

Case Study:

Arabella Sheraton Grand Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa



The Project

A 483-bedroom, R300 million hotel, interlinked to the Cape Town International Convention Centre and situated at foreshore in the heart of Cape Town. An impressive, structurally glazed façade is among the most spectacular features of the state-of-the-art luxury hotel in one of the most spectacular locations in Africa.

The Challenge

The structurally glazed facade of the hotel features over 500 flat glass panels with double clad skins. The panels were designed and constructed so that none of the aluminium frames are visible giving the impression of one continuous wall of glass. In total, 12,000 square metres of structural glazing were installed.

The Vision

To blend an ultra-modern European glass and granite design with African textures, colours, objects and finishes inside the hotel. The architects aimed to make the most of the Arabella Sheraton Grand Hotel's stunning location by providing guests with uninterrupted views across the city, the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, the mountains and the Harbour, thanks to the floor-to-ceiling windows which the glazed façade provides.

The Team

The hotel was designed by local architects Peerutin and GAPP and the main contractor for the hotel project was a joint venture con-

sisting of Murray & Roberts, WBHO, RR Roberts and Corpelo. The structurally glazed facade of the hotel was constructed by Mazor Engineering.

The Solution

Mazor specified Dow Corning 993 Structural Glazing Silicone sealant for all the bonding and weather sealing of the structurally glazed curtain walling for the project. "We always specify Dow Corning sealants for our structural glazing systems. The company has a long standing reputation for rigorous quality control and excellent technical back-up and the complexity of this curtain walling project meant that it was essential to have experts on board," explained a representative of Mazor Engineering.

Dow Corning carried out extensive tests and calculations to determine joint dimensions and the silicone sealants best suited to the job. The sealant and the panels had to pass stringent fire tests carried out in Johannesburg before construction could begin.

The Products

To meet the project's exacting requirements, Mazor Engineering's technical experts specified Dow Corning 993 sealant to bond the glass in the frames. Mazor Engineering also worked closely with Dow Corning's technical teams to establish quality-control systems for the application of Dow Corning 993, which requires stringent factory controls in the glazing assembly area.

City:	<i>Cape Town</i>
Country:	<i>South Africa</i>
Product:	<i>Dow Corning® 993</i>
Architect:	<i>Peerutin and GAPP</i>
Fabricator:	<i>Mazor Engineering</i>
Main Contractor:	<i>Murray & Roberts, WBHO, RR Roberts and Corpelo</i>

The Project:

- A 483-bedroom, R300 million hotel, interlinked to the Cape Town International Convention Centre and situated at foreshore in the heart of Cape Town.
- The structurally glazed facade of the hotel features over 500 flat glass panels with double clad skins.
- The glazed panels were designed and constructed so that none of the aluminium frames are visible giving the impression of one continuous wall of glass.
- The sealant and the panels had to pass stringent fire tests carried out in Johannesburg before construction could begin.
- Dow Corning 993 Structural Silicone Sealant has been developed and tested to the draft requirements of the European Standard for Explosion Resistance of Windows, Doors and Curtain Walls

Dow Corning 993

Dow Corning, the leading name in silicone sealants for structural glazing has developed and tested its 993 Structural Silicone Sealant to meet European and world-wide standards for structural glazing. It has been extensively tested for resistance to explosion, making it specially suited for use in structural glazing within explosion-resistant windows on high profile projects.

Contact Dow Corning...

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