



Appearance
and Colour

Case study

Millennium Stadium Cardiff

Architect: HOK Sport

Contractor:

John Laing Construction Ltd

Cladding contractor:

SIAC Construction Ltd

System manufacturer: Kingspan

System type: Composite

Profile type: Micro-rib

Colorcoat® product:

Celestia® and HPS200® (walls)



Orion



Pegasus



Aquarius



Aurora



Poppy Red



The start of a new millennium

The Millennium Stadium in Cardiff has been heralded as a sporting venue without precedent. With a seating capacity of 75,000, the multi-use stadium is a highly visible icon for the city, with Colorcoat Celestia® instrumental in ensuring its superior appearance. Completed in 1999, the stadium is the first in the UK to be built with a retractable roof and holds the largest capacity of its kind in the world. The strong and bold use of colour on a building of such magnitude is an

excellent visual demonstration of how pre-finished steel can be used to great aesthetic effect. The scale of the building is immense and the architects designed a cladding solution that would soften the visual impact and provide total integration with its surroundings. Composite wall panels using *Colorcoat Celestia* were specified in complementary colours to achieve this.



Millennium Stadium Cardiff

The sheer size of the building could have presented an overpowering appearance, but according to the architects, “humanity is restored by the clever use of colour on the exterior walls, softening the bulk and playing an important role in helping visitors understand how the building functions.”

The *Colorcoat Celestia* panels form a horizontal band that articulates a row of executive boxes and the circulation route below the upper tier of seating. The panels used Orion, Pegasus, Aquarius and Aurora from the *Celestia* range to create an integrated and intelligent colour scheme that enhances rather than overawes the dimensions of the building. Colorcoat HPS200® in Poppy Red is used elsewhere to provide a continuous band around the whole stadium.

The project won the Best Use of Colour Category at the Colorcoat Building Awards. The judges were very impressed with the imaginative use of steel panels as a design medium, saying: “they give the exterior an inviting presence and help to widen the appeal of the Millennium Stadium beyond just sports fans. The building is making a confident statement about the virility of the city’s lifestyle and urban regeneration programme.”

Awards:

- 11th *Colorcoat* Building Awards – Winner Best Use of Colour
- Corus Construction Award for the Millennium – Winner
- Celebrating Construction Achievement Award – Winner

