FOCUS ON ZINC





Editorial

Welcome to the 20th edition of the Focus on Zinc.

In the ever-evolving world of architectural design, the pursuit of aesthetics that stand the test of time is a never-ending quest. Among the materials that have captivated architects and designers for decades, zinc has emerged as a symbol of enduring beauty and architectural sophistication. Its timeless appeal lies in its ability to seamlessly marry tradition with modernity.

Beyond its aesthetic allure, zinc boasts durability and sustainability, making it an environmentally responsible choice. Its longevity and recyclability align perfectly with the needs of sustainable architecture.

In this edition, we feature 20 outstanding projects around the world each one excelling in their own domain.

From the beautiful Danish project in natural zinc to the project in Belgium in the Province of Liège, the birthplace of the Vieille Montagne (VMZINC[®]'s former name) almost two hundred years ago.

Three exciting projects that illustrate the success of the AZENGAR[®] surface finish (which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year) and a special around the "perspectives in the night" at the end of the magazine.

All projects show the flexibility of zinc to fit the most diverse architectural challenges.

Enjoy your reading and we hope that this new edition will inspire you for future VMZINC projects.

The editorial committee

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PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Industrial memory

New technologies have ensured that Bangalore enjoys a worldwide reputation as India's tech capital. It aims to reconcile innovation and development, drawing on the Californian model. To achieve this aim, it is developing a 230-hectare area near its airport, known as Airport City, combining a business park, shops, a concert hall and leisure facilities.

Peekay Steel Casting, a company founded in the 1950s the steel industry, which remains its core business, has taken the logical step to locate its 3D additive manufacturing experimentation centre there.

Both a public showcase for the company's innovation and a research and equipment centre, the building welcomes visitors and employees alike.

Due to the important role of the centre within the company and its location close to the main access to the airport, the directors of Peekay Steel Casting wanted to ensure it would be a landmark building, with a 'identifying' architecture that clearly asserts the nature of the industry.

The architects from Venkataramanan Associates have designed a hybrid building, reflecting the duality between reception and production that structures the building in its opposition between transparent and opaque parts.

In the centre of the building, the machines and production areas have been laid out in such a way as to make them visible through glass partitions or from mezzanines floors.

The shed, a symbol of industry in the collective imagination, manifests itself in the form of light grids or solid, vertical walls.

On these opaque parts, the use of standing seam zinc cladding enhances the materiality of the facade and evokes the manufactured product.

The red colour of PIGMENTO $^{\circ}$ reinforces the building's unique appearance, and is reminiscent of the sandstone from which some of the country's greatest monuments are hewn.

An industrial building with a future-oriented facade that boasts dual certification: IGBC gold (Indian standard) and LEED (international mark of excellence for sustainable buildings).



India - Bangalore

Associatesj
Sunil M Baliga (Anvi Envelop
Design & Engineering LLP)
VMZINC [®] Standing seam
PIGMENTO [®] red
4,897 m ²
Shamanth Patil J



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Four in one

Madrid-based architecture studio Arenas Basabe Palacios Arquitectos has combined three detached houses and a sports facility into a single structure.

The architects chose to fragment the volume to integrate this complex into a low-density neighbourhood in the Las Rozas district of Madrid.

Adapted to the shape and topography of the site, each type of room has a unique morphology, with depth, height and length specifically defined by its interior function and its relationship with the open space. The regular alternating of these different forms creates a dialogue with the neighbouring detached housing.

This diversity of volumes is unified by the facade cladding. The continuity between roofs and the facades visible from the street is ensured by 2,200 m² of QUARTZ-ZINC[®] standing seams with integrated gutters.

The lightness and precision of this material contrasts with the solidity of the plastered walls, giving this multi-faceted complex a unique aesthetic.









Needle in the city

As a major French metropolis at the foot of the Alps, Grenoble specialises in cuttingedge technologies. The area's proximity to the mountains prompted ecological awareness earlier than elsewhere, and this was reflected in the development of the Bonne barracks eco-district in the early 2000s.

The Haut-Bois building is part of this culture of combining environmental and technical innovation. Social landlord Actis is the contracting authority for this highly ambitious project which is part of a research and development approach aimed at developing a sustainable economic model for environmental construction, and which contributes to the development of local timber industries.

56 social housing units on nine levels make up this building, which is compliant with the Passivhaus standard. It is built of solid wood panels, a first in an area classified as 4/5 for seismic risk. Of the 1,500m3 of wood used, 15% came from local sources, 15% from the Vosges and the rest from Alpine forests outside France.

Evoking the appearance of a mountain 'needle', or pointed crag, this social housing is divided into two blocks entirely clad in zinc, from the ground floor to the roof, consisting of elegant facets sloping down the facades. Given that it would be seen from the surrounding mountains, the roof also required particular attention.

There were two reasons why the architects from ASP Architecture and Atelier 17, who were partners on this project, chose zinc for a project that promotes the use of bio-sourced materials. The first is the durability of the material and its maintenance-free

life, while the second is linked to its albedo, i.e. its reflection coefficient.

A very light colour, AZENGAR® illuminates the building, reflecting the sun's rays and further reinforcing the thermal performance of ventilated cladding. The advantage of wood is also that it can be worked off-site: all the facade panels, including the zinc cladding, were manufactured in the workshop, transported to the site and then fixed to the solid wood Cross Laminated Timber structure. It took 2,500 hours to make these box-shaped elements.

The facade details elegantly reflect the production method, emphasising the transition between storeys with a neat horizontal joint produced under the optimum conditions available in the workshop.



ASP Architecture, Atelier 17C Société Dauphinoise Charpente Couverture VMZINC[®] Standing seam AZENGAR[®] 3,075 m² Paul Kozlowski



A new page in history

Winner of numerous awards, including the Stirling and Riba 2022 prizes, the new library at Cambridge University's Magdalene College was designed by Niall McLaughlin Architects of London.

Comprising reading rooms, an archive centre and a photography gallery, the new building replaces the cramped spaces of the neighbouring 17th-century library.

Set within the protected area of the original monastic college buildings, it extends the quadrangular layout and respects the vocabulary typical of gabled architecture. The QUARTZ-ZINC® PLUS roof is punctuated by tall brick chimneys and numerous dormer windows, the geometry of which defines the modernity of the building both inside and out.

The choice of materials - load-bearing bricks, zinc, interlaced wooden windows - is based on a desire to integrate the new building into its historic surroundings, but above all to ensure that they are durable and contemporary.

With its timber frame and innovative passive ventilation processes, the new library at Magdalene College is a modern addition to Cambridge's centuries-old history.

 United Kingdom - Cambridge

 Magdalene College Library

 Architect
 Niall McLaughlin Architects

 Contractor
 All Metal Roofing Ltd.

TechniqueVMZINC® Standing seamAspectQUARTZ-ZINC® PLUSSurface1,000 m²CopyrightPaul Kozlowski



N°20 FOCUS ON ZINC





Industrial dynamics

The headquarters of Italcoppie in Cremona, a vast industrial building extending over 1,300 m², stands out from neighbouring buildings thanks to the unusual dynamics of its facades.

Architects Renzo Musoni and Paolo Gaudenzi proposed a horizontal composition of interlocking zinc profiles in three surface finishes (AZENGAR®, QUARTZ-ZINC[®], ANTHRA-ZINC[®]), with a range of colours from light to dark, giving the overall effect of movement.

This graphic play is also marked by numerous openings, and features an original layout and both vertical and horizontal installation on the north facade. On the south facade, a solar protection system extends the main design, with a play of light and shadow.

For the designers, the choice of a metal cladding echoed the stainless steel processing carried out by the company within the building itself for its industrial applications.

Beyond this evocation, the architect's choice is also based on the durability of zinc: "As well as adding materiality to the facade cladding, it ensures that the finish is long-lasting".









Light and shadow

Architecture studio ADDARC has created Avenue Residences, an exclusive development of nine townhouses finished to the highest standards in one of the most beautiful locations on Melbourne Bay.

The buildings are distinguished by their sloping roofs, the succession of which creates a striking urban line in a largely residential area.

To reinforce this line, QUARTZ-ZINC[®] standing seam cladding wraps the building from the

roof to the facade. The soffits, also clad in zinc and combined with facing brick and burnt wood cladding, offer a discreet note of refinement, playing with light and shadow.

The harmony continues inside with matching shades of colour for the joinery.

The various applications of zinc on the building reinforce its shape. The choice of zinc also reflects the architects' desire to use sustainable materials.

Australia - Melbourne Avenue Residences

 Architect
 ADDARC

 Contractor
 Industry Cladding & Roofing

 Technique
 VMZINC® Standing seam

 Aspect
 QUARTZ-ZINC®

 Surface
 1,250 m²

 Copyright
 Timothy Kaye









Electronic madness

Aarhus, Denmark's second-largest city, remains little-known even though it was European Capital of Culture in 2017, a prestigious status that was in recognition of the dynamism that also drove the development of new districts on former industrial wastelands.

The housing units recreating artificial mountains in the harbour area have been viewed around the world, and we can expect the new stage construction delivered by architects Gjøde & Partnere to become a benchmark among European performance buildings too.

It was built within Tivoli Friheden, an amusement park created around 1920 on woodland that became a Sunday excursion destination for Aarhusians.

As well as the rides, the park is also a venue for shows, and includes an open-air stage that needed modernisation to provide greater comfort for spectators and reduce noise pollution for local residents.

To achieve this, the new stage has been reoriented towards the forest, and is to be complemented by an enclosed concert hall whose sloping facade will double as seating terraces for the audience.

Situated in the middle of a remodelled landscape of waterways and promenades, the new stage is a building object visible from 360°, addressing all the spaces in the park, unlike the previous stage which was front-view only. It is also a mixed-use building on three levels, incorporating not only a modern stage for concerts, but also two restaurants opening onto the park.

A perforated zinc skin reconstitutes the cylindrical volume cut by the opening in the stage. In front of the restaurant areas, it forms a shade that provides protection from the sun and a cosy atmosphere for restaurant guests.

During concerts, LED ribbons diffuse light effects through this thin perforated veil, transforming the building into a fullyfledged events machine, a fantastic object set in a garden.

The curved shape of the zinc cladding, obtained by folding the panels, is reminiscent of the fluting of classical columns, and more particularly that of the famous truncated column of the Desert de Retz, near Paris, another 'folly' that has shaped the history of gardens.



Discover a photo by night at the end of the magazine

Denmark - Århus Tivoli Friheden stages		
Contractor	Blikkenslagerfirmaet Steffer Petersen ApS	
Technique	Perforated zinc panels	
Aspect	Natural zinc	
Surface	1,000 m ²	
Copyright	Kirstine Mengel	









PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Origami stars

The 1,000 m^2 Joséphine Baker municipal hall in Clion-sur-Mer is part of a 7,000 m^2 development featuring a forecourt, terrace and car park.

Located in the heart of the suburban centre of this district of Pornic, the challenge of this location was both acoustic (the space could accommodate different types of public and private events) and visual (avoiding the 'supermarket car park' effect).

LOOM architecture opted for an initial concrete structure - a material chosen for its inertia and acoustic performance - to

house the auditorium itself, on top of which a light framework was added to house the building's ancillary functions (notably the hall, ticket office, bar, cloakrooms and toilets).

This second structure is covered by a thermal envelope and an AZENGAR® perforated standing seam roofing, giving the building the appearance of zinc origami.

The effect and modernity of the lines make it an emblematic building in the city by day and by night, where the graphic interplay of the perforations is highlighted by a ribbon of LEDs that literally redesign the facades.





Discover a photo by night at the end of the magazine





In full transparency

The new sports complex at King's College, in south-west London, is distinguished by its distinctive QUARTZ-ZINC® standing seam roof line.

Narrowing in a gentle curve to a low edge along an adjacent garden, this architectural feature links the three pavilions designed by David Morley Architects: a central twostorey building housing the reception and changing rooms, and two other spaces, one housing a swimming pool, the other a multisports hall with a modular configuration.

For the architect, the challenge of this project was 'to create a new building with excellent visual connections between the interior and exterior to encourage students to be physically active, while seamlessly linking the old facilities to the new'.

Transparency is the key word here, through the use of glass in the facade.

Beyond this, brick was favoured to ensure that the new complex blends in with the protected environment of the West Wimbledon district and echoing the neighbouring listed buildings.

Part of the roof, which is visible on the east side due to its slope, has been planted with vegetation, surrounded on both sides by the beautiful curves of the zinc roof.

United Kingdom - London Kings College Sports Pavilion

ArchitectDavid Morley ArchitectsContractorAll Metal roofing Ltd.TechniqueVMZINC® Standing seamAspectQUARTZ-ZINC®Surface1,000 m²CopyrightPaul Kozlowski





Contemporary history

The Kavli factory building is one of the last remaining reminders of Bergen's industrial past. The Fabrikken 59 project aims to respect the history of the site while offering a contemporary interpretation of the building.

A two-storey extension topped with gardens now crowns the old building. The choice of yellow PIGMENTO® Sine wave profile cladding embodies this desire for modernity.

The characteristic undulation of this profile, borrowed from the industrial lexicon, energises the whole through a vibrant dialogue between the building, its history and its environment.

Norway - B Fabrikken 5	Pergen
Architect	Fellesskapet Vill / Laura Frölich
Contractor	Bergen Air AS
Technique	VMZINC [®] Sine wave profile
Aspect	PIGMENTO [®] yellow
Surface	1,100 m ²
Copyright	Arkitekturfoto Norge



COLLECTIVE HOUSING

Protective openings

Close to Lauterach station and major roads, the new Fellentor residential development comprises of 5 buildings with 61 flats arranged around a central area.

Comprising social and private housing, the complex is oriented inwards, offering a permeable circulation to the various residents while protecting them from the noise of the street and the railway line.

With 6, 5 and 3 storeys, the buildings feature graphic facades in which the use of PIGMENTO[®] brown perforated zinc cassettes perfectly demonstrates the dual architectural desire for protection and openness.

Fellentor Residential area Architects Contractor Techniques Aspect 2,700 m² Surface

Copyright











PUBLIC BUILDINGS

A tribute to tradition

This 3.5 km² former industrial and mining site, chosen to host the 11th Nanjing Horticultural Expo in 2018, has since been converted into a major leisure park combining horticulture and all-round culture with a focus on ecology and education.

Among other attractions, it features 13 of the most beautiful gardens in Jiangsu province. Here, classical Chinese architecture is recreated using modern building materials, imposing new design challenges.

It's a challenge to build a traditional pagoda while retaining architectural elements that are highly dependent on its wooden structure.

At roof level in particular, the cap of a timber frame has been entirely designed to accommodate a skilfully designed tiled roof, the eaves of which run above rafters that end in corbelling.

The malleability of zinc and its prefabrication capabilities meant that the roof and its effects could be reproduced identically without building the entire superstructure, using a level of modelling that has rarely been achieved: creation of hollow cylindrical ridges, imitation of the rows of grey tiles with PIGMENTO[®] grey, which enhances the versatility of zinc and its chameleon-like qualities.

This unprecedented use of zinc in ancient Chinese architecture pays homage to traditional forms, while integrating modern elements such as LED lighting, which turns the tower red at night.

A departure from tradition or a continuation of it? Didn't Oscar Wilde say that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery?



Tangshan Jinwu Pavilion		
Architect	Shanghai Electronic Engineering Design and Research Institute Co. LTD	
Technique	Chinese traditional tiles in VMZINC®	
Aspect	PIGMENTO [®] grey	
Surface	1,000 m ²	
Copyright	VMZINC [®]	









COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

The work of time

The new maturing cellar at the Seiler cheese dairy in Giswil, Switzerland, stands out for the geometric composition of its PIGMENTO® red seam zinc facades.

Animated by three strips staggered from bottom to top with 8 cm overhangs, they are also topped by a fourth, narrower strip with blades rounded towards the bottom, an element that adds originality to the building.

The building blends perfectly into the landscape thanks to its colour, which stands out against the surrounding mountains.

Switzerlan Cheese dair	d - Giswil y Seiler
Architect	SEILERLINHART
	Architekten SIA BSA
Contractor	von Rotz Gebäudehülle Plus
Technique	VMZINC [®] Standing seam
Aspect	PIGMENTO [®] red
Surface	1,210 m ²
Copyright	Paul Kozlowski





INDIVIDUAL HOUSING

A good vantage point

The slope of this plot on the southern hillside of the town of Montbéliard had a major influence on the design of this detached house, 14 metres below the road. The access ramp offers a bird's eye view of the black ANTHRA-ZINC® standing seam roof, which also covers the facades of the upper volume and is the first visual link with the building.

Chosen for its malleability, the material emphasises the perspective through a graphic approach to the roof, helping it to blend seamlessly into its surroundings.

It contributes to the environmental quality of the building and its HQE certification thanks to its durability, recyclability and low energy consumption (compared with other sheet metals).

Private house Architect Contractor Technique Aspect 115 m² Surface Copyright









Diadem

The recognition of the Brotherhood of Christian Mercy by Prince Bishop Ernest of Bavaria in 1602 led to the foundation of the town's hospital, which took its name from the site in Bavaria, with the expression 'going to Bavaria' becoming synonymous with going to the hospital.

The dense morphology of the town centre eventually proved incompatible with the constraints of modern medicine, resulting in the hospital being moved in 1987 to two sites on the outskirts, while the historic building was demolished, with the exception of its entrance building and chapel.

The opening of the B3 Building (Resource and creativity centre of the Province of Liège) also named Pôle des Savoirs on the hospital grounds, marks the end of more than 30 years of vacancy, and the creation of a new district on the former medical wasteland. This flagship facility, comprising a media library, resource centre and offices, meets high ecological standards, with water recycling, photovoltaic solar panels and thermal regulation by the water table.

The site also stands out for its exceptional architecture, a driving force behind the transformation of the district.

To limit solar gain, the architect surrounded the upper part of the glazed envelope with a sculptural metal double skin made of panels in AZENGAR[®], the lightest zinc on the market, giving the building a modern and unique appearance, combined with perforated zinc.

Drawing a faceted volume reminiscent of a cloud, the superstructure built to seismic requirements crowns this new building with an iconic diadem, shimmering, mysterious and changing with the hours of the day and night.









Industry and grey matter

The Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States have been rivals for more than a century. As the birthplace of the tech giants, California seemed to have reestablished itself as the most appealing coast, leaving New York and the East Coast lagging far behind.

But the Big Apple has assets and resources that it has decided to harness in order to attract the Internet Giants, drawing on its skills in marketing, advertising and communication.

Successfully, with 142,000 people now working directly for the high-tech sector. Google, which in 2001 had just one employee working out of a Manhattan café, has just opened a main office for 12,000 employees on the banks of the Hudson in a \$2.1 billion property deal.

The building occupies St. John's Terminal, a former sea freight terminal that has been used as an office building since 1966. The project designed by the COOKFOX agency radically transforms the site, replacing the existing three-storey logistics hub with a nine-storey building built to 'Californian' standards, characterised by a studious yet relaxed working atmosphere.

A terrace overlooking the river has been installed on the roof of the former terminal, whose industrial character has been preserved and even enhanced by the architects. The elevation adopts the style of the daylight factories, the large multi-storey factories built across the country at the beginning of the 20th century.

Rather than a smooth, continuous curtain wall, COOKFOX Architects opted for a grid of large openings defining a pattern of windows on the scale of the city, based on a basic module combining glass and metal, with the top and underside featuring zinc elements that subtly surround the technical installations on the roof.

The QUARTZ-ZINC $^{\odot}$ colour could symbolise grey matter, now the raw material for this industrial cathedral of the 21st century.

United States - New York 550 Washington Street: Google's NYC headquarters		
Architects	COOKFOX Architects, Adamson Architects	
Contractor	The Jobin Organization	
Techniques	Symmetry panels from Morin Perforated zinc panels	
Aspect	QUARTZ-ZINC®	
Surface	5,000 m ²	
Copyright	Joseph Lombardi	







The spirit of the place

The use of standing seam zinc to clad the facades and shell roofs of the Erzurum Archaeology Museum is part of an architectural desire for harmony between tradition and modernity.

The choice of QUARTZ-ZINC® was partly due to its resistance to the harsh climatic conditions of this region of Anatolia, but also to the desire to witness it interacting with two local stones, beige travertine and dark grey andesite.

This combination of colours and natural materials, chosen by the architects to reinforce the spirit of the place, highlights the visual presence of the building and creates an aesthetic harmony for this historic site.

Turkey - Er Archaeolog	zurum y museum
Architects	UMM-Uludag Architecture Zeynep Uludag, Orhan Uludag
Contractor	Ekincioglu
Technique	VMZINC [®] Standing seam
Aspect	QUARTZ-ZINC®
Surface	6,365 m²
Copyright	Orhan Uludag





PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Above the water

Renovation of the Sint-Baafs-Vijve lock involved replacing the weir building. To ensure continuity of operation, this was achieved in two separate stages.

Two metal structures were produced in the workshop and clad with zinc before being successively transported by boat to the site more than 80 km away, where they were assembled on a steel structure.

Chosen for its durability, the standing seam zinc cladding adds a modern touch to this unique building. The PIGMENTO® red colour softens the look of the site.

Sint-Baafs-Vijve Lock Architect Contractor Technique Aspect Surface 210 m² Copyright









INDIVIDUAL HOUSING

New rurality

CDC studio architects from Cambridge decided to create a striking folded Gabled building to sit comfortably within the existing heritage site setting.

A new build house evolved, a contemporary thatched barn and folding zinc roofed home which echoed the original narrow, dilapidated barn in an unspoilt setting.

The building materials are inspired by the local architectural lexicon: dark agricultural roofing, dark black cladding, red brick and semi-cut flint. The use of ANTHRA-ZINC®

standing seam to cover the succession of roof slopes and valleys echoes the existing agricultural aesthetic of the local region.

The ANTHRA-ZINC® colour contrasts with the smoked grey brickwork to the end Gable and the internally lined ceilings in Austrian silver fir to the internal folding roof planes.

The fully glazed end gables allow the zinc roof and cladding to show its versatile nature to work with the complex geometry of the building.

United Kingdom - Bartlow Private house

ArchitectCDC StudioContractorMetalex Roofing Ltd.TechniqueVMZINC® Standing seamAspectANTHRA-ZINC®Surface350 m²CopyrightHufton+Crow







At the heart of knowledge

A curved building, with an organic shape typical of the work of architect Hugues Klein, the 'Learning Centre' at the University of Haute Alsace seems to sit like a shell at the heart of the Illberg campus in Mulhouse, where it has become one of the symbols of the city.

The building is completely covered by 2,500 $\ensuremath{\text{m}}^2\xspace$ AZENGAR* standing seam zinc.

'This is a highly innovative project in terms of the function of the site, its design and its extremely complex construction,' says the architect.

This is demonstrated by the technical nature of the curved, twisted installation of the zinc cladding on the Sheds and other glazed openings without angles.

The cladding/roofing installed on a timber frame, attached to a metal structure, is a fine example of the flexibility of this material.

There's no disconnect between inside and outside. It is a building that develops in an architecture without right angles in relation to the landscape where the interior and exterior are correlated to each other.

'The spaces are oriented without parallel walls, and seem to have no beginning and no end,' explains Hugues Klein, the idea being that this shape influences the way students and researchers feel and work in the space.



France - Mulhouse Learning Center

ArchitectHugues KleinContractorRH CouverturesTechniqueVMZINC® Standing seamAspectAZENGAR®Surface2,500 m²CopyrightPaul Kozlowski







Perspectives in the night

The way a building is lit will highlight its architectural characteristics such its shape and textures. This can enhance its appearance during darkness. Artificial lights as well as natural moonlight can create subtle reflections that transform the building`s atmosphere at night.



The dark color of zinc contrasts with the powerful lighting accentuated by the large bay windows.



The building takes a total new look thanks to the perforations in the zinc into which LED ribbons have been integrated.

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The LED ribbons transforms the building with a different aesthetics and contribute to an exciting atmosphere during night-time concerts.

vmzinc



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