

Shopping Center, Doncaster, Victoria, Australia

Architects: Westfield Design and Construction, Sydney



Photo courtesy of ASSDA

In late 2008 the shopping centre completed a major refurbishment doubling the complex's size. Central to the new look and feel is the building's ultra contemporary and striking clad facade that features coloured (red) stainless steels whose hues change with the time of the day. The perceived colour results from light interference within the passive layer which is artificially thickened by an electrochemical process. The passive layer is in itself fully colourless and does not involve any dyes. For this reason it is insensitive to ultraviolet radiation and will not fade over time, which is an asset in the sunny climate of Australia. The substrate material had a rolled-on "Perla" finish, which serves three purposes. It reduces unwanted reflections, enhances optical flatness and increases the mechanical strength of the sheet through work-hardening, which made it possible to reduce the wall thickness from 1.5 to 1.2 mm.

Details

Environment:	Urban
Grade and finish:	304, pattern-rolled and electrochemically coloured
Material thickness:	1.2 mm
Total weight of the stainless steel used in the project:	appr. 60 t
Date of completion:	2008
Manufacturing company:	Barde-Steeldeck Industries
Material supplier:	Steel Color Australia