

Case Study:

Old Trafford, Manchester, UK

**The Project**

A new structurally glazed main entrance / atrium at Old Trafford, home of the world's biggest football club, Manchester United. As well as making an impressive statement to fans and visitors, the new entrance also had to provide a reception area and office space for staff at the 'Theatre of Dreams'.

The Challenge

To structurally glaze a spectacular fifteen metre high, 800m² glass wall featuring the largest glass panels ever constructed in the UK. The panels, measuring 4.2m high by 1.8 metres wide each weighed nearly 300kg and had to be craned into place. They utilised 32mm double glazed units comprising a 10mm green anti-sun outer leaf and a 6mm clear toughened inner leaf. A special bespoke version of the SCHÜCO SK60V stick system with an aerofoil-shaped profile was designed especially for the project in accordance with the architect AFL's original design.

The Vision

The architect's plans for very large glazed units fulfilled three major criteria. Bob Fuller of AFL comments, "Firstly the client's brief called for drama and an imposing façade in keeping with the importance and scale of the stadium as a whole. The second consideration was practical. Each panel is storey high allowing maximum light penetration into the deep plan Atrium office space behind."

The Team

The Dow Corning technical team worked closely with structural glazing systems company SCHÜCO to ensure that the original vision of Manchester United and its architects could be realised. They carried out complex design calculations to ensure the optimum performance of the system. Contractors Northing Aluminium Ltd fixed the panels.

The Products

To meet the exacting requirements of European standards for structural glazing (EN 13022), Dow Corning's technical experts specified Dow Corning 993 sealant to bond the glass in the frames.

City:	Manchester
Country:	UK
Product:	Dow Corning® 993
Architect:	AFL
System:	SCHÜCO
Contractor:	Northing Aluminium

The Project:

- New structurally glazed entrance atrium and office space at the home of Manchester United, Old Trafford. Features largest glass panels ever manufactured in UK.
- The panels, measuring 4.2m high by 1.8 metres wide each weighed nearly 300kg and had to be craned into place. They utilised 32mm double glazed units comprising a 10mm green anti-sun outer leaf and a 6mm clear toughened inner leaf.
- "This new entrance at Old Trafford was a very prestigious project and certainly posed a real challenge. Dow Corning is without doubt the most trusted sealant company in the world and it certainly lived up to its reputation on this project. The technical team provided extensive test research, carried out site visits to ensure everything was running smoothly, and gave excellent technical advice." (SCHÜCO)
To meet the exacting requirements of European standards for structural glazing (EN 13022), Dow Corning's technical experts specified Dow Corning 993 sealant to bond the glass in the frames.

**Dow Corning 993
Silicone Structural Glazing Sealant**

A two part, neutral curing silicone sealant specifically developed for the structural bonding of glass and metal including coated, enamelled, and reflective glass, 993 has excellent weathering properties and high resistance to ultra-violet radiation, heat, and humidity once cured.

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