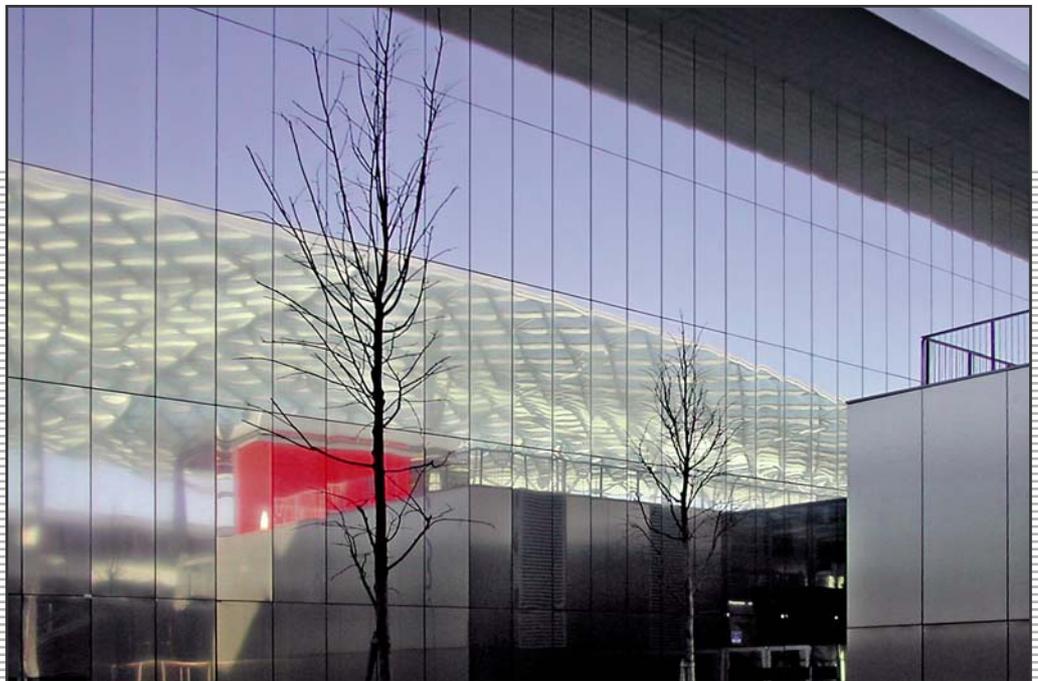


Milan Trade Fair





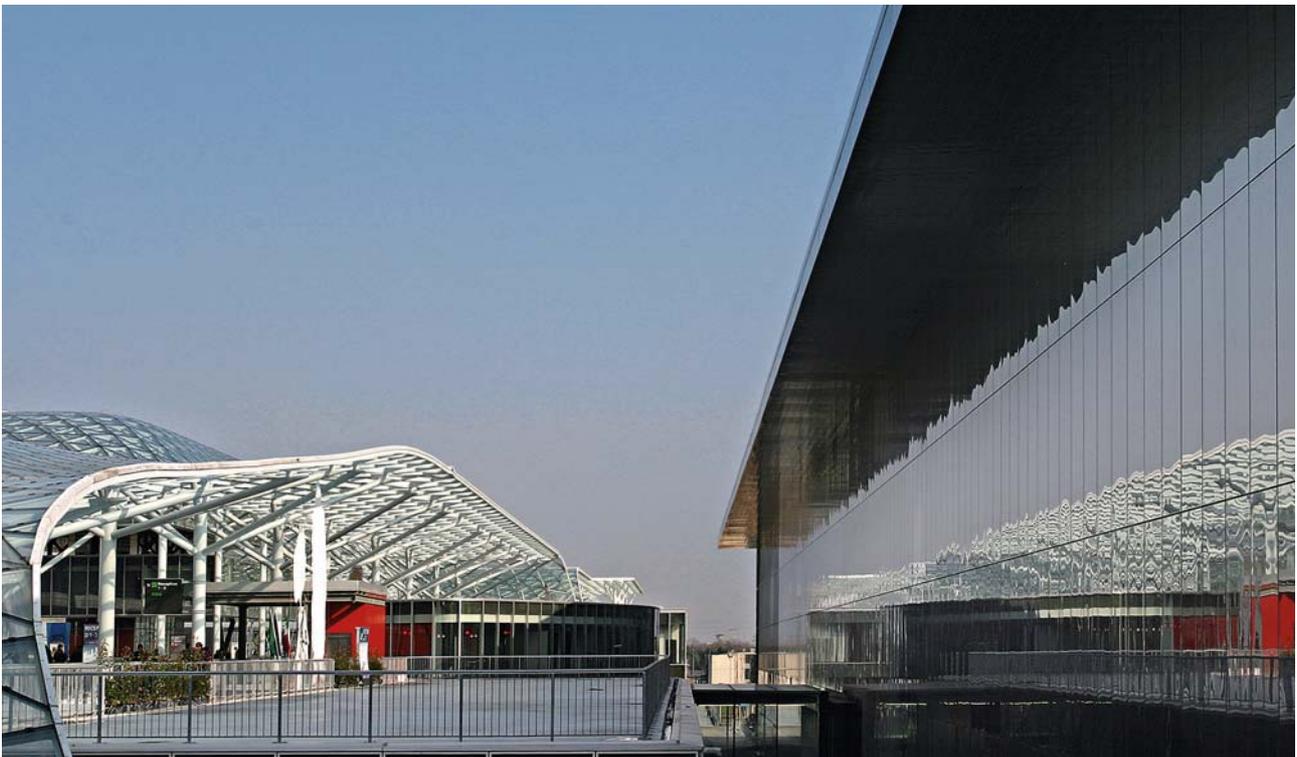
The articulated, free-form shape of the canopy sets up an interesting contrast with the rectangular volumes of the stainless-steel-clad exhibition halls.

Site plan

- 1 Main entrance
- 2 'Corso'
- 3 Exhibition hall
- 4 Multi-storey car park
- 5 Hotel
- 6 Congress hall, offices, services

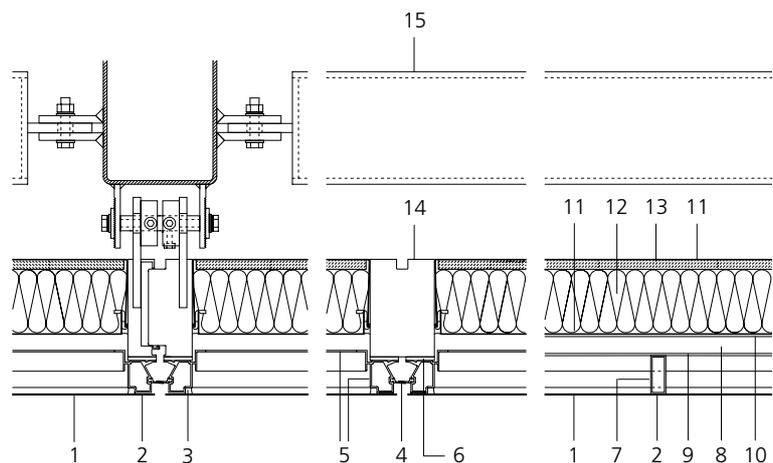
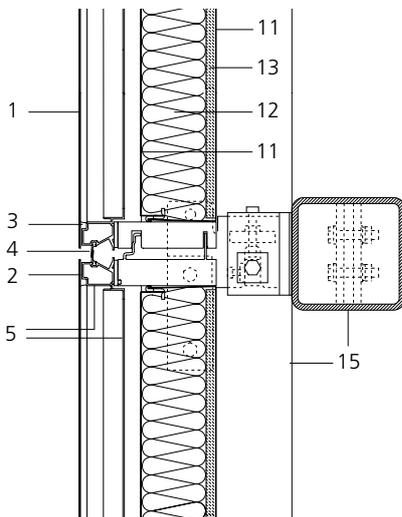
The new Fiera Milano, a state-of-the-art exhibition centre designed by Roman architect Massimiliano Fuksas, opened in March 2005. Located in the Rho-Pero district in the northwest of the city, this complex is one of the most modern of its kind in Europe, and currently the largest, providing 345,000 square metres of exhibition space.

Visible from afar is what has now become the trademark of Fiera Milano – an undulating, sinuous steel and glass canopy. This spectacular free-form construction covers the entire 1,300-metre long 'Corso', the central axis of the complex. Contrasting with this avant-garde roof are the rectangular volumes of the eight exhibition halls.



The large, clearly structured façades are intended to reflect not only the dynamic roof structure but also all the activity on the 'Corso'. To achieve this effect, the architects clad the exhibition halls with curtain walls of stainless steel. This material also meets the high specifications required of a building which will serve as a prestigious business platform for Italian companies for many years to come.

The panels, measuring 1 metre wide by 3 or 4 metres high, were made from 1.5 mm stainless-steel sheet in grade EN 1.4401. The very smooth, highly reflective mill finish (2R) to the stainless steel is achieved by bright annealing followed by light rolling.



Vertical/horizontal section through façade panels
scale 1:10

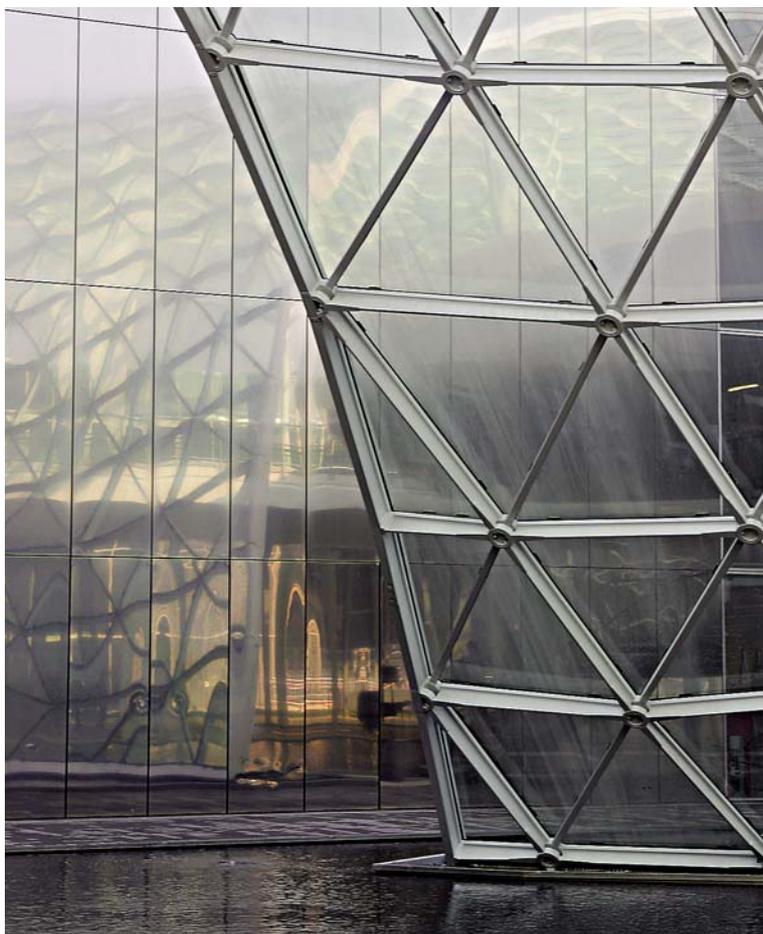
- 1 1.5 mm bright-annealed stainless steel, grade EN 1.4401
- 2 Fixing strip, adhesive on both sides
- 3 Perimeter seal, silicone
- 4 EPDM seal, black

- 5 Aluminium profile
- 6 EPDM sealing strip
- 7 50/20/2 mm rectangular aluminium profile
- 8 25/25/1.5 mm square aluminium profile, l=650 mm
- 9 20/3.2 mm fixing strip, adhesive on both sides

- 10 Silicone seal
- 11 0.8 mm steel sheet, galvanized and coated
- 12 85 mm rockwool insulation
- 13 12.5 mm plasterboard
- 14 Aluminium connector
- 15 Steel frame

Overall these panels cover 12,700 square metres at Milan's new exhibition centre; on a further 4,000 square metres of the curtain wall the stainless steel has a ground finish (220 grit).

As well the visual qualities which helped realise the architect's vision, stainless steel has the benefit of durability, a significant factor in maintaining the aesthetic appeal of this innovative and functional architecture for the long term.



Visually the reflective stainless steel has the effect of dematerialising the unbroken expanse of the façades.

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