

VMZINC

**CAISSE D'ÉPARGNE  
BANK, TOULOUSE**





**CLIENT:**

Caisse d'Épargne

**ARCHITECT:**

Taillandier Architectes Associés

**CONTRACTOR:**

TMP Toiture Midi Pyrénées

**TECHNIQUE:**

VMZINC® Standing seam and VMZINC®  
Roll cap roofing and cladding, Ornaments

**ASPECT:**

QUARTZ-ZINC® (roofing and cladding),  
Natural Zinc (ornamentation)

# Renovation of the Midi Pyrénées region Caisse d'Épargne, Toulouse (France)

In Toulouse, the renovation of the historic Caisse d'Épargne Headquarters and restoration of the ornamental elements with natural zinc gave new elegance to one of the most beautiful Haussmann style buildings in what is known in France as the pink city.

## New ornaments for new elegance

In the centre of Toulouse, French architecture firm Taillandier Architectes Associés was entrusted with the upgrading of the classified building housing the headquarters of the Midi-Pyrénées region Caisse d'Épargne bank, with the specific mission of creating three distinct spaces: a commercial branch, an exhibition space and five floors of offices. Two years of work were necessary to complete a project that proudly displays its new modernity while respecting the continuity of its history.



## An architectural choice

The end result is duality, which is omnipresent: between old & modern, between street-front & courtyard. The white stone and zinc & slate roofing of the original building create a dialogue with the matt stainless steel of the facade and its extension. The Haussmann style facade is enhanced on the street-front by its roof, which is lavishly decorated with three square turrets and a dome with

large dimensions; while facing the courtyard, two patios covered with glass and metal create an interiority conducive to work and visual release. “With the exception of the facade and the roofing, everything was demolished and re-configured so that the bank on the ground floor would be accessible on one single level and two extra floors of offices could be created”, explains Foued

“It was totally logical to call on VMZINC®, which has in-depth knowledge of all the traditional techniques used for ornaments, as well as modern production resources”, says Laurent Lepage, manager of Toitures Midi Pyrénées.





Hammami, associate architect on the operation. Initially, only the 2 mm thick zinc cladding, the gables and the identical restoration of the roof, the gallery and the bull's-eye windows were planned. It was only in April 2013, a year and a half after the work started, that an expert evaluation of the turrets made it possible to ascertain that under the layer of graphite that gave it

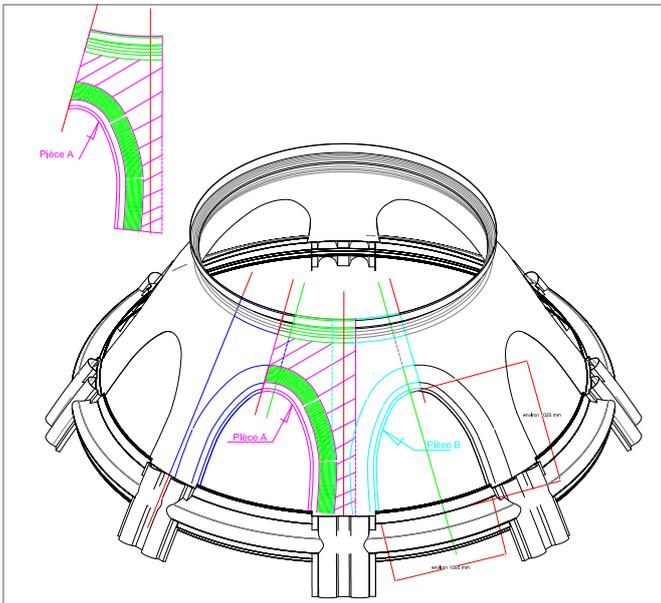
its blackish colour, the zinc, which was over a hundred years old, was disintegrating, so full restoration was necessary to guarantee watertightness of the roof and durability of the building.

BEFORE



AFTER





DESIGN



INSTALLATION

### Traditional know-how and modern production resources

« Given the highly specific nature of the parts, the volume of work and the deadline,» says Laurent Lepage, manager of Toitures Midi Pyrénées, a cooperative company in charge of the frame and roofing, “it was totally logical for us to call on VMZINC®, which has in- depth knowledge of all the traditional techniques used for ornaments, as well as modern production resources.”



Manufacturing and deliveries were organised taking the assembly logic into account. Thanks to the mobilisation of all involved, the ornaments aspect of the project was completed in just four months. “This is a real feat”, says Laurent Lepage.



After having been taken apart, the dome and one of the turrets were brought to the VMZINC® plant in Bray-et-Lû, where, after being modelised, each element was recreated using stamping (ornamentation sheets), forming (curved hip beads) or transforming (profiles).

“The lack of plans and the configuration of the frame led us to take on-site measurements on several occasions. These measurements were necessary

to manufacture and deliver parts to the client that would not be problematic in terms of adapting to the assembly,” says Olivier Lambert, technical manager with VMZINC®.

Given the extremely short deadline, the contractor and VMZINC® had to very quickly learn to speak the same language and coordinate with each other. To gain extra flexibility for installation, certain parts were delivered as sub-elements.



BEFORE



AFTER

# VMZINC

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