



# Maritime heritage depicted in a modern facade



## THE FACTS BEHIND AN OCEAN-INSPIRED COMMERCIAL CENTRE

Le Ruban Bleu commercial centre keeps the maritime tradition alive with almost 1,400 individual facade and ceiling panels from RMIG.

- Raw material: Stainless steel EN 1.4404
- Thickness: 1.0 mm and 1.5 mm
- Pattern: RMIG ImagePerf
- Finishing operation: Cutting and bending
- Perforated area: 700 m<sup>2</sup>
- Architects: Reichen & Robert et Associés



## ST. NAZAIRE'S MARITIME HERITAGE WAS THE INSPIRATION BEHIND THE COMPLEX PATTERNS ON 1,300 M<sup>2</sup> OF DECORATIVE CLADDING AND CEILING PANELS MANUFACTURED BY RMIG FOR THE RUBAN BLEU RETAIL CENTRE

When architects Reichen & Robert et Associés joined forces with RMIG, they found a manufacturer capable of producing their designs and collaborated with them in developing and finalising the original concept into a striking exterior finish, incorporating almost 1,400 individual cladding and ceiling panels. Covering an area of 18,000 m<sup>2</sup>, the Ruban Bleu commercial and retail centre is a key part of St. Nazaire and acts as the main thoroughfare, linking the city centre to the beach and harbour, encouraging residents to rediscover the historic port area.

### Complex design and construction

As the building is just 200 metres from the Atlantic Ocean, the architects chose to use 1.0 mm thick salt-water resistant stainless steel cladding, incorporating a series of complex domed, indented and perforated patterns to represent waves and sea-spray. A similar approach was

adopted on the centre's ceiling panels, where the 1.5 mm thick aluminium includes a marine map produced from thousands of small perforations. On previous architectural projects, RMIG had developed rapid precision manufacturing techniques both for perforated panels and for applying convex and concave forms into cladding, but the designs for Le Ruban Bleu incorporated both principles in virtually every panel.

To meet the unique architectural, aesthetic and functional specifications required for the project, RMIG developed special tooling in France and ran a series of trials to fine-tune the process. The success of the development trials ensured that the complex pattern of domes, concave shapes and perforations could be produced with high precision and repeatability to the demanding specifications.

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Ruban Bleu  
project.



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- Let us guide you through the benefits and practicality of your design
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- Use perforated sheets, embossed sheets or expanded metal
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RMIG is the world's largest manufacturer and supplier of perforated metal. In addition to exterior cladding, the company also supplies products for a large number of construction applications such as car park and security screening, acoustic wall linings, ceilings, lighting, street furniture, balustrades and walkways.

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