

Light Architecture

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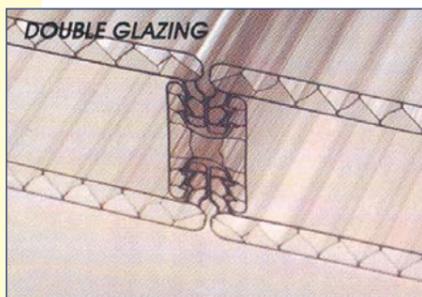
A luminous canopy in Sweden

If Danpalon was chosen, "it is also because it's very inexpensive to maintain."

Engineering innovation and new aesthetic horizons

Bringing natural light into interior spaces while making optimum use of solar energy and thermal insulation – this is the essence of Danpal innovation.

Thanks to the development of **combined systems that feature Controlite intelligent light controllers and the new Danpatherm+ system**, it is now easier than ever to be innovative in the field of the architecture of light. Innovative by using translucency wherever desired, eliminating thermal constraints, creating unexpected splashes of light, varying solar inputs, and so on.



Structure of Danpatherm+

Danpatherm+, the new, fully translucent thermal insulation system created by Danpal, not only complies with the new European regulations that call for a K coefficient of less than 0.65 Wm²C, but goes even further with a coefficient of 0.4 Wm²C, the equivalent of 100 mm. of glass wool. This is a technical achievement that clearly opens the door to new creative possibilities, as evidenced by the extension to the Cardiocéan clinic (see article on p. 2).

Controlite is the first translucent building system that provides the ability to control, either automatically or on demand, the amount of natural light desired at any time based

on the client's activities or lighting requirements, or weather conditions.

Because light is a source of well-being and comfort and plays out differently depending on the function of the place in which it is used and the client's lifestyle, Danpal has channelled its innovativeness into developing a full range of products suited to all types of projects and all creative endeavours. Bon voyage!

Alain Chambron



Macao sports centre under construction: 80 000 sq. metres of Danpalon

Cardiovascular Rehabilitation Clinic

Extension and innovation using double Danpalon

More than an extension – a virtual metamorphosis: the Cardiocéan clinic, located in Puilboreau near La Rochelle, offers a new view of the medical world thanks to the use of double Danpalon, which helped shape the architectural project. Interview with architect Jean-Luc Cortella.



What did the project entail?

Jean-Luc Cortella: The extension involved the construction of a two-storey, 330-sq.m health office and a one-story, 240-sq.m day clinic. Both buildings were designed as special-purpose annexes attached to the existing main buildings, with the health office located at the centre of the accommodation facilities and the day clinic connected to the medical area.

Technical innovation lies, in part, in the use of the new, totally translucent thermal insulation system designed by Danpal instead of traditional walls. In what way did double Danpalon help shape this architectural project?

Jean-Luc Cortella: We wanted to use the natural qualities of double Danpalon and all its expressive pos-



sibilities. There is a close relationship between the material and the building's shape. Our aim was to create something different, even something that was the opposite of the existing buildings in terms of form and substance. Translucent buildings with no apparent density stand in contrast to dense, opaque ones, while natural, balanced, ellipsoid curves of polycarbonate stand out against the rigidity of the other buildings' architectural design.

In this medical environment, what was your approach in terms of aesthetics and comfort?

Jean-Luc Cortella: The project included certain very specific ele-

ments, particularly with regard to medical functions. However, the clients gave us full freedom in terms of the project's architectural management. The choice of double Danpalon, for example, was the result of a shared discussion regarding the desired interior look and feel. The sleek, translucent uniformity of the surface clearly creates a luxurious setting. The light is substantial, calming and therapeutic.

How did you develop the idea of architecture that places so much emphasis on natural light?

Jean-Luc Cortella: This is a concern shared by all architects. I feel



INNOVATION

Danpatherm and Danpatherm+ The new translucent thermal insulation systems

Nowadays, thermal insulation is no longer synonymous with opacity. Danpatherm is a new, translucent thermal-insulation system that allows natural light to enter when used for siding and coverings. As an added bonus, it offers many advantages, such as interior comfort, energy savings and fresh creative possibilities.

Designed by Danpal, the Danpatherm systems now conform to the new European requirements regarding thermal insulation and are fully in keeping with thermal regulation RT 2000 – in addition to letting in light, of course!

A new concept Translucent thermal insulation

In terms of technical innovation, the Danpatherm systems offer three advantages:

- **Exceptional insulation efficiency** – up to $U(K)=0.46 \text{ Wm}^2\text{°C}$ – to minimize heat loss and promote energy savings with regard to heating.
- **Exceptional light-transmission efficiency** – up to 44% – to take advantage of natural lighting and solar energy, sources of both well-being and energy savings.
- **Exceptional acoustic insulation efficiency** – up to 27 dBa – to meet the acoustic comfort requirements of such urban and suburban structures as performance halls, sports complexes and service and industrial buildings.

Danpatherm: an interlude of air and light

The Danpatherm system consists of a double polycarbonate skin that surrounds an insulating airspace. Based on the colour and thickness of the polycarbonate sheets provided by Danpal and the thickness of the airspace, the thermal insulation coefficient and light transmission best suited to the site and its use can be achieved.



For example, a 16-mm + 16-mm crystal Danpatherm system with a 40-mm airspace and a coefficient of $U(K) = 1.10 \text{ Wm}^2\text{°C}$ provides 44% light transmission and an M1 flame-retardant rating.

Danpatherm+: improved translucent insulation

The Danpatherm+ system includes an additional insulant, also translucent, made of sheets of corrugated cellulose diacetate, 20-60 mm thick (M1 flame-retardant rating and F1 smoke rating), which are glued together.

For example, a 16-mm + 16-mm crystal Danpatherm system with a 17-mm airspace and a 50-mm insulant and a coefficient of $U(K) = 0.46 \text{ Wm}^2\text{°C}$ provides 34% light transmission and an M1 flame-retardant rating.

The Danpatherm and Danpatherm+ systems have received SOCOTEC approval regarding technical requirements and additives for coverings and siding.

With a choice of colours, effects, light transmission and thermal insulation capacity, Danpatherm and Danpatherm+ are innovative building systems for use in the field of light architecture. The systems are supplied ready-to-install, and ready-to-attach versions are under development.



that architecture exists, above all, through its presence rather than through the functions it organizes. This presence is embodied in the qualitative relationships between dimensions, materials and natural light. For me, the Cardiocéan project confirms this ability to design architecture based on the principle of intensification, including the intensification of natural light, which, in addition to illuminating a space, becomes internal substance; the intensity of the windows drilled into the translucent interior wall, which are transformed into pictures hung on the wall; and the intensity and pulsation of the internal activity, which, by night, serves as a beacon to the outside and signals a human presence and a reassuring place of vigil for patients.

What technical constraints did double Danpalon address?

Jean-Luc Cortella: Thanks to the use of 16-mm alveolar polycarbonate for the two ventilated walls, the structure conforms to thermal regulation RT 2000 and has an M1 fire rating. This material provides adequate acoustic insulation for the treatment rooms and offices and is easy to maintain.

How was the system implemented?

Jean-Luc Cortella: We built a prototype based on a small treatment room. This allowed us to test the light and the amount of white needed in the internal wall (10% more white for the "Ice" shade) as well as the connection requirements between the horizontal curve rails and the polycarbonate connectors. The window frames were also tested and adjusted at the same time. Although there are usually some problems related to breakage involving assemblies made of different materials, the double Danpalon installation did not pose any difficulty.

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Danpatherm at the François-André Stadium

Renovation at full gallop

The François-André stadium is a legendary equestrian sports facility. Yet after 40 years, the mythical beast was showing some signs of fatigue. Outdated in terms of its accommodation capacity and ease of use, François-André was in need of a second wind.

In 2003, the city of La Baule hired Estève et Boucheton Associés, a Nantes-based architecture firm, to draw up plans for the restoration and renovation of

replacement of the canopy over the stands. The architects proposed substituting the original concrete with light and air – a cover made of 1,500 m² of Danpatherm Cristal supported by a light glue-laminated structure.

Comfort

This light, transparent solution was dictated by three essential requirements: to eliminate strain on the existing foundations, to minimise the amount of shade cast by the canopy on the competition arena in order to allow photosynthesis and maintain an even lawn, and, thanks to Danpatherm, to ensure the comfort of the spectators in the stands by allowing sun - and not UV rays and heat - to filter through.

Danpatherm was also used for an exterior partition on the gable walls to draw light into the units under the stands without compromising privacy. Thanks to this renovation, François-André is proof of the saying that (new) life begins at forty!



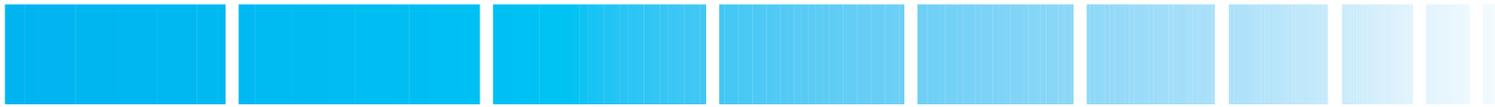
the stadium. It was an ambitious project with a fixed deadline: this monument to equestrian sport was to host the Concours de saut d'obstacles international officiel (official international show-jumping competition) in May 2004.

Lightweight

Deadlines met by the project managers! After just eight months, the stadium began its second life. The highlight of this renovation, which required the participation of 24 building trades and a workforce of 200, was the

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Competition arena landscaper: John Weier
Site landscaper: Phytolab
Engineering firm: Gantois, ITE, PLBI, ETCO, 2LM
Structure: Berton-Demangeau
Covering: Sofradi
 44119 Treillières - France
 Tél. : 02 28 01 22 30





Diois-Vercors departmental media centre

Controlite, the light of culture

When, on sunny days, a conventional glass roof turns a place of culture into a virtual oven, a renovation is in order. Portrait of a light-filled media centre, compliments of Controlite.

A media centre, like any place of culture, should be a place where visitors and employees can work, read and study in comfort. This was a major reason for the renovation of the Diois-Vercors media centre in Die, in the Drôme region, during the summer of 2004.

The damaging effects of sun

According to Frédéric Dupuy of S.I.A., a company that installs smoke removal and top-lighting equipment, the main issue that prompted this renovation was that, *“The media centre was a light well lit by a conventional glass roof made of simple wire-glass glazing. The sealant used on this glass roof had aged badly over time, which led to many leakage and condensation problems. The main problems, however, were related to thermal comfort and sunlight – in the summer, the heat was almost unbearable and the sunlight was a nuisance to visitors.”*

The Controlite solution

A reflective film placed over the glass roof did not produce the expected results and the only solution was to replace it.

The Buildings Department, which oversaw the project on behalf of the Drôme General Council, then con-



tacted Laurent & Combet, a plumbing, heating and sheet metal company, which recommended the Controlite automatic sunshade system. *“Controlite was the perfect solution to the sunlight problem. In addition, this dual-surface system eliminates all the other problems, such as condensation and thermal bridges.”*

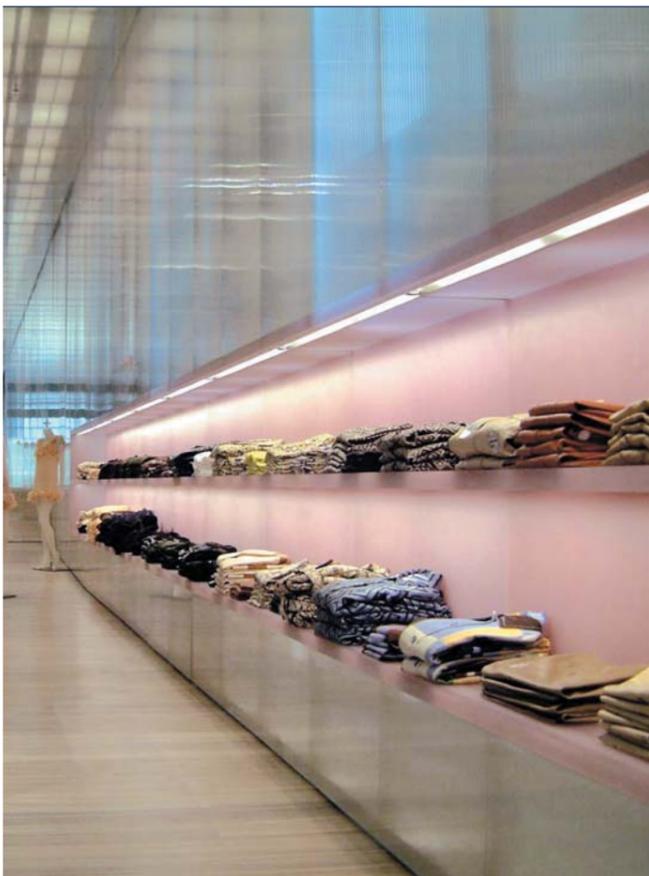
The media centre is now waiting for the sunshine to return to see whether, thanks to the Controlite system, it is indeed flooded with more light...of culture.



Client: Drôme General Council
Installer: S.I.A. Rhône-Alpes - Tel.: +33 (0)4 37 25 36 50

Prada store in New York

Danpalon and Rem Koolhaas - a designer label



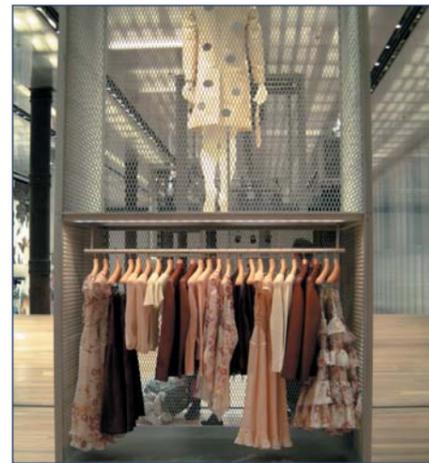
Danpalon on Broadway: a key element of Rem Koolhaas's design for the Prada store in New York – shedding new light on the latest trends.

In New York, new life has been breathed into the former Guggenheim building, now dressed by Prada, the ready-to-wear designer. The rebirth of the store's interior was orchestrated by Timothy Archambault and Eric Chang, architects from Rem Koolhaas's Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA).

enhances the building's unique atmosphere. This type of lighting reflects a concern for visitors' well-being which, in turn, helps boost sales. Rem Koolhaas, Prada and Danpal: three designers creating sensations for the best in today's trends.

Unparalleled sensations

Store? The term does not begin to describe this extraordinarily unique space. To begin with, the floor slopes across the entire width of the store like a giant wave connecting the two levels. Another unusual feature is the enormous wooden staircase that doubles as a display area. Metal cages displaying Prada creations hang from the ceiling like upturned buildings, giving the feel of a suspended city. The key words to describe this project – unique and unparalleled.



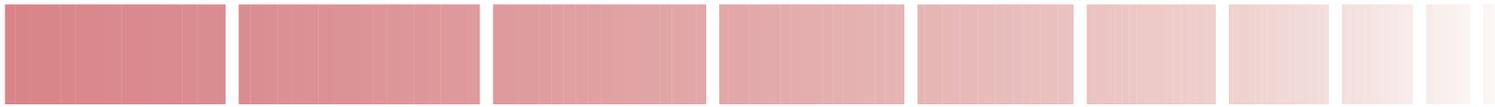
The Danpalon atmosphere

In this temple to the spirit of the times, Danpalon fulfils a duty to remember: a translucent covering on the building's original brick wall, it forms a subtle bridge between the building's history and its new calling.

Danpalon was also used to create suspended ceilings, which provide diffused, intimate lighting that



Partner architects:
Rem Koolhaas and Ole Scheeren
Chief project architects:
Timothy Archambault, Eric Chang
Associate architect: ARO
Structure: LERA



Silk-screened Danpalon

Converting a farmhouse into a "Maison Folie"

As part of the events held in 2004 to celebrate Lille's year as European City of Culture, the farmhouse of the Ferme d'en Haut in Villeneuve d'Ascq was transformed into a "Maison Folie" exhibition centre with the help of a silk-screened Danpalon skin.



artists' accommodation units was created using screen-printed Danpalon. Here the material matches the colour scheme perfectly thanks to the application of a photograph of autumnal undergrowth over the entire façade. Only the grey of the galvanised steel and concrete retaining walls tone down the vibrant ambiance."

Sheets of trellis cover parts of the roof and walls and serve as supports for climbing plants such as rosebushes, honeysuckle, clematis and hops. Each detail reflects the High Environmental Quality vision of a project dedicated to artists.

As part of its celebration of European culture, the city of Lille constructed 12 exhibition and entertainment centres known as "Maisons Folie". In Villeneuve d'Ascq, the Quatr'a architectural firm renovated an old farmhouse by adding on two extensions, including a 200-seat auditorium and 120 m² of artists' studios. It also overhauled the main buildings (a farmhouse and a barn) to create a 160 m² exhibition centre, artists' accommodation, a restaurant and a café.

Mirroring time...

The new structures were not built onto the farm buildings. The entertainment theatre is well hidden to preserve the overall look and feel. The building that houses the artists' studios is parallel to the farmhouse and spans the old rebuilt ditches, which bring back to life the traditional mirror of light so often seen in Flanders. The effect is such that the new building, which is supported by piles and whose main façade and gable walls are made of Danpalon Ice, creates an array of mirror effects and plays off the water and sky. It also reflects the old farmhouse, which stands facing it in contrast to its newness, yet includes all the elements native to its environment.

A façade of autumnal undergrowth

A colour scheme in the orange-red range was chosen for the architectural project. "These colours are in keeping with the brick of the existing buildings, the red-painted woodwork and the new tiles, as well as the contemporary elements," the architects explained. "In the farmhouse courtyard, for instance, a walkway that runs along the



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Environment Centre in Anglet

Services flourishing under light

On the truck farming plain of Anglet, three brightly-coloured market halls have replaced the old storage facilities of the environment

technical centre's operations division. Three greenhouses provide shelter for the departments under Danpalon light...with no greenhouse effect.



This surprising light metamorphosis is the work of architects Dominique

Lesbegueris and Christine Raynier. *"The operations division of the environment centre comprises the departments responsible for waste management, network operations and open space maintenance for the Bayonne-Anglet-Biarritz conurbation. Over the years, the old facilities had become too outdated to provide these services adequately. Elected officials also wanted the buildings, located on a road that leads to the beaches, to convey an image that matched the site - modern, dynamic and reflective of the services' expansion."*

Scale

The building consists of three simple units joined along their long walls. The first and shortest is situated near the river and measures 11 metres high at the crest of the roof to provide a beacon for the estuary. The second, which is lower, juts out on one side and is visible. The third, lower than the second, also juts out on the same side and can be seen in the background. Thus the building dominates the site and invites the viewer to see its layout in terms of its depth, particularly because of its low height.

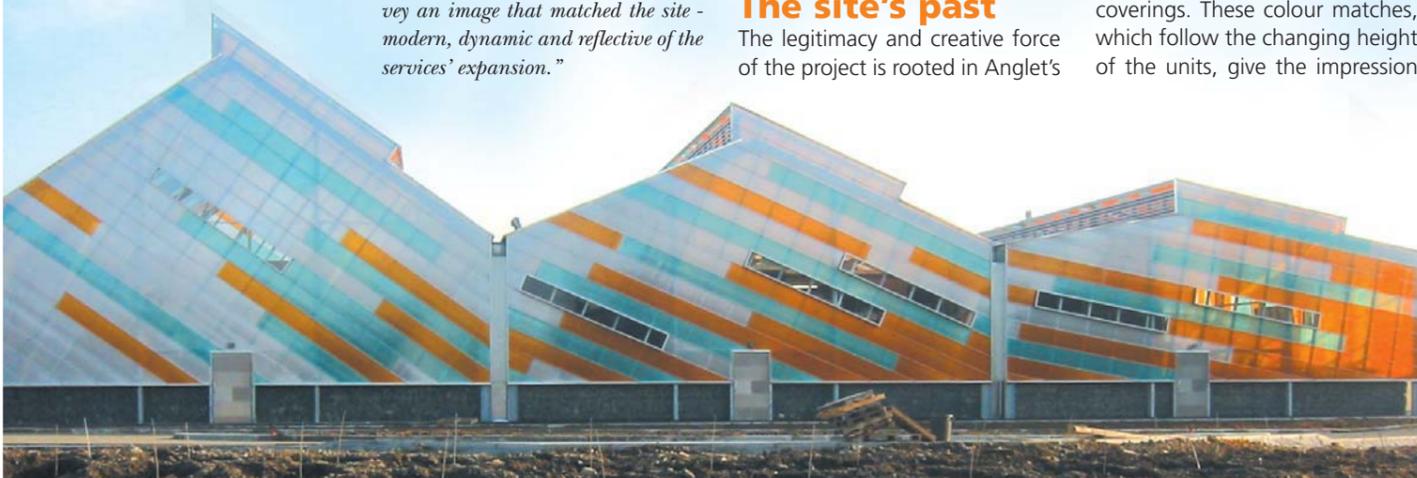
The site's past

The legitimacy and creative force of the project is rooted in Anglet's

history. *"Prior to Anglet's development, the main activity of the plain was fruit and vegetable cultivation, as evidenced by the remains of old greenhouses that still dot the landscape. We wanted to establish a close link to the area's past - a project dedicated to the memory of this lost landscape - by building three market halls whose form and substance were reminiscent of that time."*

A wave of colour

Each service is depicted by a different colour - "crystal", orange and green. These colours are arranged alternately and in varying hues on the long walls and coverings. These colour matches, which follow the changing height of the units, give the impression



Danpalon



of waves breaking on Anglet's beaches and create the combined illusion of a sunset, transparent waves and an eruption of foam.

"Light-Architecture"

At night, the building's function as a beacon on the edge of the estuary is brought out even more. It serves as "light-architecture" and resonates with other translucent buildings, such as the one in the Bayonne salt marshes located further upstream.

Innovation

In addition to the innovation brought to this project and the technical challenge it presented, it also posed an aesthetic challenge, especially in terms of the "English-style" installation of the Danpalon materials on the gable walls. This accomplishment was the result of close collaboration between the architect, Danpal and the company's on-site team leader in charge of the jointing work. By building for the future, the architects have revived the memory of Anglet's past – the greenhouses have returned to the plain and are proudly displayed for all who travel the estuary's left bank.

Client: Communauté d'Agglomération Bayonne-Anglet-Biarritz
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Danpalon in Les Sables d'Olonne

The new image of a "Champion"

A veil of light reminiscent of the sails of the boats docked in the port. By putting their name to the new image of the Champion supermarket in Les Sables d'Olonne, Briton & Claude Architecture have proved that a shopping centre can be a vibrant place that blends perfectly with the surrounding environment.

When Champion supermarkets decided to move into an existing building in Les Sables d'Olonne, their top priority was to quickly change the store's image. Architect Serge Claude came up with a solution that combined fast completion time with aesthetic quality. *"The old façade had no visual unity. We recommended covering the entire store with a Danpalon skin to give it a uniform aesthetic appearance."*

Lightness and speed

The choice of Danpalon also addressed several technical concerns. "We created a structural frame in galvanised steel which we installed 1.5 metres from the old façade. The material used for siding therefore had to be as light as possible. Danpalon was the perfect solution. What's more, because it's so easy to install, we were able to finish the project in no time."



The mystery of immateriality

"The immaterial look of Danpalon allowed us to add a feature to the store while keeping it visually light. This translucency also invites a question – one suspects that something is going on behind it, but doesn't know exactly what. This veil of light that surrounds the building creates a certain consistency with the boats in the port just behind the store."

The work began on the 1st of May 2004 and was completed in early June: a record performance for a "Champion"!

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Rosheim Children's Centre

The art of childhood in screen-printed Danpalon



Pierre Albrech
and Dominique Weber

By day, an image of a child's eyes attracts the attention of passers-by; by night, this image fades to reveal a set of coloured lights. The Rosheim Children's Centre attests to the heights of creativity that architectural professionals can reach when using Danpalon.

Not far from the ramparts of the medieval city of Rosheim in Alsace, a Children's Centre has replaced the former railway station. The purpose of the project, sponsored by a community of nine municipalities and undertaken by dwpa architectes, was to create a social facility that also serves as an urban symbol. Dedicated to children – complete with a nursery, a drop-in centre, maternity service facilities and parents' cooperatives – the building is also a gateway into Rosheim and well-suited to the city's reputation as a tourist hub.

A Path to learning

An "educational" building in every sense of the word, the centre was designed to spark awareness.

"We placed a great deal of emphasis on modest volumes, with wood, glass, stone and polycarbonate inviting children to explore the materials," explains architect Pierre Albrech. Large window panels offer children a view of the outdoors and allow light to penetrate this low-profile building. This emphasis on natural lighting also prompted the architects to design the building's façade in 16-mm Danpalon.

Creative screen-printing

What sets this façade apart is the creative use of colour and screen-printing. *"The objective was to create a clear symbol with respect to the centre's location while discreetly reminding people of the site's former use as a railway station."* The architects designed a silk-screened





image symbolizing a rail system superimposed over a child's face. Inside the building, coloured film was also applied over the Danpalon. *"In the daytime, the white screen-printing can be seen on a half-tone screen; at night, the interior lighting transforms the building into a coloured lantern, with the colours appearing on the outside and the silk-screened image becoming backlighting."*



Simplicity and low cost

The Danpalon system was also chosen in response to certain technical requirements. *"Since the façade consisted of large panels measuring 1.5 by 5 metres, Danpalon's lightness made all the complex handling and installation processes much easier."* Economy served as a further selling point: a similar design using a glass product would have tripled the cost. With the help of Danpalon, dwpa architectes brought innovation to the art of childhood.

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Förenings-sparbanken, Sweden A bank gains transparency

In the city of Boras near Göteborg, Sweden, the cafeteria of a private bank lets in the light.

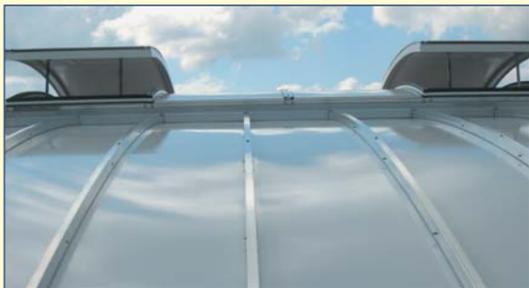


In the centre of the Förenings-sparbanken building, the employee cafeteria occupies a pleasant space that has finally found the light. After being subjected to the vagaries of weather for 20 years, its dirty, unattractive roof had stopped letting in

light, and replacing it became an urgent matter. "The Scanlight company recommended that we use Danpalon, and we were convinced at once of the quality of this material," explains Lennart Andree, project manager for all the bank's buildings.

again bathed in light. The project took three weeks and, according to Lennart Andree, "The company did not have a single problem with the installation."

At the same time, a resonance issue linked to the building's architectural design needed to be addressed. To filter sounds, the ceiling height was lowered by stretching a light-blue fabric, which was there prior to the construction, over the entire surface. This "sky" helped reduce the intense heat generated by the sun directly hitting the roof without blocking out the light.



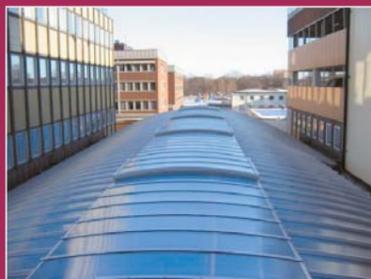
Three weeks without a hitch

The Danpalon panels were installed following the concave shape of the original wood frame, covering a total area of 14 x 22 metres. The centre bay was equipped with movable panels to allow air to enter the space and eliminate the greenhouse effect. Thanks to Danpalon, the room was once

Installer: Scanlight

Gallerian Shopping Centre, Sweden Shops bridged under a translucent canopy

In the Swedish city of Eskilstuna, two shopping-centre buildings are now joined by a wide canopy.



An open space, unprotected from bad weather, once spanned the two buildings of the Galleria shopping centre in Eskilstuna. To allow customers to cross from one to the other in greater comfort, a decision was made to cover this portion of

the street with a 90-m-long roof that blended with the existing architecture. The architects chose a structure made of Danpalon to cover the entire area between the buildings. As a result, thanks to Danpalon's translucency, the exteri-

or light effects have been preserved. What's more, since the effects of cold and the sun were reduced, temperatures were indirectly controlled, making the structure more inviting. On top of these advantages, the construction was completed without having to close the Galleria centre. In addition, if Danpalon factored into the choice "it was also because it's very inexpensive to maintain," added an architect from the AQ-Arkitekter firm.

AQ-Arkitekter, Sweden
Architects: Jan-Eric Bergström
and Fredrik Wivemar
Installer: Scanlight

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