International Gem Tower, New York City, USA

Architects: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM), New York

Located in the Diamond District of New York City, 55 West 46th Street is specifically created for the gem and jewellery trade. The 34-story tower is wrapped in a three-dimensional, folded glass facade. The geometry of the stainless steel facade elements is reminiscent of the facets of a diamond. The interplay of light and glass creates dynamic, ever-changing reflections. In fabrication and installation, great care was taken to ensure flatness of the highly reflective sheet metal. The facade contractor developed a design which included vertical stiffeners to ensure perfectly even surfaces.



Photos courtesy of SOM



Details

Environment: Urban

Fabrication process: Brake forming

Grade and finish: 316 Mechanically polished

(Starlight 7J® finish)

Total weight of the stainless steel used in the

project: 132 tons

Date of completion: 2013

Manufacturing company: Permasteelisa North

America, Windsor, Connecticut

Material supplier: Tsukiboshi Art Ltd., Tsugiya Amagasaki, Hyogo (Japan) and Contrarian Metal Resources, Allison Park, Pennsylvania (USA)