



A cathedral of footballing culture. Moses Mabhida Stadium, RSA

[Architecture | Project]

Located on the east coast and abutting the Indian Ocean, the city of Durban is South Africa's second largest metropolis with something over 3.1 million inhabitants. As one of the venues of the 2010 Soccer World Cup, Durban is also the home of a fascinating and grandiose arena – the Moses Mabhida Stadium. Named after Moses Mabhida, a politician widely revered by the people of South Africa, this marvel of construction represents both a technical and a visual milestone in stadium architecture.

The multifunctional facility holds a total of 70,000 spectators and particularly impresses with its sophisticated roof structure. Working together, the architects of Gerkan, Mark and Partners and the engineers of SBP, Stuttgart/ Germany have implemented a series of clever ideas, combined to create a highly individualised and prestigious design. The stadium is spanned by a 340 metre long arc which splits at one end into a Y-shape, reminiscent of the Rainbow Nation's distinctive flag.

At 104 metres high, the arc structure has one particularly striking technical feature: the "Skywalk". This is a funicular railway by means of which the apex of the arc, the "Sky Deck", is accessed, providing visitors with a breath-taking view of Durban and the ocean beyond.

As a global systems manufacturer specialising in products "circling the door", DORMA was also drafted in as a project contributor. Consequently, the doors are equipped with ED 200 automatic operators, with those of luxuriously appointed box suites additionally fitted with DORMA's closing sequence coordinators for fire and smoke check double doors. DORMA TS 91, TS 92 and TS 93 door closers sporting the discreet lines of the Contur design have also been integrated within the overall architectural concept. And finally, this major order was rounded off with DORMA slide deadbolt locks, BTS 75 floor springs, and lever handles from the DORMA Door Furniture unit.

Project
Moses Mabhida Stadium,
Durban, RSA

Architects
Gerkan,
Marg und Partner (gmp)

Client
South African Football
Association

Photos
Grant Pitcher

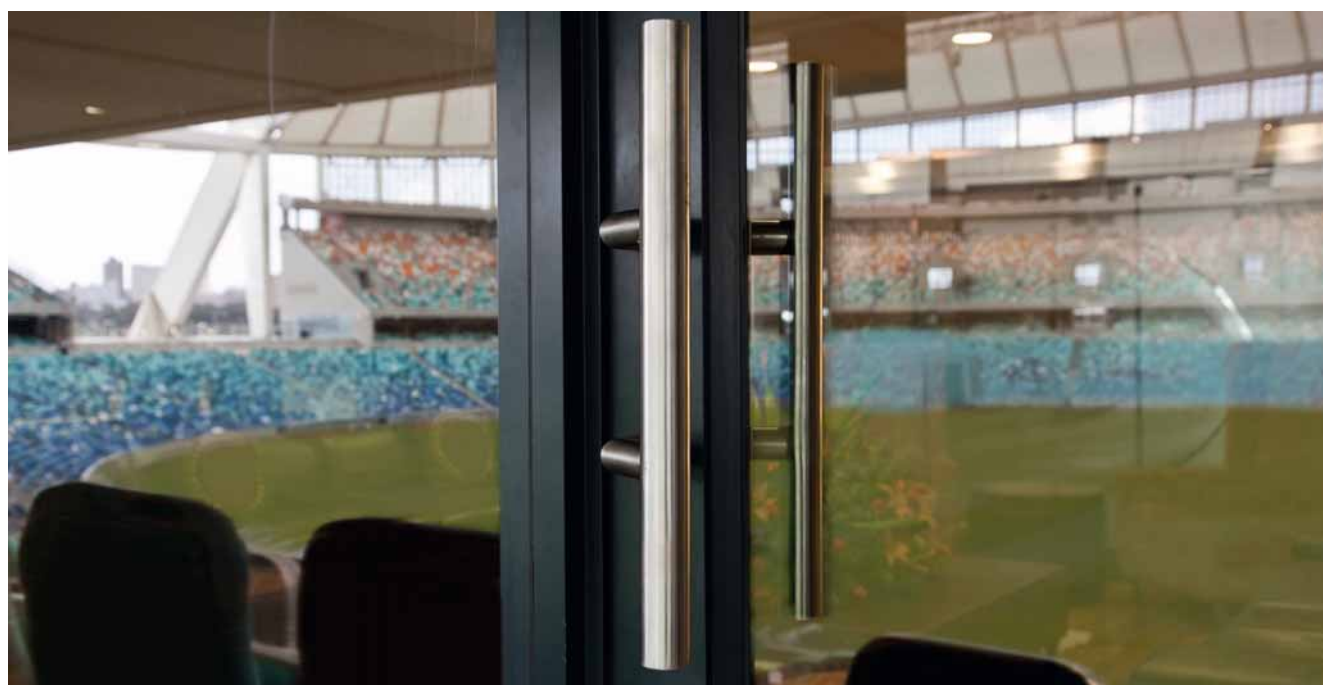
DORMA Products
ED 200, TS 91, TS 92,
TS 93, BTS 75, SR 390

[Details]

Project | public



Installed for almost total invisibility, the BTS 75 floor spring integrates elegantly within the door system.



Access to the stadium's box suites is provided courtesy of DORMA door furniture.



Moses Mabhida Stadium, Republic of South Africa

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