



Souk Okaz Public Theatre, Taif, Saudi Arabia

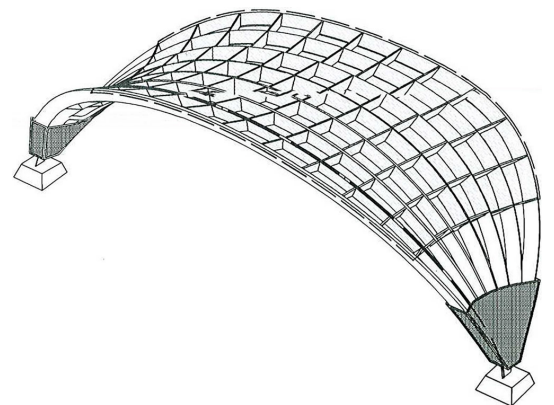
Amphitheatres & Event Spaces

COMMUNITY SHADE STRUCTURES

Challenging the imagination and creating exciting public performance spaces is made easier with an architectural fabric amphitheatre or outdoor public event space.

Boasting air-permeability and flexible properties, tensile membranes can absorb sound waves rather than reflecting them back into the area below the canopy, supporting the acoustic design in providing reverberation-free sound from a live performance to wash over the audience.

The flexibility of tensile membranes lend themselves to unique and evocative design of performance spaces and the durability of MakMax tensile membrane structures means public shade structures will last long after the final note is sung.



Reference Projects



Burwood Park Amphitheatre, NSW



The Esplanade Amphitheatre, Singapore



Sun Valley Music Pavilion, Idaho USA



Centenary Park Amphitheatre, South Hedland WA



Perth City Link Outdoor Stage, WA



Sydney Festival Domain Stage, NSW



MidFlorida Credit Union Amphitheatre, Tampa USA



Opera Lesna Sopot (Forest Opera), Poland

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Design. Engineer. Fabricate. Install.



Souk Okaz Public Theatre

the project

Perfectly integrated in both design and engineering, the 10,000 square metre printed PVC canopy on the Souk Okaz crowns the 3000 seat public theatre, helping to deliver both a functional public space for cultural activities and an evocative design reminiscent of an ancient bustling Bedouin market place.

the brief

The Souk Okaz was an historically famous bazaar on the Arabian Peninsula dating back to 5th and 6th century, as place where people gathered to hear poets and philosophers exchange ideas and challenge each other with poems.

Located in Taif City in modern-day Saudi Arabia, the extremes of the desert location proposed for this structure shaped the client's requests. The theatre roof design needed to be both water tight, and constructed with a material that would protect from and withstand both the extremely high UV environment and an abrasive sandstorm prone area.

the concept

The client's ambition for this imposing public space required an extremely large internal clear span area measuring approximately 60m x 65m with a minimum under canopy clearance of 12m, full integration of the structure with the main seating, stage and tower constructions and an embodiment of traditional Arabic design.

The artistic element of this project is its greatest achievement. The unique shapes and textures depicted on the membrane are uniquely Arabic; this is of the highest importance to the client and the end users. Our designers took great care in creating this aesthetic as it makes up the character of the project.

the materials

The membrane is PVC-coated polyester fabric, printed with geometric shapes and patterns inspired by traditional Arabic mosaic art. These patterns enhance the natural appearance of the structure helping it to blend into the surrounding landscape and architecture.

With a structure this size careful consideration was needed designing the membrane seams and installation methodology, allowing for adjustment at connections to ensure that any fabrication and construction inaccuracies could be easily dealt with on site.

the result

A collaborative Taiyo Kogyo Corporation project brought together the design and engineering excellence from MakMax Australia, large-scale specialist fabrication from Shanghai Taiyo Kogyo and project management and local installation knowledge by Taiyo Middle East.

Souk Okaz Public Theatre opened to great reviews in both the local and national press in Saudi Arabia. Its aims of fitting in to the surrounds and serving as a cultural landmark appear to have been achieved based on the widespread national coverage and reporting of the structure.



project details

LOCATION

Taif City, Saudi Arabia

COMPLETED DATE

October 2012

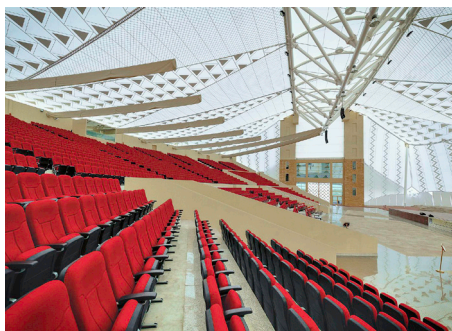
SIZE

10,700m²

FABRIC

PVC - Hiraoka 312T-IJ

“ We bring out the limitless possibilities of innovative fabric structures to enhance the environment and inspire our customer. ”



Global Reputation, Local Expertise

MakMax Australia is proud to be part of the Taiyo Kogyo Group, ensuring our clients benefit from the global experience, knowledge and technology of the largest tensile membrane structure company in the world. With worldwide offices and fabrication facilities, as well as a cutting-edge R&D testing centre in Japan, the group shares an extensive knowledge and resource base.

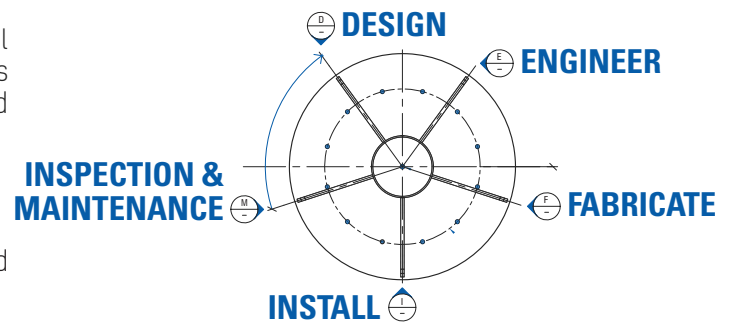
In Australia, MakMax has been continually operating for over 35 years, with an office and state-of-the-art fabrication facility in Brisbane. MakMax Australia is the market leader in the design, engineering, fabrication and installation of architectural fabric structures for a variety of applications. Custom-made with your patrons and customers comfort in mind, our light-weight, premium shade and weather solutions are highly functional and architecturally unique.



THE MAKMAX AUSTRALIA FULL CIRCLE OF SUPPORT

MakMax Australia's key point of difference is our technical leadership and engineering excellence. MakMax Australia offers an expert team you can trust, with fully-qualified and Registered Professional Engineers, in-house designers & project managers;

- » In-house designers, engineers & fabrication.
- » In-house project managers & construction managers.
- » Agents, partners & installation crews in every state, and around the world for continuity of service.
- » In-house RPEQ/NER qualified engineering inspectors for regular routine maintenance programs.
- » In-house maintenance, cleaning and technical support.



Design. Engineer. Fabricate. Install.

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