

Wuxi Grand Theatre

Case study 2011

Focus product: Interthane® 990 Metallic

Year of project: 2008 through to 2011

Location: China

Project owner: Office for the Important Urban Projects, Culture and Art Administration in Wuxi

Fabricator: Jiangsu Huning Steel Mechanism Co., Ltd

Architect: PES in Finland

LDI: Shanghai Institute of Architectural Design & Research (SIADR)

Project size: 70,000m² (753,474ft²)

Background

The Wuxi Grand Theatre covers a total area of 100,000 m² and stands on the south bank of the Lihu Lake. The building, which has been compared with the Sydney Opera House, is designed to look like a dragonfly with a roof constructed in eight wing-shape sections. Costing over RMB 1bn to build, it was completed in May 2011. The development consists of a main performing hall with a capacity of 1700 and second multi-function hall with a capacity of 700.

The solution

During the initial design phase, the roles and areas of influence of PES in Finland and China were established and a dialogue began with both offices. AkzoNobel secured sole specification from the owner and our products were specified within the technical requirements of the design documents. At the beginning, both Interfine® 878 and Interthane 990 were considered but finally, a top coat of Interthane 990 only was selected as the architect required a metallic coloring. The product was also chosen for its long term recoatability. Several fabricators bidding on the project were identified and visited by AkzoNobel. All companies in the contract chain have been satisfied with our products in terms of quality, aesthetics and also technical support.

