Tokyu Plaza Omotesandou
Harajuku
Tokyo, Japan

This building, located at the intersection of Omotesando and Meiji-Dori, uses stainless steel panels to create an enormous kaleidoscope which was designed by Mr. Hiroshi Nakamura. He designed this kaleidoscope façade to direct to customers an exhilaration and bustling by giving specialized experience. There were two challenges for this design. First, the panel must be completely a mirror which can reflect visitors to each mirror panel again and again. The mirror panels therefore must have a high quality condition at their flatness. Second, each of the triangular panels that make up the kaleidoscope has a unique shape, and is positioned at angles mathematically determined. Thus it is required to have high designing and technical technology of construction. In order to implement these ends, they developed a very flexible basement design system and a fiver laser welding method which can reduce the heat effect for panels. The assembly system is atypical, with the peak points of the panels positioned using backing with conical tips, and the triangular panels attached by hinges to the ceiling joist, which connect to the peak.

Environment: urban
Material: 304 mirror polished stainless steel with a thickness of 3.0 mm
Manufacturer: Kikukawa Kogyo Co., Ltd. / Nisshin Steel Co., Ltd.
Architects: Hiroshi Nakamura & NAP + Takenaka Corporation
Photographs: Kikukawa Kogyo Co., Ltd.
More information: kikukawa.com or nisshin-steel.co.jp