

Nº01

BEYOND THE GLASS

STORIES FROM TECGLASS



SEE YOU IN DÜSSELDORF

TECGLASS AT GLASSTEC 2026

From sand to sky

A DOCUMENTARY SERIES EXPLORING THE
EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY OF GLASS.

TALKS: The glass insider

THIS ISSUE: MUSTAFA AL ON THE
FUTURE OF GLASS MANUFACTURING

BUILT WITH TECGLASS

BUDAPEST'S RÁKÓCZI SQUARE
METRO STATION



SEE YOU AT
GLASSTEC
2026

Where the Glass World Meets

Every two years, something remarkable happens.

For four days, Düsseldorf becomes far more than a host city. It becomes the place where an entire industry gathers to exchange ideas, challenge assumptions and imagine what comes next.

New technologies will be unveiled. Partnerships will begin over conversations. Projects that shape skylines may start with a handshake in a crowded exhibition hall. But beyond the machines, the prototypes and the product launches, Glasstec has always been about something deeper.

People.

Engineers. Architects. Glassmakers. Designers. Researchers. Manufacturers.

Thousands of individuals connected by the same material, each bringing a different perspective on what glass can become.

That spirit is what inspired this first edition of Beyond the Glass.

We believe that innovation does not begin with technology. It begins with curiosity. With a willingness to ask better questions, to learn from one another and to look beyond what already exists.

That is why this issue marks the beginning of From Sand to Sky—a documentary journey exploring the remarkable story of glass, from its geological origins to the technologies shaping its future.

Whether you meet us in Düsseldorf or discover these pages somewhere else in the world, we hope this magazine becomes more than something to read.

We hope it becomes the beginning of a conversation.

See you at Glasstec 2026.



FROM SAND TO SKY

PART I • THE BIRTH OF GLASS

Every Glass Begins Here

Silica has existed in the Earth’s crust for millions of years.

Long before glass, there was rock.

Over geological time, mountains rise and slowly erode under the forces of wind, rain and ice. Rivers carry fragments downstream, gradually breaking them into smaller particles. Through weathering, erosion and transport, quartz grains accumulate as sand a raw material that may one day enter a glass furnace.

To us, a grain of sand seems ordinary.

But behind it lies a geological history spanning millions of years.

Long before we learned to make glass, nature was shaping its essential ingredient.

Did you know?

The quartz inside a single grain of sand may have begun its geological journey hundreds of millions of years before the first humans appeared

4.6 BILLION YEARS AGO

BEFORE GLASS

Every pane of glass begins with a grain of sand. But its story began millions of years earlier. Every skyline begins with something almost invisible.

A grain of sand.

Long before architects imagined transparent cities, before civilizations learned to master fire, before the first piece of glass reflected the human face, nature had already spent hundreds of millions of years preparing its essential ingredient.

Every pane of glass carries within it the memory of mountains, rivers and deserts.



Piece of quartz

FROM SAND TO SKY

The journey of a grain of sand



Long before glass reflected skylines, it reflected nothing at all.

It existed only as quartz locked inside ancient mountains, shaped by forces too slow for human eyes to witness.

For millions of years, rain, rivers and time worked together, breaking stone into grains of sand. Hidden inside each one remained silica the quiet foundation of a material that would one day transform architecture, science and everyday life.

Every sheet of glass carries the memory of that journey.

For millions of years, nature perfected the raw material.

The next chapter belongs to human ingenuity.

Today, **companies like Tecglass are redefining what glass can become**, transforming a material born in mountains into façades that inspire, vehicles that protect, and surfaces that communicate.

The story of glass did not end when it was created.



Forged by Fire

“In the next issue we step inside one of the hottest industrial environments on Earth, where sand loses its identity and becomes glass”

02
TÜRKİYE

*Inside the people shaping
the glass industry*

THE GLASS INSIDER

Mustafa Al

After years representing leading machinery brands across the world, our Turkish representative shares his **unique perspective** on the glass industry, its **evolution, challenges, and opportunities**.

TALKS - The Glass Insider: Mustafa Al

The Glass That Will Power Tomorrow

INTERVIEW

TURKEY

6 MIN READ

JULY 2026

The future of glass isn't being imagined in design studios or research labs alone. It's taking shape every day on factory floors, in production plants and through the conversations of the people who have spent decades watching the industry evolve.

One of those voices comes from Turkey, a country that has quietly become one of Europe's most dynamic glass manufacturing hubs. After years of working alongside processors, machinery suppliers and architectural projects across different markets, he has learned that the biggest changes rarely arrive overnight. They begin almost unnoticed, until one day they

When asked what separates one machinery supplier from another, he doesn't mention speed, print resolution or production capacity. Instead, he talks about trust.

"A machine can always stop," he explains.

"What matters is who answers the phone when it does."

Having worked with around **fifteen machinery manufacturers**, he describes Tecglass as one of the most reliable partners he has experienced—not because problems never happen, but because solutions arrive quickly. In an industry where every hour of downtime carries a cost, after-sales service becomes part of the machine itself.

Yet the conversation soon shifts beyond machinery.

When asked about the future, his answer comes without hesitation:

Solar façades.

For decades, solar panels have lived almost exclusively on rooftops. He believes that era is ending. The next generation of buildings will transform their façades into active surfaces capable of producing clean energy while preser

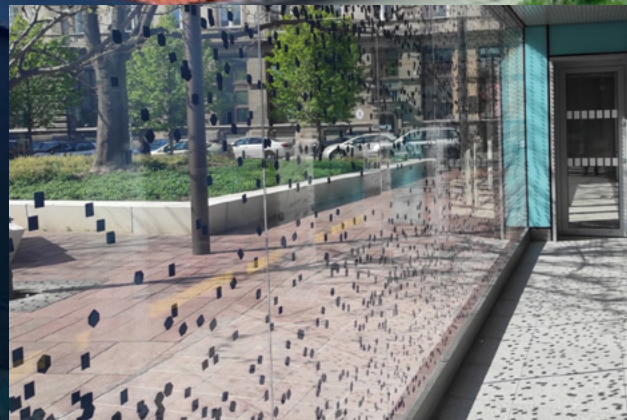
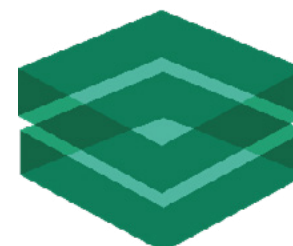
BUILT WITH TECGLASS

- Budapest's Rákóczi Square Metro Station -

Printed by Tecglass technology, where architecture becomes a lasting work of art.

The distinctive glass surface of Budapest's Rákóczi Square Metro Station was brought to life through Tecglass digital printing technology. Printed with precision using Tecglass printers, the design transforms the façade into a unique architectural feature.

Designed by Rókosky Glass, the façade transforms a public transit hub into an urban landmark. Every panel demonstrates the durability and precision of ceramic digital printing.



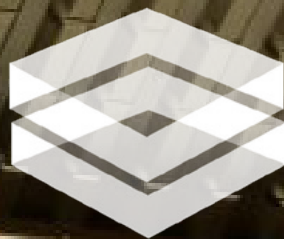
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BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
M3 Metro Station
Digital ceramic glass by Rokos Glass
Printed with Tecglass technology