



Schnetzler SA

Shaping the future with tradition and innovation

In Givisiez, not far from Fribourg, there is a company that has been setting standards in metal engineering throughout Switzerland since 1926, while always honouring its roots: Schnetzler SA. Founded by Henri Schnetzler, the great-grandfather of the current managing directors Ludovic and Guillaume Schnetzler, the name has stood for generations for craftsmanship, innovation and uncompromising quality, manufactured 100% in Switzerland.

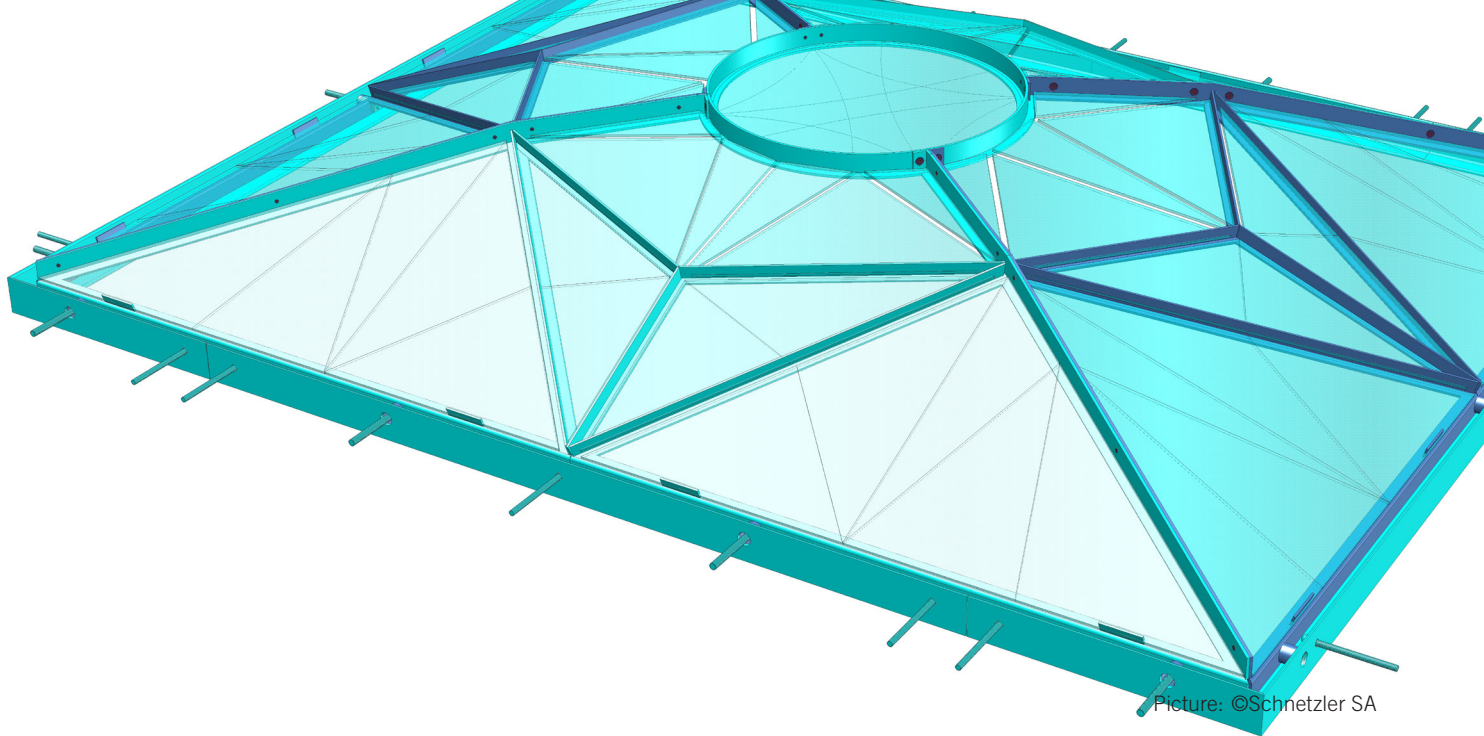
Whether metal engineering, constructions made of aluminium, stainless steel, steel, monument preservation or interior design made of metal - the projects of Schnetzler SA are as diverse as they are technically demanding.

Particularly important are the preservation of know-how, the cultivation of long-standing partnerships with employees, customers and suppliers, and the continuous modernisation of production processes without losing the values of past generations.



SCHNETZLER
L'ART DU MÉTAL DEPUIS 1926

REFERENCE REPORT



Picture: ©Schnetzler SA

From pioneer to digital trailblazer

Schnetzler SA was already looking to take the step into the digital future back in 2006. At that time, the company was working with the BOCAD 3D system, but after two years it became clear that the requirements of a modern, diversified metal construction company demanded greater flexibility. “We are neither pure steel nor classic facade builders, but moving between both worlds depending on the project,” explains Ludovic Schnetzler. “That’s why we were looking for a CAD solution that can work across industries and will grow with our tasks in the long term.” The choice fell on HiCAD from the ISD Group.

This strategic shift would not have been possible without the foresight of Jean-Yves and Olivier Schnetzler, who recognised the importance of 3D and digital production control back in the 2000s. Today, Schnetzler SA uses two core products: the HiCAD Metal Engineering suite premium and the PDM system HELiOS.

With these tools, the company covers all areas, from metalworking to the design of smaller facades. HELiOS manages all project data, monitors versions and reliably secures documentation.

Flexibility as a factor for success

The variety of projects undertaken by Schnetzler SA is impressive: Payerne Air Base, Fribourg University Library (BCU), Palace Montreux, staircases, lightweight steel structures, railings, glass roofs, furniture – often completed under considerable time pressure. The combined 2D and 3D functionality of HiCAD is a major advantage. HiCAD also provides direct interfaces to CNC machines and plasma cutting systems. STEP files are imported and production plans are created almost automatically, quickly, precisely and reliably.

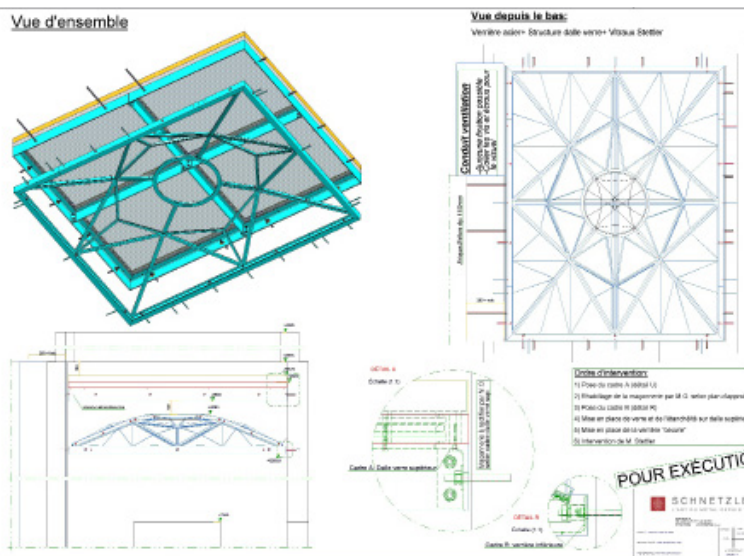
Strong in practice – tailor-made for unique items

In an industry where customised products are a standard, Schnetzler SA works without parameterization in 90% of cases.

“HiCAD enables us to view every project from different angles in order to always find the best solution.”

Ludovic Schnetzler
Schnetzler SA

Picture: ©Schnetzler SA



Nevertheless, HiCAD impresses with:

Staircase and railing configurators, assemblies for steel engineering and automatically created bills of materials that significantly increase productivity. “3D visualisation facilitates the approval of technical decisions and improves communication with customers, even those who are not familiar with our craft.”

BIM & point clouds: ready for the future

Building Information Modelling (BIM) is becoming increasingly important for project tenders and planning, and Schnetzler SA is prepared for this: Thanks to HiCAD, the company has already won several projects using a BIM approach. The use of point clouds also represents a promising avenue for innovation. The company is closely following their development, aware of their potential to improve measurement accuracy and further enrich the design phase. The technology makes it possible to accurately record the existing actual state and integrate this data directly into the planning, which saves an enormous amount of time.

Conclusion: An investment that pays off

After almost two decades of working with the ISD, Ludovic Schnetzler's conclusion is clear: “HiCAD has not only met our expectations, it has opened up new perspectives for us. It is a powerful, practical and scalable solution. In this context, our relationship with the ISD has been strengthened. The ISD is no longer just a simple supplier, but a genuine, close partner who understands industry-specific requirements, responds quickly to needs and offers appropriate training. This long-term relationship of trust contributes directly to smooth workflows and high-quality results. Any metal engineer who values quality and efficiency should try HiCAD. We are completely satisfied with the price-performance ratio and look forward to future developments.”

Brief company Profile:

Schnetzler SA

Industry: Metal engineering

Software: HiCAD and HELiOS

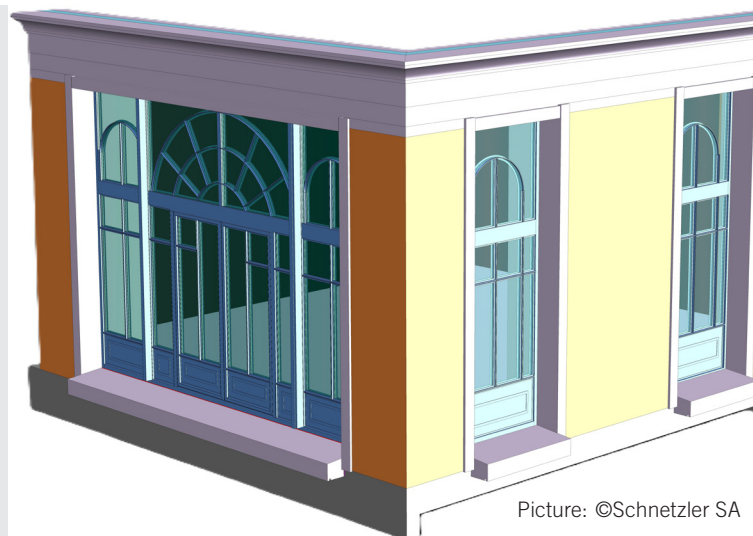
Services: Aluminium- and stainless steel constructions

<https://www.schnetzler-sa.ch/>

“In our field in particular, it is essential to be able to draw up detailed plans by hand as we used to, while at the same time exploiting the advantages of 3D modelling.”

Ludovic Schnetzler

Schnetzler SA



Picture: ©Schnetzler SA