

MahaNakhon

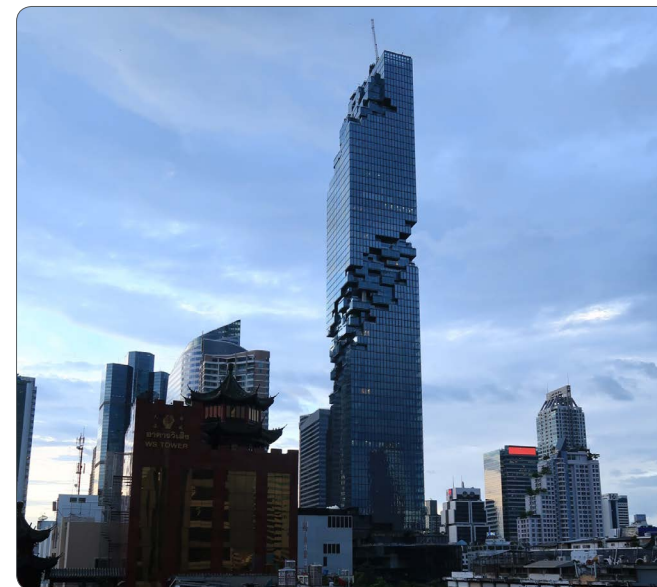
Bangkok, Thailand

Temples and dream beaches with turquoise-blue water make Thailand a sought-after destination for tourists from all over the world. The capital Bangkok, with a population of some nine million, is a city of contrasts with irresistible magic. In contrast to many other Asian megacities, however, the city has few contemporary architectural highlights. The German architect Ole Scheeren created Bangkok's new landmark in the form of the 314-meter high MahaNakhon. The MahaNakhon is complemented by the seven-story shopping temple Cube and a fully automated parking garage. For the cladding of the parking garage, the architect chose PC-Sambesi metal mesh from GKD. Alongside the extraordinary aesthetics, its proven low-maintenance solar protection and reliable fall guard protection properties were crucial factors behind this decision.

In order to adapt the appearance of this structure to the luxurious overall ambience, the architect chose shimmering PC-Sambesi stainless steel mesh for the cladding. A total of 464 framed mesh panels, each 2.9 meters high and up to 1.8 meters wide, subtly take up the visual appearance of the louvered façade of the MahaNakhon.

Some 2,100 square meters of rigid mesh lend the parking garage an elegant look. In addition

to the high-quality appearance of the metallic skin, the architect was also convinced by the ease with which the cladding can be maintained. The attractive shell fulfills two functional roles: it serves as reliable fall guard protection on all floors, while also playing a key role in supporting the environmentally friendly overall concept of the MahaNakhon complex. In the tropical climate of Bangkok, the light- and airpermeable membrane proves its worth as an effective solar protection solution, which also enables natural climate control of the parking tower. Because daylight can enter the building freely, less electric lighting is required. In monsoon seasons the mesh also protects the parked vehicles from driving rain. The stainless steel, which is 100 percent recyclable at the end of its service life, also improves the ecological footprint of the building complex. The MahaNakhon was opened in August 2016 in the heart of Bangkok following an eight-year planning and construction phase. Today, the country's tallest building is constantly in dialog with the city and its people. As such, Bangkok's new landmark links opportunities for identification and participation with the role of an ambassador for a city on the rise.



Environment:	urban
Material:	316 stainless steel
Manufacturer:	GKD-PC Sambesi
Architects:	Ole Scheeren
Photographs:	GKD
More information:	gkd.de or impetus-pr.de

