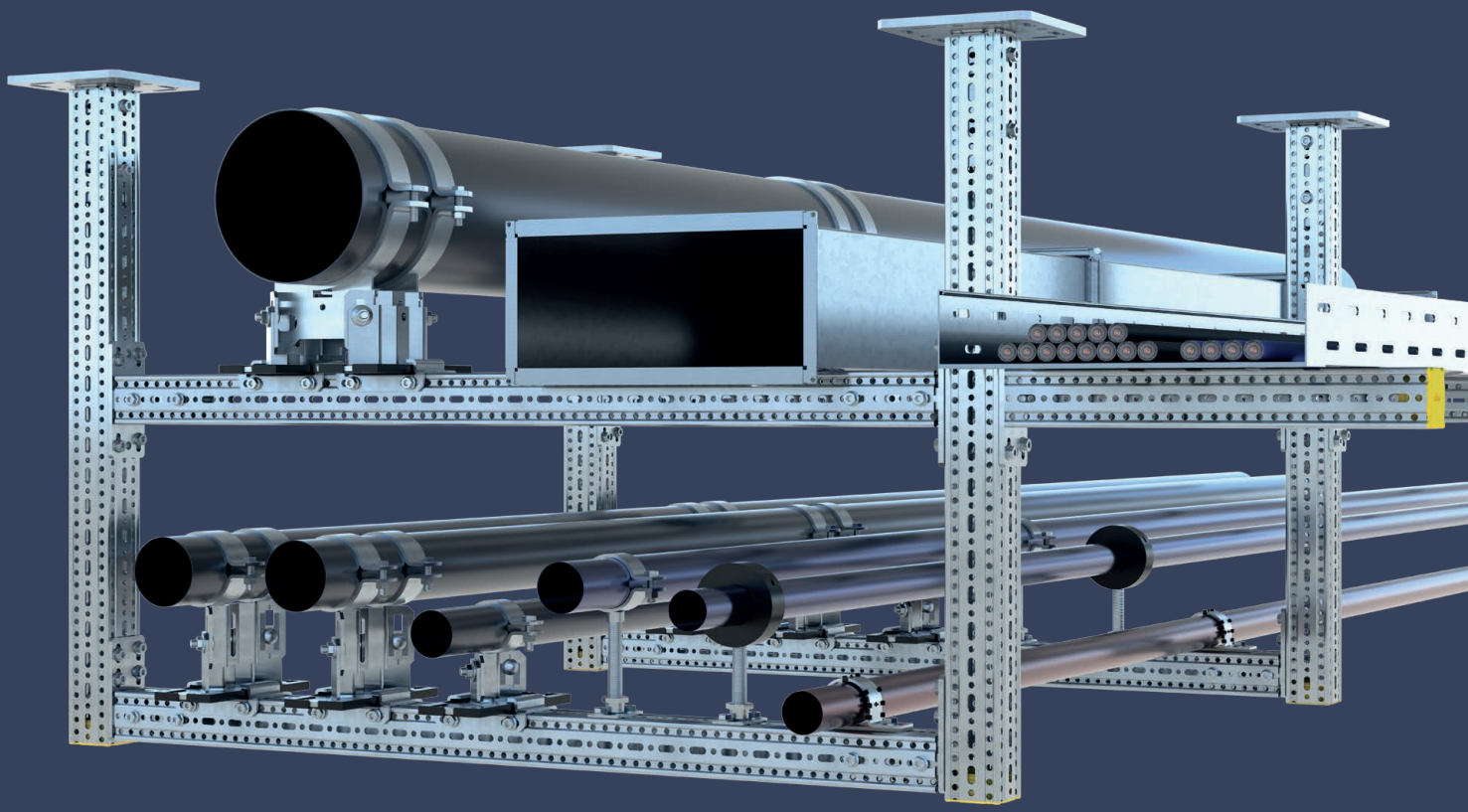
sikla

THE MAGAZINE

ISSUE 2026/27



20 YEARS siFramo

THE ORIGINAL

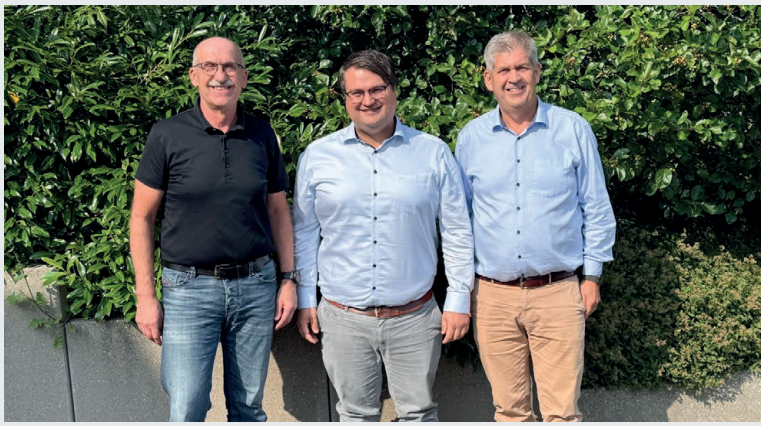
Isabel Mörtl appointed COO of Sikla Holding

In February 2026, Isabel Mörtl (née Klauß) assumed the role of Chief Operating Officer (COO) at Sikla Holding GmbH. In her new role, she will play a key part in driving the implementation of the company's strategy. Isabel will also continue her role as Managing Director of Sikla Corporate Services Headquarters GmbH.



Alexander Schätzle appointed Managing Director of Sikla GmbH

Effective 1 January 2026, Alexander Schätzle was appointed to the management board of Sikla GmbH Germany. With strong commercial expertise and years of responsibility with the national internal sales team, this appointment represents a logical and well-deserved progression in his career.



New Managing Director at Sikla Slovenia

On 19 February 2026, Karmen Reisenhofer took over the management of Sikla d.o.o. She succeeds her father, Ignac Jantelj, who built and shaped the successful company since 2000.



New leadership for Sikla Drain and Sikla Sprinkler

After an impressive 32 years with the company, Tilo Strehlau retired on 1 July 2026. Thomas Bernard and Reiner Klauß have assumed the management of both companies. Together, they will ensure the continued successful development of the businesses.



Dear Reader,

For us, innovation means creating sustainable added value for our customers from design to installation. With this goal in mind, we developed siFramo and introduced it to the market 20 years ago. Its success extends far beyond the product system itself. It is the combination of innovative technology, comprehensive services and verified safety that makes siFramo a siklaproof solution.

This edition is dedicated to the anniversary of siFramo. In our interview, we reflect on the vision behind its development, the challenges that had to be overcome and why siFramo remains innovative, even after two decades on the market. To this day, siFramo remains the original pioneering modular support system.

We also introduce the new structure of our product and planning portfolio through our Brand Circle, providing a simpler overview of our products and solutions. In addition, we are pleased to announce that siMetrix has achieved an EN 1090 certification, making this another important step forward for applications in industrial engineering.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Manuela Maurer
Corporate Culture & Communications



LEGAL NOTICE sikla

Editorial team and responsible for content:
Sikla Corporate Services Headquarters GmbH ·
In der Lache 17, 78056 VS-Schwenningen, Germany

Printing of this document, including excerpts, requires approval. Copyright notice is required in compliance with section 13 of the German Copyright Act (UrhG)

We are here to help you. Contact us now!

UK & Ireland
sikla.com/en-GB
miltonkeynes@sikla co.uk |
belfast@sikla.co.uk

Oceania
sikla.com/en-AU |
sikla.com/en-NZ
canningvale@sikla.com.au |
newzealand@sikla.co.nz

News from Sikla 02

20 years of siFramo:
From concept to market success 04

siFramo Ambassadors 06

The Sikla brand circle 08

siMetrix achieved EN 1090 certification 10

siFramo profile
made from low-carbon steel 11

New sites support future growth 12

20 years of siFramo – From concept to market success

In 2006, Sikla revolutionised structural frame construction with the innovative siFramo modular support system. Assembly was based on a thread-forming screw suitable for all applications, known as ‘One-screw technology.’ The hole pattern enabled stepless, three-dimensional connections anywhere on the siFramo profile.



Manuela Maurer in conversation with Clemens Warkus (right) and Udo Bauer (left).



Clemens Warkus enjoys a well-earnt retirement in Kiel, Northern Germany.

What specific challenge was the starting point for the development of siFramo?

C. Warkus: The starting point was the search for an alternative to the traditional welded support system. The aim was to bridge the structural gap between steel beams and channel systems while also moving beyond the traditional two-dimensional approach.

What was siFramo intended to do differently compared with existing solutions?

C. Warkus: In short, everything. The move into a third dimension required a completely new, symmetrical structure. At the same time, it was important to ensure that adjacent components and surrounding areas were not affected. Another key objective was to reduce the number of individual parts required. The result was the idea of a modular system, or, to put it simply, a construction kit for “big boys”.

How long did it take for the idea to be ready for the market?

C. Warkus: The basic idea emerged surprisingly quickly from an experiment over the course of a few days. When the company founder, Sighart Klauß, saw it during his weekly walk through, he was so enthusiastic that he immediately decided: “Mr Warkus, we are going to do this.” The subsequent development and refinement process took several months before the system was ready for the market.

Looking back, which phase of development was the most challenging?

C. Warkus: Without a doubt, the prototyping phase. The technical implementation was particularly demanding. It involved profile manufacturing, structural testing of screw connections and load-bearing tests of the resulting structures.

What were the reactions when siFramo was first presented internally?

C. Warkus: At first, as is often the case with new innovations, scepticism and uncertainty dominated. Many questioned how a simple thread-forming screw connection without a lock nut, combined with a lighter profile featuring a welded seam, could replace a heavy steel beam. There were also concerns about the safety of the screw. The possibilities and advantages of siFramo were only recognised over time.

How do innovations, like this, come about?

C. Warkus: Innovation does not happen by chance. It starts with understanding the customer's problem. A system or product is only successful if the people who use it are convinced and satisfied of its benefits. Curiosity and an open mind are essential. Inspiration can be found anywhere in nature, existing solutions or even in construction toys such as Fischertechnik or Märklin. A good developer understands not only technology, but also how purchasing, quality assurance and sales work.

Why was siFramo initially introduced for the industrial and plant engineering sectors?

U. Bauer: The target market for this business segment was industrial and plant engineering. This is where the product requirements were defined. Close and trusted customer relationships, particularly with investors in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries, were key drivers of its development and success. The close collaboration between customers, Sikla sales team and the development team enabled the quick development of a practical solution.

What concerns or objections were raised about siFramo in the early days?

U. Bauer: The screw connection was the biggest challenge from a sales perspective. While thread-forming screws were already established in the automotive industry, within plant engineering a screw connection without a lock nut was met with scepticism. Today, 'One Screw Technology' is regarded as a defining feature of modular support systems. Another concern was the large number of holes in the profile. However, these concerns quickly disappeared once the benefits of the stepless connection enabled by the offset hole pattern became clear.



Our first product images from 2006

Were there market requirements that influenced the further development of the system?

U. Bauer: The advantages of a modular support system compared with traditional welded steel structures were quickly recognised. As a result, demand for higher load-bearing capacities emerged early on. Expanding the profile range to include the 100 and 100/160 variants was not only essential for existing applications but became a key factor in entering new market segments and opportunities.

From your perspective, what were the key success factors?

U. Bauer: Key factors included requirements such as fast-track project delivery, shorter time-to-market requirements and a shortage of qualified labour. This is where siFramo provided a solution. It also became clear that the product system is only one part of a tailored solution. Software applications, extended engineering services, tailored manufacturing and logistic concepts, prefabrication options and supporting construction management are all essential elements of an end-to-end process. Our IPC strategy supports customers with solutions tailored to their specific industry project requirements. However, the most important factor in our success remains the people at Sikla who make all the difference.

A final thought that resonates behind 20 years of siFramo are the people who continue to contribute to its success everyday with commitment, conviction and passion.



siFramo inspires our customers

© GrandeMedia

With the new Cottbus maintenance depot, Deutsche Bahn is delivering one of the largest and most ambitious rail infrastructure projects currently underway in Europe.

By 2027, Germany's largest and most advanced maintenance depot for ICE trains will be completed. At the heart of this major project is the construction of several state-of-the-art workshops, designed for the servicing and maintenance of the ICE 4 fleet. With workshops length exceeding 500 metres, complex technical equipment and digitalised processes, the depot sets a new benchmark for industrial rail maintenance.

In 2024, Sikla was awarded the contract for the integrated delivery of planning, material supply, assembly and subcontractor management for multi-service support systems.

A key factor in the project's success was the use of 3D planning with BIM integration. This enabled efficient coordination, clash detection and smooth on-site execution. This was supported by the close collaboration between technical teams, responsible for planning and engineering and the on-site teams overseeing site management, technical sales and subcontractor coordination.

For this project, siFramo was essential because the system is designed to safely support and transfer high loads. The three-dimensional design allows for complex load scenarios to be implemented with flexibility and precision. In addition, the modular structure enabled fast adaptation to changing requirements, ensuing maximum stability and efficiency for smooth project delivery.



Multi-service support systems for piping to electrical installations.

Technical project scope

- Delivery of large product quantities including 160 000 connections and more than 335 000 kg of material
- Development of project-specific support solutions
- Integration of 29 multi-service support systems
- Preparing over 250 supports for subcontractors

The subcontractor management involved seven partners and covered all building services including heating, ventilation, air conditioning, plumbing, electrics and compressed air systems. The development, coordination and positioning of essential supports was Sikla's responsibility.

Key success factors

- Integrated project delivery, from planning through to material supply and installation
- Strong in-house capabilities and technical expertise
- Effective management of complex interfaces and subcontractors
- Development of tailored support solutions
- Final installation delivered by Sikla Construction Service



Prefabricated siFramo modules



Thomas Hille
Site Manager
Engie Deutschland GmbH
Building Technologies
Division

"Through consistent modularisation, we significantly reduce construction time, ensure adherence to deadlines and create reliable workflows whilst optimising the use of resources. Combined with expert execution, professional advice and on-site support from Sikla, this delivers greater certainty and maximum efficiency throughout the project."



Installation of prefabricated modules

This major Deutsche Bahn project once again demonstrates Sikla's ability to successfully deliver complex large-scale construction projects with demanding technical requirements and significant scale. The combination of engineering expertise, material supply, manufacturing and installation services provides a strong foundation for future projects.

Sikla portfolio: Modular by design, structured by system and developed around applications



To ensure Sikla solutions can be understood quickly and used confidently worldwide, we combined our product and planning portfolio together within a clear brand structure. It shows how planning support, system solutions, independent solutions and specialist product portfolios work together.

Today, project success no longer depends on the quality of individual products. What matters is the importance of planning, system logic and ease of installation. At the same time, project requirements are increasing due to shorter construction schedules, more extensive documentation requirements, higher loads and more complex interfaces. This is precisely where the Sikla brand structure provides guidance. It creates clarity within our product range and simplifies choosing the right solution for your project.

The Sikla Brand Circle: Safety and reliability

The brand circle embodies what you can expect from Sikla in every project: technical precision, verified safety, a modular approach and collaborative partnership. Simply put: Together we build. siklaproof.

From the core, all our products and services are consistently organised along each stage of the project lifecycle, from digital engineering through to modular system solutions to universal components and specialist products.

Plan siklaproof from the start

A key component is siPlanning. Our own planning tools support customers with the efficient modelling of supports and structures with compliant design and complete digital documentation.

Plugins, libraries and Sikla's software solutions help you define the right components at an early stage, reducing rework on-site. This creates a solid foundation for structures that can be installed more quickly and adapted later in the project lifecycle.

Structured by system

DBuilding this foundation, our Modular Steelwork Solutions combine the core system logic of our product portfolio: siConnect, siMetrix, siFramo and siMotec.

Each product system follows a clear design logic with defined profile geometries, compatible connection elements and defined boundaries. For customers, this means repeatable designs, scopes for future expansion that can be implemented across systems without having to redesign the entire solution.

Independent solutions such as pipe supports, fixings and structural connections enable compatible, secure connection points and compliant service routings within any environment. Specialist product portfolios for drainage, solar and installation are also available in selected countries to meet local requirements.

Cross system logic Through standard product types

To simplify navigation, all products have been categorised into standardised product types, from: structural connections, beams & profiles to profile connections, pipe & service connections, pipe supports and accessories. This functional logic is consistent across all systems and makes the technical relationships visible. It simplifies specification, procurement and training while creating a common language between design, purchasing and installation teams.

Our services: Customer-focused and personalised

Our services complement all systems within the Sikla product portfolio, from planning through to installation and operation. Through consulting, engineering and installation support, we ensure solutions are designed correctly, cost-effective and efficiently delivered. We support customers throughout every project phase through:

- Planning: Structural calculations and 3D/BIM design
- Prefabrication: Assemblies and modules
- Project support: On-site assistance
- Training: Practical expertise for planning and installation

Our goal is to create a modular system that continues to grow and remains clearly structured. This provides confidence in planning and reinforces a consistent global brand image.

This structure has already been implemented on sikla.com Over time, all Sikla websites will adopt the new look, experience and brand structure.

If you would like to know which system or product range is best suited to your next project, get in touch. We will be happy to support you with planning, on-site assistance or through practical training sessions.



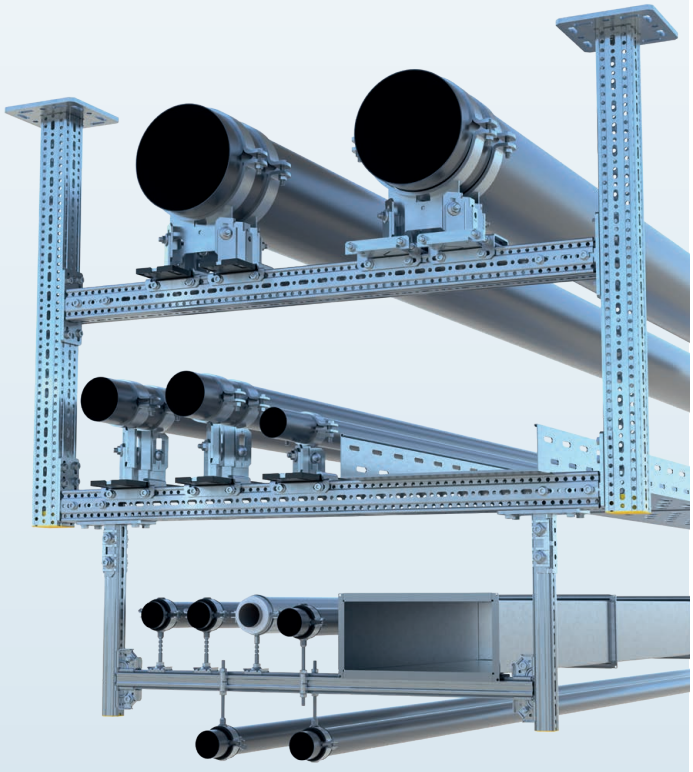
Jens Schaumann
Head of Marketing
Sikla Corporate Services Headquarters GmbH

siMetrix achieves EN 1090 certification
Opening new opportunities for industrial applications

Demand for support systems within industrial applications continues to grow. Alongside load-bearing capacity and flexibility, compliance, planning reliability and efficiency are becoming key considerations. With EN 1090 certification for the siMetrix system, Sikla is responding to these requirements while enabling use in new applications.

Since July 2014, CE marking in accordance with EN 1090 has been mandatory for load-bearing steel and aluminium components placed on the European market. The CE marking provides transparency and assurance that products are manufactured in accordance with relevant harmonised European standards.

With this certification, siMetrix becomes an attractive solution for industrial applications. It can be combined with the EN 1090-certified siFramo and siMotec systems, creating new opportunities for cross-system applications. This enables support structures to be designed precisely to project requirements and avoid overengineered solutions.



siMetrix used in combination with siFramo

In addition to technical requirement, cost efficiency plays a key role. Tight schedules, rising costs and desire for standardisation are common challenges for many industrial projects. This is where siMetrix excels. Through intelligent system architecture it enables complex three-dimensional support structures to be built economically using only two components. This not only reduces planning, design, material usage and storage but significantly reduces installation times. These benefits also have long term advantages including lower modification costs, high reusability and greater scalability for future expansions.

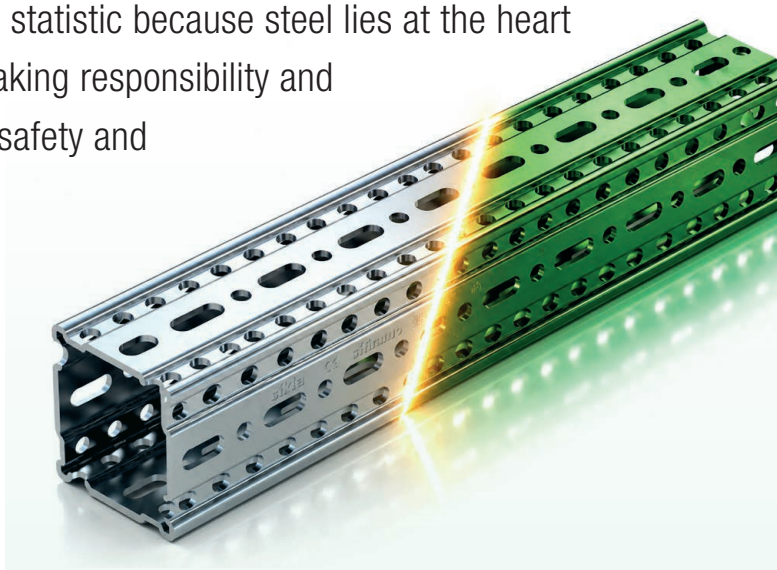


Jennifer Billner
Senior Product Manager
Sikla Corporate Services Headquarters GmbH

“Our goal is to establish a system in the market that reduces planning and assembly times while remaining compliant with relevant standards and avoiding overengineered solutions.
I am particularly pleased that siMetrix can now also be used in industrial applications.
The high level of adaptability allows our customers the opportunity to standardise their processes to achieve even greater benefits.”

siFramo profiles made from low-carbon steel

The steel industry is one of the largest contributors to industrial emissions, accounting for around 7% globally. For Sikla, this is more than a statistic because steel lies at the heart of our products. We are therefore committed to taking responsibility and developing solutions that combine sustainability, safety and cost efficiency.



Sustainability begins with the product

Even today, our products, especially the siFramo support system, have a comparatively low environmental footprint. The reason is that our support systems are not only durable and siklaproof, but they are also modular by design. This means less material use, less waste, faster installation and lower emissions throughout the entire lifecycle.

These benefits are measurable. Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs), documented through our Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), provide verified data on the Global Warming Potential of our solutions.

Next step towards lower-carbon steel

With XCarb®, ArcelorMittal low-carbon steel, Sikla is taking the next step towards more sustainable steel construction solutions.

XCarb® is produced at European manufacturing sites and is subject to strict audit and sourcing controls. The key difference compared to traditional steel lies in the manufacturing process:

- Minimum 75% recycled steel scrap
- Manufactured in an electric arc furnace (EAF) instead of a blast furnace
- Produced using 100% renewable electricity and alternative energy sources such as biofuels and hydrogen

The result is significant. CO_2 emissions are reduced from approximately 1.8 - 2.0 tonnes to around 0.3 tonnes of CO_2 per tonne of steel, while maintaining the same mechanical performance.

What does this mean for our customers?

A practical comparison highlights the potential. A traditional steel structure with a CO_2 equivalent value of 100% as the baseline, a siFramo structure made from standard material already reduces this figure to 77%. When combined with XCarb®, the CO_2 footprint falls further to approximately 31% compared to traditional steel structures.

Sikla uses a mass balance approach for XCarb®. This means that even if individual components are not made from XCarb®, the purchased proportion is fully credited and certified. Customers receive certified, audit-compliant CO_2 reductions that can be included directly in their own Scope 3 emissions reporting. This is a clear advantage for ESG reporting, sustainable tendering plus LEED, DGNB or other green building certifications.

For us, sustainability does not end with the product. As a solutions partner, Sikla supports customers with project-specific CO_2 calculations, technical planning and engineering, and comprehensive documentation for ESG and audit requirements.

With siFramo and XCarb®, we demonstrate that sustainable steel construction can be possible today without compromising on performance, safety or transparency.



Marlene Karpa
Business Development Manager Sustainability
Sikla Corporate Services Headquarters GmbH



New office location in Austria

In Wels, a new site is being developed on a 20 500 m² plot for Sikla Austria and Sikla Holding as a modern, high-performance office for up to 130 employees. The new site not only supports future growth but also provides a modern working environment for all employees.

At the centre of the project is a three-storey logistics centre, complemented by an office and administration building. The two structures are connected by an architecturally striking bridge incorporating a staff canteen. An on-site childcare facility further reflects the company's commitment to a family-friendly approach.

Sustainability is a key element in the overall concept. Energy-efficient solutions, including geothermal heat pumps for heating and cooling, an on-site photovoltaic system and timber construction of the office building, make a significant contribution to reducing the environmental impact.

With this new location, Sikla is strengthening both its operational capabilities and long-term commitment to a sustainable and modern future.

New warehouse strengthens future development in Portugal

Sikla Lusa in Palmela, Portugal continues its growth trajectory with the commissioning of a new warehouse in May 2026, further strengthening their position in the Portuguese market. The new optimised premises provides the foundation for increased product availability and improved logistic processes. Customers benefit from shorter delivery times and even greater local support.

A further milestone is planned for 2027 with the construction of new offices. This will create a modern and collaborative working environment that supports both employee wellbeing and the continued development of the business. With this investment, Sikla Lusa reinforces its long-term vision of a modern organisation, positioned to achieve further growth in the coming years.

