A ship of glass and steel.
Mall of Arabia, Jeddah (SA)

Glittering retail temples are today as much a part of the image of the Arabian Peninsula as majestic camel trains and spacious Bedouin tents. The latest pearl in a long string of purchasing paradises is the "Mall of Arabia" in the Saudi harbour town of Jeddah. A total of 330 outlets – including many of the top designer stores – and 34 restaurants offer the ultimate in shopping seduction. The concept adopted for the Mall of Arabia includes an integral souk in the traditional style with typical local fare such as spices, perfumes and gold jewellery. In all, the structure boasts a floor area of 25,000 square meters.

Among the salient features of the design are three futuristically shaped "light funnels" integrated in the roof of the shopping centre. Each of these three-dimensional free-form structures comprises an intricate network made from 450 DORMA RODAN tie rods linked together by hubs of stainless steel. This latticework is filled with triangular laminated glass panels held in an aluminium frame with integrated LED lighting. The light shines through the edge and into the glass panels, diffusing over their full area and emerging through a special imprint on the glass surface.

DORMA has also supplied the LOOP glass clamp mountings for the frameless double-glazing units that form the 18 metre high, 5,000 square metre façade. The glass panels of the skylights are themselves held in place at their edges by DORMA RODAN single-point glass clamp fittings and multi-arm connecting spiders.

[Details]

Project
Mall of Arabia,
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Architects
ECHO Design Consultants,
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

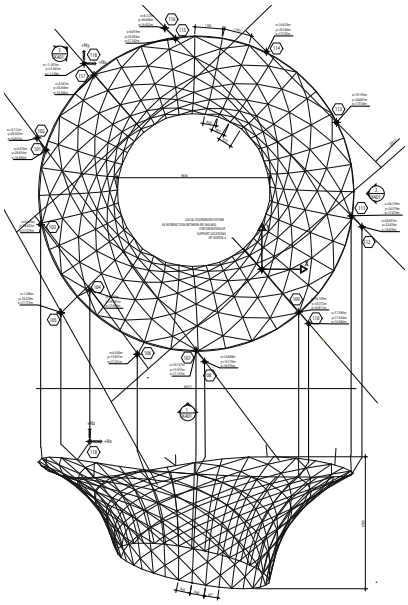
Client
Fawaz Al Hokair Real Estate,
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Photos
DORMA Gulf Door Controls
FZE, Dubai, UAE

DORMA products
RODAN ties, glass clamp
fittings and spiders,
LOOP glass clamp mounting

A 5,000 m² double-glazed façade from APG Europe with a transparency-enhancing stainless steel substructure from DORMA are among the design features characterising the “Mall of Arabia”.

Light is deflected into the interior by three of these futuristically shaped “funnels”.



Mall of Arabia, Jeddah (SA)