

# Résidence Palace, Brussels

The STEELGUARD™ system delivers excellent aesthetics and long-term fire protection

## Case study



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### The Customer

Résidence Palace

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### The Location

Brussels, Belgium

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### The Challenge

To provide environmentally friendly passive fire protection solution that meets the latest safety standards for the reconstruction of the Résidence Palace, while retaining its authentic style and character

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### The Solution

Application of the STEELGUARD 564 coating and STEELGUARD 2458 topcoat, which protects steel from fire for up to 120 minutes

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### The Benefits

EH&S-compliant products with excellent aesthetics and long-lasting performance

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### The Result

Superb visual appearance with excellent fire protection

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### The Customer

Following European enlargement, the EU Council needed an extension of its headquarters to accommodate the summit meetings and other high-level meetings, the offices of the Presidency and the General Secretary of the Council.

In January 2005, the EU Council selected twenty-five groups of designers to participate in an international competition for the refurbishment of the Résidence Palace building in the heart of the European district of Brussels. The Résidence Palace complex, built between 1922 and 1927 by the Swiss architect Michel Polak, was as an early attempt to develop prestigious collective housing near the town center.

The work involved renovating the existing sections of the Résidence Palace, demolish the extended façade, which was built in the 1960s, and connect the two wings to turn the L-shape into a cube. The extension would form a large glass atrium surrounding an urn, or lantern-shaped structure, housing the meeting rooms.





## The Challenge

The facade of the new extension entailed a patchwork of traditional wood-frame windows from different European countries with meeting and pressrooms covering over 6,000 square meters in an urn-shaped structure, each floor varying in size. At the time, the building was the first in Belgium to be continuously monitored by environmental auditors. The renovation project included approximately 5,000 tons of steel.

## The Solution

PPG Protective & Marine Coatings (PPG) worked with the steel contractor, International Metal Works (IMW) to secure the project.

About 3,000 tons of steel was protected with cementitious material, with the rest needing a thin-film intumescent coating because of the building's visual appearance. PPG supplied the complete fire protection system for the project including the primer and STEELGUARD 2458 topcoat as well as the fire protection product.

## The Benefits

STEELGUARD coatings are ideally suited for today's architects and designers, where any exposed steel is used as a design feature. These highly protective intumescent coatings also provide an extremely smooth surface that can be topcoated with colors to suit a wide range of aesthetic requirements.

### STEELGUARD 564 offers:

- Excellent fire protection for steel structures
- Smooth surface – excellent aesthetics
- Topcoats available in many colors to match building design
- Engineering support
- Tested to various standards and certified to local requirements
- Independently approved

## The Results

STEELGUARD coating systems are specifically formulated to provide superb fire protection for civil buildings and will protect steel from fire for up to 120 minutes.

The STEELGUARD system proved to be the ideal solution on this prestigious project by providing environmentally friendly passive fire protection that meets the latest demands in terms of safety with the most stringent environmental auditing. The system also produced an attractive surface finish that ideally suited the striking appearance of the structure and preserved the old style and character of the building.

**Experience, innovation and integrity – that is what makes PPG the ideal coatings partner.**



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