

## **LIFETIME OF VENTILATED CLADDING CAN BE EXTENDED SIGNIFICANTLY!**

The lifetime of an exterior cladding depends on several factors. We identify a technical, an economic and a practical lifetime. Assuming an utility building has a technical and practical lifetime of more or less 50 years, in this period various changes can or will occur on the cladding.

So, despite the fact that economic lifetime of the cladding will be exceeded previous, prolongation can be realized by periodic adjustments and improvements. After all, the main construction of the building will last much longer. Any new building design is assessed and effectively controlled by the authorities etc at the start and during the construction process. Besides the visual delights and functional requirements, construction and safety aspects are of importance and therefore safeguarded. The area of safety, health, environment and energy for buildings are even subject to a large number of mandatory inspections.

However, for cladding, these do not exist entirely!

We must agree that durability and stability of the cladding should be guaranteed in time also and therefore requires periodic inspections indeed. A so called 'Periodic Inspection' for cladding will solve in general occurring problems, but engagement to prescribe this by law or regulations are lacking. While it's that easy: just acting with due efforts and energy by carrying out the, during the lifetime of the cladding, needed maintenance to follow the proper track of the lifetime of the building construction.

The know-how and resources are available, but apparently we are still looking for the desire to make it successful!