

Sport Concrete



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While the soccer world is eagerly looking at Germany and its new constructed or altered arenas for the coming world cup, a new stadium has been built for the FC Groningen, a jewel in the neighbouring Netherlands, which architecture considerably stands out in contrast to the usual stadiums.

Integrated in the sport and leisure centre Euroborg, the Stadium is situated on the top of an artificial hill. It offers 20.000 covered seats, spread among two rings which are bound together through a gallery, so that a perfect view on the field is guaranteed. Apart from the soccer stadium, the Euroborg has also among other facilities a multiplex cinema, various restaurants and shops as well as offices and a fitness centre, so that it has been made sure that even when there is no soccer game, the centre is always much frequented.

The Architect Wiel Arets has created a soccer stadium, which is not clearly as such recognizable at once. A clear connection between shape and function has been deliberately avoided.

The textured concrete façades, made with approximately 200 m² of RECKLI-One-Off-formliners, give Euroborg an individual touch.

On the basis of the architect's drawings, RECKLI has manufactured three different master moulds with erratic wave patterns, which have been used in order to cast

elastic RECKLI-formliners, sent afterwards to the precasting factory HOCO Beton b.v. in Weert.

HOCO Beton b.v. has manufactured out of these formliners 128 concrete panels approx. 9 m x 4 m and 139 concrete panels approx. 9 m x 2 m altogether.

More than 400 circle windows, which are apparently arranged at random, make the bright façade's look peculiar. From far off it looks like an inordinately large goal wall. Unconsciously we make the immediate connection with soccer, though this is surely not intentionally done, isn't it?

Remarkable on these window cheeks are the sharp edges along the heights and depths of the pattern: no bleedings, no barbs. The manufacture secret is the use of stop-offs, made to measure according to the counter cast method, which RECKLI delivered in the requested thickness so that HOCO only needed to place them on the appropriate spots of the formliners.

Even if the German Stadiums are the focus of attention through the coming World Cup, one thing is sure: Euroborg is very eye-catching and provides once again the proof that the RECKLI-One-Off Formliners, through their reusability, guarantee a maximum economic viability and offer to the architects and planners nearly an unlimited designing potential.





