History of the project

O10 Building is located in the heart of Hakata ward in City of Fukuoka, the largest city in Kyushu region known as Japan's gateway to Asia. The site is on the Naka River next to Nakasu (a lively entertainment district famous for its nightlife and streetvendors) and contrasting modern commercial complex Canal City.

The developer, startup company Zero-Ten, envisioned to create a new hub that embodies Fukuoka's emerging culture and its colorful mix of local and global talent. The new 010 Building houses a multipurpose immersive theater with bars, a creative restaurant run by celebrity chefs that opens onto a large riverside terrace, a fine dining hideaway on the top floor with striking views of the city, a VIP lounge, and roof terraces.

In order to connect to the surrounding city fabric and riverfront, the double height theater which has the largest volume was raised up into the air to free the ground. The base geometry is composed of symmetrically stacked pure square masses that are rotated 45 degrees to each other. The overall volume is wrapped with gently curving stainless steel "curtains" in a spiral composition which responds to internal programs and framing views, with an aim to creating a dynamic form and varied spatial experience that amplifies the unique spirit of the energetic city.

Taking full advantage of an open site, the whirling curtains open up in all directions inviting people from multiple approaches. The result is a seemingly floating architecture without front or back, an iconic silhouette that can be identified Stainless Steels in Architectural Applications 21

010 BUILDING. Picture © GION

from distant bridges and across the city.

The building does not have a traditional façade, there are no preferred sides, its sculpted form faces in all directions equally - like an actor in the city. The satin metal curtains reflect the constantly changing liquid aura of the weather and open sky by day, and shimmering city lights and neon by night.

How did stainless steel contribute to the sustainability of the structure?

The durability of stainless steel enables long lasting and low maintenance which contributes to the overall sustainability of the building.



Category: Culture and History

Location: Fukuoka, Japan

Environment: urban

Use: Theatre and restaurant

Material: stainless steel 2D finish

Material thickness: 0.4 mm

Material quantity custom corrugated metal panel:

- straight wall: 792.5 m²- curved corners: 127.5 m²

Total: 920.0 m²

Architect: Clouds Architecture Office

Executive Architects: NKS2 Architects and Takumi Nakahara Architecture

Fabricator: Saeki Kensetsu Co, Ltd

Photographs: GION

More information: cloudsao.com

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Why was stainless steel chosen?

Due to the proximity to salt water, stainless steel was an optimal choice, certainly in combination with the finish texture, reflection quality and the capability to shape the complex geometry/form. The durability and cost efficiency were an additional benefit.

Competing or alternative material(s)

Aluminum Composite Material panel



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