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Hybrid drycoolers in Switzerland's largest office building

In 2012, the major Swiss bank Credit Suisse moved into a new office building at the foot of the Uetliberg mountain in Zurich. The new CS Uetlihof building is the largest office building in Switzerland with 8,000 workstations, an energy centre, a canteen and a sport zone.

The bank invested 270 million francs in the 16-storey building with six of the floors underground. The Uetlihof complex is part of the CS room planning strategy which aims to move workstations from smaller buildings in the city centre to large-area buildings such as the Uetlihof.

Those responsible are proud of the newly designed workstations. Individual offices are a thing of the past. All employees can choose a different working environment every day to suit their work and schedule. There are various cabins and privacy areas, garden offices with lots of plants and standing desks for anyone who prefers them or needs to stand because of back problems.

One of the biggest challenges when implementing the ambitious plans to create the country's most modern workstations was complying with the strict Minergie-P-Eco regulations which apply to the building. Only buildings whose energy consumption is very low qualify for Minergie-P-Eco certification. The Uetlihof 2 is the largest building in Switzerland which complies with this building standard. Innovative building systems and special thermal insulation played an important role here. An energy centre supplies the bank's computer centres – it alone cost 100 million francs to build.

JAEGGI supplied a total of 10 hybrid drycoolers which are used to re-cool the cooling system. At lower ambient temperatures in free cooling mode, they replace the energy-intensive cooling machines. Because the hybrid drycoolers offer high re-cooling performance with only a small amount of energy and water, they contribute to the system's overall environmental compatibility and efficiency.



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Minergie is a registered trade mark of the Minergie association (Bern, Switzerland). The label is Switzerland's highest energy standard for low-energy buildings. There are various requirements according to the building category. If additional criteria are met, the certification can be extended to the Minergie-ECO or Minergie-P-ECO standard.

The coolers are installed on the top floor of the building. The devices' dimensions were extremely important because they were brought onto the finished floor of the building via openings in the roof. Air from the room is sucked out freely through the mesh panneling in the façade. The waste air is released into the environment via stainless steel channels which rise up through the ceiling.

Technical data

Cooler type:	HTK 2.4/7.2, 10 units in total
Cooling power:	1,600 kW per cooler, 16 MW in total
Cooling medium:	30 % glycol, 70 % water
Cooling water temp.:	40/34 °C
Wet bulb temperature:	22.5 °C (35 °C at a rel. humidity of 35 %)
Footprint with switch cabinet:	2.45 m x 8.8 m
Operating weight per cooler:	8,855 kg