



### The project

The demand for renovation techniques using Dow Corning products has steadily grown as architects and cladding consultants begin to identify the versatility of materials and the subsequent opportunities created through their use. The South Station Tower building in Brussels is another excellent example of how state-of-the-art silicone sealants have provided solutions for architects who need to renovate buildings not only quickly, but to the highest specification.

Thirty years of exposure to the elements had taken its toll on the 21000m<sup>2</sup> facade. For example, the PVC sections of the windows had begun to crack under the stress load created by corrosion of the frame's inner steel core. Designing a high quality facade system which could withstand climatic erosion and be installed quickly was therefore the primary specification requirement of the architect.

The complete renovation of the external elements of a structure often means the closure of the building, resulting in loss of rental or leasing income to the owner. Occupants of the South Tower, however, remained during its renovation - meaning a new glass facade had to be installed with minimum disruption to those still working in the building.

To complete the sleek, ecliptic glass facade of the building in such a short time, a team of architects, research specialists, cladding consultants and extruders worked to formulate the system in isolation of the main building. A series of aluminium mountings were developed such that the elements of the curtainwall could be transferred to site and mechanically fixed to the building frame, without generating undue disruption to those within the building.

### The products

Working closely with a dedicated team of Dow Corning technical advisors, architects specified Dow Corning® 993 structural glazing sealant and Dow Corning® Q3-3362 insulated glazing silicone sealant to maximise the performance of the glass curtainwall.

The result is a facade system which, like the Charlemagne building, meets the demands of modern European construction requirements without comprising its overall architectural splendour.

Dow Corning brand silicone sealants have created new and exciting opportunities for architects who have the vision to redevelop and renovate structures beyond what was perceived to be the realms of the possible. The use of such high quality sealants allows designers to breathe new life into buildings, confident in the knowledge that each structure will sustain its visual impact for years to come.

<b>Building:</b>	<b>South Station Tower</b>
<b>City:</b>	<b>Brussels</b>
<b>Country:</b>	<b>Belgium</b>
<b>Product:</b>	<b>Dow Corning® 993</b>
<b>Architect:</b>	<b>Jaspers, Robert and Alexander Mahieu</b>
<b>Curtainwall:</b>	<b>Groven</b>

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- **Thirty years of exposure to the elements had taken its toll on the 21,000m<sup>2</sup> facade. Designing a high quality facade system, which could withstand climatic erosion and be installed quickly, was therefore the primary specification requirement.**
- **Architects worked closely with a dedicated team of Dow Corning technical advisors, and specified Dow Corning 993 structural glazing sealant and Dow Corning Q3-3362 insulated glazing silicone sealant to maximise the performance of the glass curtainwall.**