



A NEW LANDMARK FOR CHINA'S FOOTBALL CULTURE

SAIC Motor Pudong Arena, Shanghai, China

The 33,765-seat SAIC Motor Pudong Arena, previously named Pudong Football Stadium, is the new home of professional football association Shanghai Port FC. As the first football stadium in China to meet the international standards of world football association FIFA, SAIC Motor Pudong Arena becomes a new landmark for Chinese soccer. The visionary overall concept of the SAIC Motor Pudong Arena was chosen for the prestigious "2021 ICONIC Award-Innovation Architecture", "iF Design Award 2022", "The 9th Architectural Creation Award of ASSC".

SAIC Motor Pudong Arena

Shanghai, China

Architect:

HPP Architects, Arcplus Architects

Completion: 2021

Products:

AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Outdoor

AQUAPANEL® Accessories

Type of building:

Sports Facility

Application area:

12,000 m² exterior wall

SAIC MOTOR PUDONG ARENA

SAIC Motor Pudong Arena, designed by HPP Architects and Arcplus Architects, has been built in Shanghai's outlying green belt, approximately 13 km from the city center, on a building site of approximately 10 hectares. With a wide range of training areas and public facilities, the new stadium becomes an urban location for the public with an array of fitness, leisure and entertainment activities.

Equipped with a stadium and two outdoor training fields, SAIC Motor Pudong Arena features a unique and ground-breaking seating bowl design that seeks to maximize the view to the football pitch from all 33,765 seats, while creating an intimate atmosphere for every spectator.

The design concept of Pudong Arena is derived from a traditional Chinese porcelain bowl, realized with an even, shimmering white metal façade and a slightly curved building shell. Creating a smooth exterior surface with no visible or open joints required a material that could withstand all weather conditions and deliver the planned appearance. To guarantee that there wouldn't be any cracks or splits in this appearance in the distant future, the selection of the right building material for the exterior ceilings played a decisive role.

These stringent requirements ultimately led to the choice of an approved system solution: a drywall construction with AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Outdoor as board material, which make it trouble-free to use for exterior applications and a truly feasible proposal for the project. The lightweight cement board provides a solid and dry substrate that can withstand both moisture and direct contact with water.

The inorganic AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Outdoor allows to be bent without any pre-processing, which not only simplifies spectacular design, but also used to create a monolithic look. The fact the AQUAPANEL® Cement Board is weather-resistant, and 100% water-proof made it a truly beneficial solution. The cement board also offers creative freedom, as expansion joints only have to be installed every 15 meters, allowing for a continuous area of up to 250m².

During the projects, Knauf AQUAPANEL® technical team supplied the installers with technical details as well as to ensure everything was installed using the correct procedures. Thanks to the fact the AQUAPANEL® Cement Board is light dry-lining system, the installation went very quickly and smoothly.

