





## Architecture, Building and Construction

# Family Apartments Clad in Ferritic Stainless Steel



Location	Montreuil, France
Environment	Outdoor
Fabrication process	Bending
Grade/surface	EN 1.4526 (K36)/BA
Main thickness or diameter	0.8 mm
Material supplier	Aperam Stainless Europe
Source of information	Aperam
Remarks	Family Apartments, Montreuil, France - archi5 © Sergio Grazia

The Family Apartment (Famelistère) is an exercise in highlighting the capabilities of five partners from the architectural practice, archi5, who rose to a challenge to build their own homes together in Montreuil, France adjacent to their offices. It also beautifully showcases how stainless steel, most often used in public buildings, can also be a versatile material of choice for private buildings. The architectural approach was to design a building with a light touch to avoid an overpowering visual impact. KARA (ferritic 1.4526 grade) stainless steel was archi5's choice of material to achieve the building's façade – lightly fluted with shallow waves adapted to suit the scale of the building – reflecting sunlight to surrounding buildings during the day and reflecting street lights at night. The Uginox® Bright covering, with its brilliant finish, takes on all the colours of the seasons. The result is a dynamic façade with a genuine sense of motion. Stainless steel has a harmonious application and the façades were entirely laid out based on the measurements of the sheets used, which meant that the window modules could be inserted at regular and precise intervals. The sheets were fitted to a primary frame structure and attached using visible stainless steel hexagonal screws. A hollow 5 mm joint is inserted between each sheet. Edging on the building is also made from stainless steel. Ferritic stainless steels have a more stable price structure than austenitic grades, providing a big advantage to the construction sector where project costing and economic design are key management elements. The Famelistère project took two years from funding, conception, design and construction.