



Welcome to LondonHouse Chicago, Windy City's Acclaimed Adaptive Reuse Masterpiece

INSULATED METAL PANELS COMPLETE THE AESTHETIC FOR A \$315 MILLION PROJECT

Present Situation

The May 2016 opening of LondonHouse Chicago, a \$315 million, 452-room luxury boutique hotel, was described by one architectural publication as "...one of Chicago's most anticipated hotel openings of the year—if not the most anticipated opening."

LondonHouse Chicago is a widely-followed hybrid adaptive reuse project that includes a renovation of the iconic London Guarantee & Accident Building. The London Guarantee building was designed by legendary Chicago architect Alfred Alshuler and built in 1923. In addition to the renovation assignment, Chicago-based architect firm, Goettsch Partners Inc. was asked to design a 22-story in-fill, "sliver" building that would serve as LondonHouse Chicago's main entrance and lobby along with other guest services. "The goal was to breathe life into the existing building and provide an addition that would complement the existing structure," says Randall Chapple, AIA, SE, CSI, CCS, LEED AP, associate principal and director of specifications and material research at Goettsch Partners.

LondonHouse Chicago was, according to Chapple, "an interesting project."

One of the chief sources of that interest was the integrated 85,000 square foot sliver building. The slender 60 feet by 100 feet construction site was exceptionally tight with not an inch to spare. The front side of the addition is a contemporary glass curtain wall. An insulated metal panel cladding was specified for the backside.

Solution

"We wanted to give the façade a sleek look," Chapple observes. "We wanted a material that offered good protection from air and water infiltration. Metal panels work well for the aesthetic and represent a good price point for weather and energy performance."

After a competitive vendor review, Goettsch Partners selected Metl-Span for several reasons:

"They have a really good system that provides a complete enclosure system for insulation, air, water, and vapor control."

Chapple is also quick to compliment Metl-Span's technical support. "Metl-Span has very competent people in their technical services area. They helped us detail and prepare the drawings for the building. Proper detailing was crucial for a tall building like this."

Results

Chapple specified 26,000 square feet of Metl-Span CF Architectural panels in a 36-inch width and about 2,000 square feet of CF Architectural panels in a 24-inch width. Both profiles: 22-gauge G90 outer skin in Brownstone LG with a 26-gauge G90 inner panel in Igloo White with 2-inch urethane core. CF Architectural panels can be installed vertically or horizontally with concealed clips and fasteners. Panel R-value: 14.95.

"The installation was very smooth," Chapple says. "It required very little of our attention. The panels really complement the buildings around it."

The project's tight site was overcome with just-in-time deliveries. Metl-Span installer Mike Underwood of All American Exterior Solutions of Lake Zurich, Ill. said, "Panels were lowered to us as we worked our way up. I think everyone is happy with the end result."

Indeed they are, reports Chapple. "The owner is very pleased. We're very proud of LondonHouse Chicago. Metl-Span more than met our needs. Everything was on time and worked well. We achieved our goals." ■



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Website metlspan.com

Phone [877.585.9969](tel:877.585.9969)

Email Us info@metlspan.com