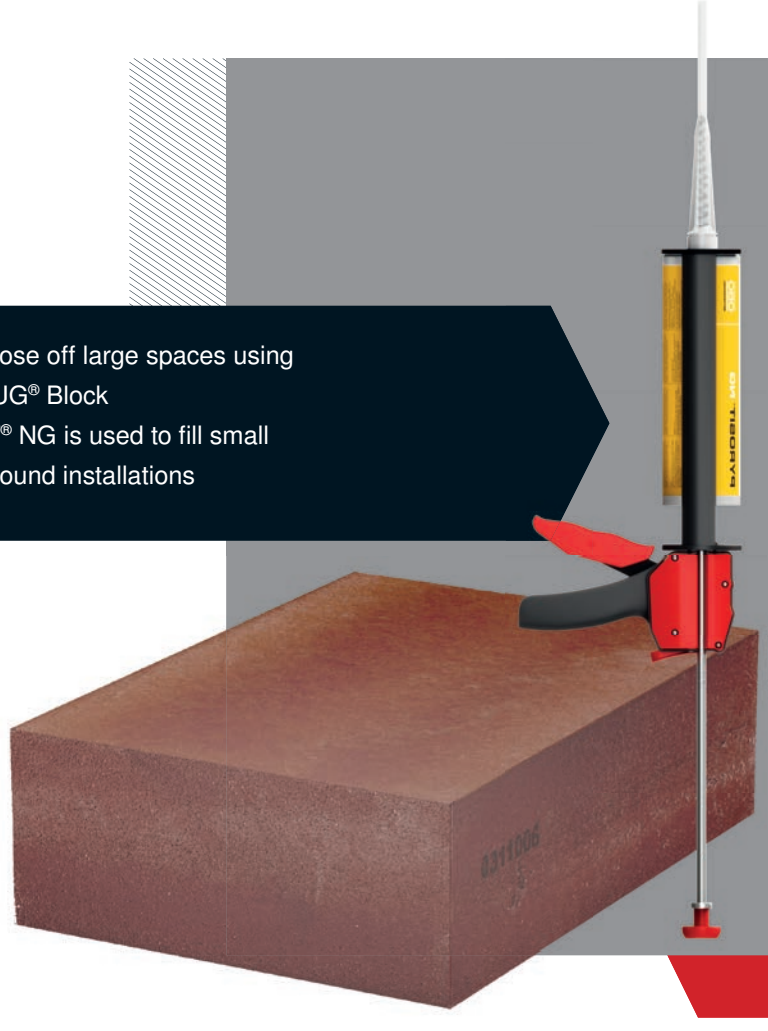
I30 I60 I90 I120

Prevents the transmission of fire

Protects escape routes against cable fires

Easy to fit

- Quickly close off large spaces using PYROPLUG® Block
- PYROSIT® NG is used to fill small spaces around installations



PYROSIT® NG and PYROPLUG® Block as a system

An approved connection

Fire protection block and fire protection foam is a time-saving combination when installing insulation. Large spaces can quickly be closed off using the PYROPLUG® Block. PYROSIT® NG is then used to close off any remaining small openings around the installation. PYROPLUG® Block and PYROSIT® NG fire protection foam give fitters a capable combination of products on-site for cable and combination insulation that is approved throughout Europe.

LFS

Rapid 45-2

Easy installation

Lots of different versions

Comprehensive accessories

The new Rapid 45: a chameleon among trunking

The new Rapid 45-2 device installation trunking offers impressive diversity and adaptability. It combines symmetry, consistent colour quality and technical flexibility in one system. Its innovative fittings enable it to be installed easily on any wall, in offices and commercial areas and in industry. This trunking now includes an additional width to cover even more applications. In its plastic and aluminium version, a 130 mm model is available alongside the familiar 100 and 165 mm versions. A three-compartment width of 160 mm is also available in the plastic trunking range. And another practical feature is that the plastic and aluminium device installation trunking is now designed symmetrically, which enables fittings such as T piece adapters and end pieces to be used more flexibly.

Click

Device installation

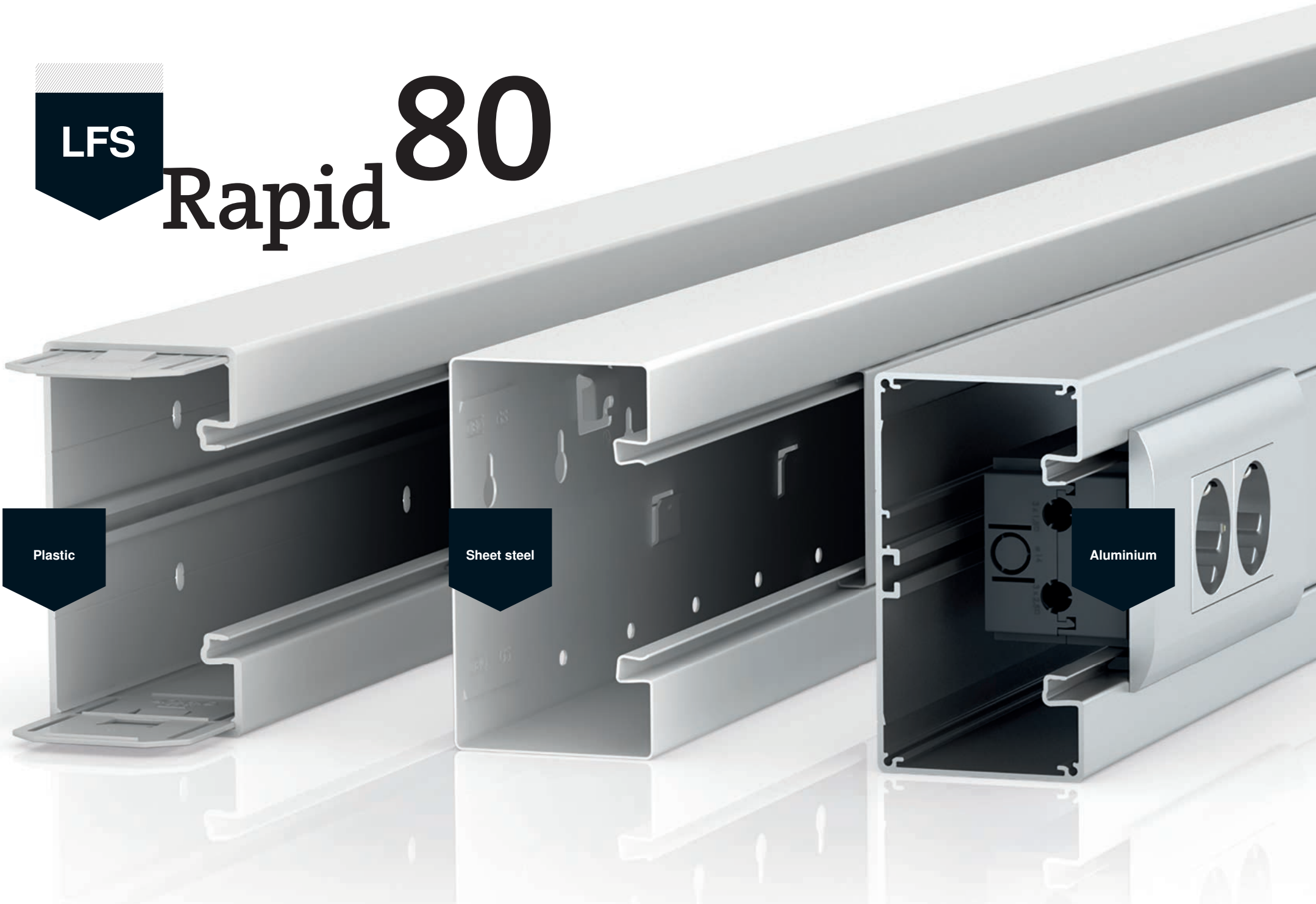
Switches, sockets and data technology elements belonging to the Modul 45 and Modul 45connect OBO series can simply be clicked into place in a trunking profile. It is a compact system that is quick to install and easy to upgrade.

Quick installation with Modul 45connect

Front-clicking switches, sockets and data technology elements belonging to OBO's Modul 45connect series can simply be clicked into place in a trunking profile. A connection adaptor which allows sockets to be lined up easily next to each other means greater flexibility. This enables you to create multiple socket combinations simply and without additional wiring.

LFS

Rapid 80



Rapid 80: triple power in plastic, aluminium and sheet steel

Rapid 80 combines design and function into one convincing system. The system's components are standardised throughout, which allows the three trunking types in plastic, aluminium and sheet steel to be used separately but also in combination. Accessories such as end pieces and variable fittings go with all of the different versions. This is the ideal solution for areas where a lot of things have to be installed.

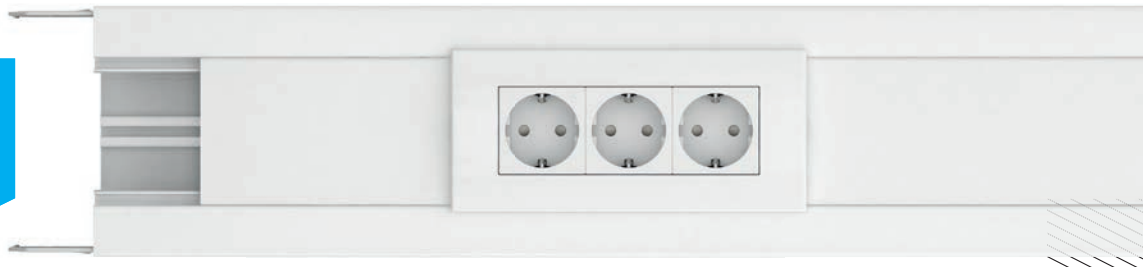
HALOGEN FREE

Halogen-free: the solution for fire-protected areas

OBO offers a wide range of halogen-free cable routing systems which are low-smoke-gas emitters, corrosion-free and safe. All of these products are made of high-grade PC/ABS, which is a self-extinguishing plastic. That is why OBO's halogen-free cable routing systems are a safe bet, especially in public areas. OBO's products range from halogen-free WDKH wall and ceiling trunking all the way to halogen-free VKH wiring trunking for switchgear cabinet construction.

The GKH Rapid 80 device installation trunking system is new in the range, and is, together with its fittings, fully halogen-free and available in the common trunking widths of 130 and 170 mm.

ANTIBACTERIAL



Tough on bacteria and germs

Pathogens usually remain active for a long time on skin, medical equipment and other surfaces. Antibacterial products such as OBO's specially coated device installation trunking can effectively prevent the spread of germs in hospitals, care homes and retirement establishments. Silver-ion coatings on surfaces achieve a long-lasting protective effect.

When the plastic device installation trunking is being made, silver phosphate glass is added to the granulate. The result is that more than 99% of bacteria stand no chance of survival on the finished product.

OBO device installation trunking made of sheet steel and aluminium with an antibacterial coating is also used in health-care areas with a lot of traffic. Again, a silver-based additive is mixed with the powder paint before production. This process lastingly inhibits bacteria formation; 99% of germs cannot survive on this trunking and the installed devices.

Modul 45

Easy to equip

The Modul 45 system has established itself as the benchmark for electrical installations in underfloor systems. Its compact 45 x 45 mm modules need much less space than conventional installation systems and they offer a wide range of common installation solutions for electrical, data and multimedia equipment. They are installed in universal supports and mounting boxes.

USB charger
A completely new addition to the Modul 45 installation devices is a USB charger for one or two mobile devices. Whether in device installation trunking, service poles or underfloor systems, the charger enables you to charge tablets and mobile phones at your workplace in any office.

New socket for Italy
OBO regularly extends the wide range of international sockets that are available for Modul 45. The new Modul 45 P17/11 socket is now available for the Italian market. This socket measures 22.5 x 45 mm and has screw terminals. It is suitable for installation in Rapid 45 and Rapid 80 device installation trunking, ISS service poles and underfloor systems.

Modul 45 socket
P17/11

Art. no.: 6120 74 6

USB charger for one or two mobile devices

Art. no.:
6105 29 1
6105 29 3
6105 29 5

GES9-3

The classic among underfloor systems

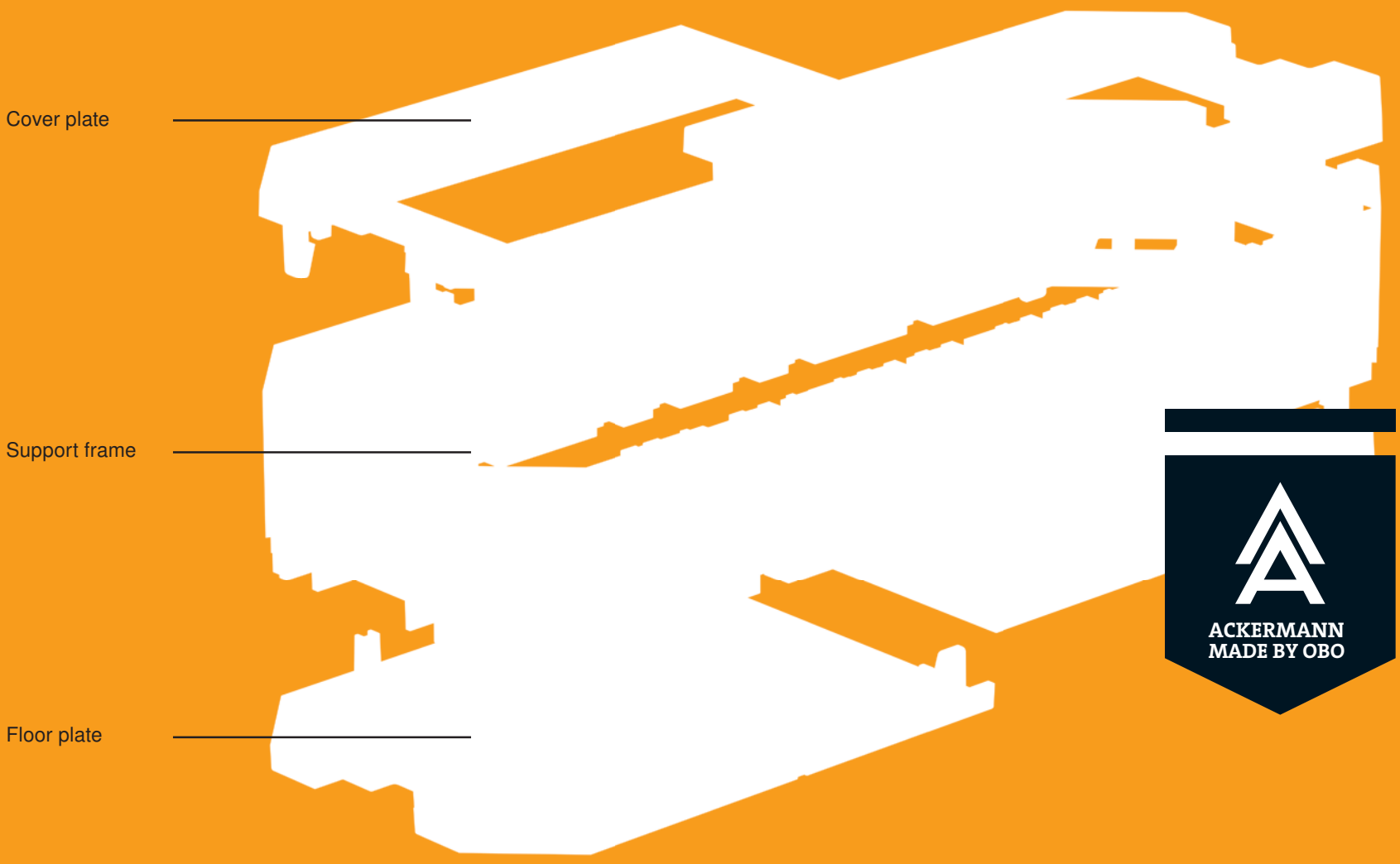
Device inserts from Ackermann made by OBO supply workplaces and other points in the middle of rooms with power and data connections above the floor. Our popular GES9 underfloor device inserts now boast a series of significant product improvements.

There are now two ways of opening the covers of device inserts. The familiar opening mechanism with a handle is integrated into the cord outlet. Alternatively, device inserts are available with snap-in sliders which can be opened easily at any time. The new cover design also makes the whole device insert stronger. The flooring gap in the cover can easily be increased from 5 mm to 10 mm using the spacer which is included.

Each of the different models is available in three colours.

Device inserts supply workplaces and other points in the middle of rooms with power and data connections above the floor.

Sophisticated



ACKERMANN
MADE BY OBO

Cover plates for flexible equipping with devices

The devices with which you equip a universal support depend on the choice of cover plate. Up to four Modul 45 devices can fit in the universal support. Combinations of Modul 45 devices and standard installation devices are also possible.

OBO's UT universal supports offer many ways of installing device inserts and cassettes with locking ladders. The new UT3 and UT4 models were developed for installing Modul 45 devices and standard installation devices with a 50 mm central plate. They enable many different combinations for installing electrical, data and multimedia equipment.

Support frame with innovative turn buckle

The universal support is affixed with a turn buckle in the locking ladder of a cassette or a device insert. It takes just a few moves to install and lock the universal support.

The universal support can be installed in just a few moves thanks to its innovative turn buckle.

Removable floor plates

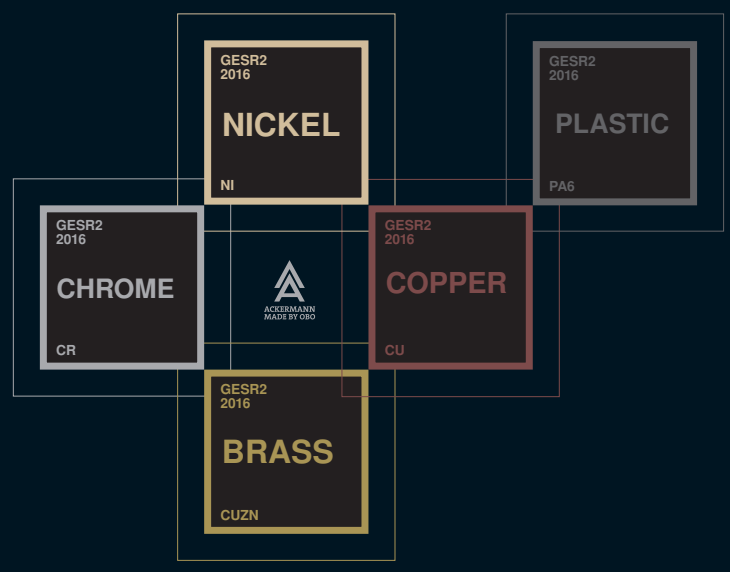
The floor plate can be fully or partially removed. The advantage is that lines can simply be routed out of the bottom of the universal support when installing data and multimedia equipment.

GESR2 2016 GES R2 OBO BETTERMANN

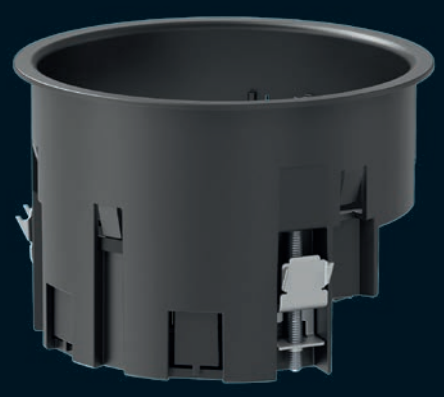
GESR2 2016 MODULAR

Modular

Cover version



Installation box



Screed box

Tube body

Hinged cover

Blanking lid

Elegant underfloor solutions for restricted spaces

The round floor sockets in the GES R2 series supply data and power to where they are needed. These floor sockets are suitable for floors that are dry or wet-cleaned, depending on the version of the cover. OBO GES R2 floor sockets are especially suitable as underfloor solutions where an inconspicuous appearance, high load-bearing ability and plenty of versatility are required. Installed in living rooms and in public areas such as foyers, shopping malls and exhibition areas, these floor sockets are appreciated for their fine design and add an elevating touch even to high-quality floors.

More connection space

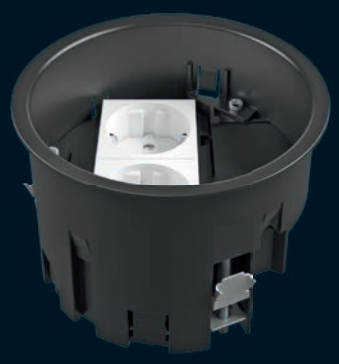
The GES R2 installation box is fitted with two sockets as standard. There is an option for up to two data connections next to the socket on the side. Connecting up the sockets is extremely easy: you slot the connection cables into the compact installation space, then close it with a lid. GES R2 series floor sockets are available in various materials. The die-cast zinc version comes surface-treated in nickel, chrome, aged copper and aged brass colours. The die-cast zinc models come with either a hinged cover or a tube body for floors that are wet-cleaned. The plastic lid features a useful cord outlet.

Modular design

The GES R2 floor sockets have been newly designed and have as much as 100% more installation space than the predecessor model, the GESRM2. A modular structure consisting of screed box, installation box and device insert facilitates easy configuration for different areas of use.

Installation box for Modul 45

The installation box for GES R2 device inserts accommodates Modul 45 installation devices. Once the electrical installations have been laid, the installation box is placed inside the screed box.



The GES R2 floor socket with tube body fulfils the demands of EN 50085-2-2 on floors that are wet-cleaned, even when it is being used. Four high-grade finishes are available: nickel, brass, chrome and copper.

Presenting old masters perfectly

Compact, inconspicuous underfloor solutions are especially popular in museums and exhibition spaces. In fact, they are used in the floor surrounding one of Michelangelo's great masterpieces. In Milan's Museo della Pietá, UDHOME floor sockets and OKB trunking made by OBO supply power inconspicuously and flexibly all around the *Pietá Rondanini* – which is the final, incomplete work by the then 89-year-old master. The sculpture, which depicts Jesus and Mary, was made in 1564. The floor sockets blend discreetly into the high-grade wooden floor of the exhibition room, helping to distribute power and data around it without causing any damage to the historical frescos on the walls.

Elegant containment for power and data

The UDHOME family of complete units bring power, data and multimedia connections to where they are needed. Floor sockets and floor boxes belonging to the UDHOME family are fitted straight onto the unfinished floor and connected up using flexible installation tubes – it couldn't be simpler.
UDHOME floor sockets and floor boxes possess an elegant and inconspicuous design which integrates seamlessly into interior architecture. When the hinged cover is closed, all you can see is a high-grade surface made of pure stainless steel or solid brass. Their strong construction makes these floor sockets and floor boxes immune to the daily burdens of residential, office and administrative buildings.

Floor sockets and floor boxes
The compact UDHOME2 floor socket measures 125 x 125 mm, so it can provide power and data connections in a very small space, and it also features a strong stainless steel construction. UDHOME4 and 9 floor boxes are the ideal solution wherever more installation space is needed. They offer a lot of room for power, data and multimedia connections, and are available in stainless steel as well as brass. All of the sizes are available in versions for floors that are dry and wet-cleaned.

ACKERMANN
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Latest news

Ulrich Bettermann
World Economic Forum 2016 in Davos

“Saving the world”

“When the world seems to be falling apart, contacts and discussions at the highest level are even more important,” says Ulrich Bettermann about this year’s World Economic Forum in Davos. War and terror, huge groups of refugees migrating, the global economy facing a new crisis – those were the headlines as the World Economic Forum (WEF) convened in the Swiss mountains at the beginning of the year.

Two people were absent this time. Angela Merkel, usually a regular, had cancelled. “She had enough to do at home,” says Bettermann. North Korea, still stuck in prehistoric communism, was due to send its foreign minister for the first time in two decades, but was “un-invited” by the WEF leadership because of the country‘s recent atomic tests – and rightly so.

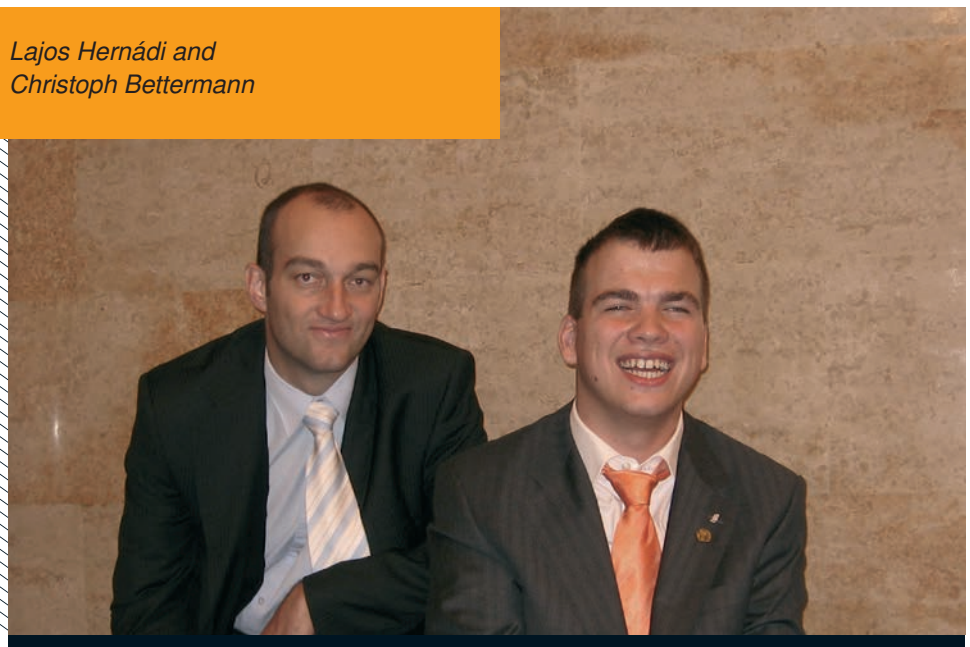
German president Joachim Gauck attended the World Economic Forum, as did more than forty other heads of state and government. The level of terror in the world today was evident in the 6,000 security personnel needed to protect 2,500 delegates. Davos was once again a who’s-who of international business in 2016. Ostensibly it was about the Fourth Industrial Revolution, but as always it was also a bit about saving the world.

Ulrich Bettermann reflects: “The Internet is developing at an incredible speed, intelligence is becoming ever more artificial, machines are getting cleverer. Progress is rushing upon us like a tidal wave. Social tensions are hard to avoid when work becomes shared only among highly qualified specialists, leaving the overwhelming majority in the social and economic doldrums.

Ulrich Bettermann has been attending the World Economic Forum since the 1970s. Back then it was not yet the large-scale parade of heads of state, ministers, corporate chiefs and top cultural personnel that it is today. “But Davos was, from the very outset, aimed at dialogue and not at programmed conflict. That’s what makes the meeting more valuable than ever before. Every delegate is an ambassador of globalisation.”

Most of the businesspeople there represent companies with turnovers of at least eleven figures. “As one of the founding WEF personnel, I’m part of the scenery,” explains Bettermann and recalls: “A few years ago some people asked what I was doing in Davos as an SME family businessman.” They, says Bettermann, were your typical domineering managers who believe that nowadays little can be done with decent products and services, and that real money can only be made with money. “Views like that used to be fairly widespread ten years ago. Then the financial crisis came along in 2008, and after that there were certain gentlemen you no longer saw at Davos because they had been placed in custody back home by their state prosecutors. “I love being so free and always being here,” says Bettermann. “Independent of course, without any bank loans.”

Lajos Hernádi and
Christoph Bettermann



Second Christoph Bettermann School in Uganda

The Christoph Bettermann School was built in Uganda at the end of 2011 using donations. It is a school for disabled children who previously were unable to get an education. Since then, 400 children over the age of eight benefit from daily primary education in the central Ugandan district of Mubende with its 440,000 inhabitants. And now, since 2015, a second Christoph Bettermann School is being built in the East African country.

School patron Christoph Bettermann explains: “I know just how important help is. Many people have helped me and I would like to pass on some of that to the poorest of the poor.” From 2016, another 100 disabled children are to be educated in a facility of around 2,600 square metres.

Very British: OBO produces and grows in the British Isles.

The English industrial company Trench Ltd. will belong to the OBO Bettermann Group from 1 April 2016. Trench is a market leader in the British Standard cable trunking that is common in the United Kingdom, and, like OBO, it is known as a specialist that provides service and works closely with its customers. This means OBO is now represented in the United Kingdom as a manufacturer as well as a distributor. Former distribution subsidiary OBO UK is being merged with Trench to avoid duplicating work, to make full use of synergies, and to proactively market the entire OBO and Trench range. Trench is based near Birmingham and employs around 40 people.

Left to right: Andreas Bettermann, Cheryl Portmann, John Raggett, Ian Cowburn, Dr Jens Drowatzky

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OBO Bettermann GmbH & Co. KG
P.O. Box 1120 · 58694 Menden · Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)2373 89-1700
Fax :+49 (0)2373 89-1238

www.obo-bettermann.com

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