

AQUAPANEL® TECHNOLOGY BRINGS THE CURVED DESIGN INTO REALITY

The American Café Daecheon Beach Branch, South Korea



The American Café is located right in front of Mud Square, the main venue of the Boryeong Mud Festival, which attracts about 2 million domestic and international tourists every year. Designed to satisfy the needs of tourism, the coffeehouse offers dine-in, takeout services with a total floor area of 3,839 square meters. The café is super accessible to Daecheon Beach, the largest beach on the west coast of South Korea.

The American Café Daecheon Beach Branch

Boryeong-si, Chungcheongnam-do,
South Korea

Architect:

U.GA

Completion: 2023

Products:

AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Outdoor
AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Skylite
AQUAPANEL® Accessories

Type of building:

Commercial (Coffee Shop)

Application area:

1,389 m² exterior walls & ceilings

THE AMERICAN CAFÉ DAECHEON BEACH BRANCH

As the 3rd important market for the world largest, American multinational chain of coffeehouses and roastery reserves headquartered in Seattle, South Korea, which is famous for its flourishing coffee scene, runs over 1,800 stores as of end-2022. The design of its stores, rather than the taste of its coffee, contributed to its early success in South Korea.

Designed by U.GA architects, the café has a new 3-story building in the center of the Daecheon Beach. Inspired by its natural surroundings, the modern signature façade is shaped as waves rippling around the coffeehouse, just like part of the ocean. Starting from the 1st floor, it is occupied with the counter, product display and plenty of tables with sofas near the window. The 2nd floor has more spacious spaces with a variety of table and seat types available. The window seats allow customers to overlook the Mud Square. There is a rooftop zone on the 3rd floor, where can enjoy a spectacular ocean view.

The stunning design is reflected in the exterior of the coffee shop, composed of curved elements that envelop the building, giving it a lively, modern look. It is critical to achieve the architect's vision with the right selection of weather resistant and durable building materials for these smooth, curved surfaces of exterior column and ceilings. The proven solution with AQUAPANEL® Technology was chosen as cladding on top of a steel structure for the construction of this project.

As a solid dry substrate, AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Outdoor is ideal for exterior application. Made of inorganic materials, the cement board is resistant to moisture, weather, mould and mild, making it a truly beneficial solution for the café located in the beach. The lightweight boards can be also used for the exterior ceilings at the store. AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Outdoor offers architects innovative opportunities for the design of curved walls and ceilings, as expansion joints only have to be installed every 15 metres. This enables a continuous area of up to 225 m² without a visibel joint, which still tolerates weather-related expansion and contraction. With a bending radius of three metres (full board size), the boards perfect match the curved shapes of the creative design.

AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Technology provides unparalleled creative freedom for architects. The completion of the coffeehouse demonstrates the unlimited possibilities with modern building materials.

