
PRESS RELEASE

Paris, April 28th, 2023

Saint-Gobain announces the winners of the 13th edition of its International Gypsum Trophy 2023

73 projects from 27 countries participated in a unique international competition organized by Saint-Gobain.

On April 28th, Saint-Gobain awarded prizes for the 13th edition of its International Gypsum Trophy. From the Americas to Asia, from Europe to Africa, our most talented and skilled Gypsum installers competed in six categories: Plasterboard, Plaster, Residential, Non-Residential, Innovation and Ceilings, for the chance to win one of 15 prizes. Two prizes were awarded in each category: the Winner and the 2nd Prize. In addition to these prizes, Saint-Gobain also announced the President's Prize and the Grand Prix and this year the new Façade Prize for the overall winning project.

The Awards Ceremony has allowed Saint-Gobain to make a donation of € 10,000 to a Greek local non-profit organization, the International Centre for Sustainable Development, to finance and promote sustainable development projects both in Greece and Internationally.

“The International Gypsum Trophy is a great opportunity for all of us at Saint-Gobain to directly access those who are using our products, the craftsmen and women who are on the ground, those with whom we can both share our knowledge but also learn from, those who are best able to demonstrate the benefits of our materials and use them to their greatest advantage. We listen to them, listen to their recommendations, we rely on them to share their experience and in return, we support our customers throughout their projects - from the prospecting phase until completion.

Through trusting relationships with our customers and confidence in our products, we have become one of the leaders in the industry. We are dedicated to developing the skills and knowledge of our customers and we reward their loyalty through this International Gypsum Trophy. We are all here to credit those who use our Saint-Gobain solutions to make the world a better home.”, declared Jean-Luc Gardaz, Mediterranean Countries CEO - Saint-Gobain.



GRAND PRIX

The Grand Prix is awarded to the project with the highest overall score among the most competitive category.

Country: United Arab Emirates

Project: UAE Pavilion (Pearl Dome) – Expo 2020

Contractor: PMK GROUP

Project description: Designed by world-renowned architect Dr. Santiago Calatrava, the architectural design of the UAE Pavilion draws inspiration from the vision of the falcon – the national bird of the UAE. The UAE Pavilion reflects the UAE’s identity and pioneering spirit while cultivating a balance and connection between the country’s past, present and future. First of a kind project done in the entire Middle East with high level of complex spherical curvature.

To learn more about this project: [UAE Pavilion \(Pearl Dome\) - Expo 2020](#)



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PRESIDENT'S PRIZE

This prize is an honorary “coup de Coeur” chosen by the Jury Members.

Country: Slovakia

Project: Nivy Mall

Contractor: HB Reavis Slovakia a.s.

Project description: Nivy Mall is a unique concept, combining modern and important city functions. Its combination of a modern bus terminal, a shopping center with a strong brand portfolio, a fresh food market and a public green roof with multiple options for urban activities represents a rare opportunity for the further development of the entire New Nivy zone, where this project was built. The new New Nivy zone finally acquired a long-awaited piece of the puzzle, enabling it to become part of Bratislava's modern city center.

To learn more about this project: [Nivy Mall](#)



FAÇADE PRIZE

New in the 2023 edition, a special recognition to the best scored project which includes a Gypsum façade system (e.g., Glasroc® X, Aquaroc®), even using Isover and Weber products.

Country: Italy

Project: Hotel St. Martin

Contractor: MIT Appalti S.r.l

Project description: The new Hotel St. Martin was born from the idea of transforming a disused office complex into an elegant hotel-receptive structure, helping to give new life to a historic building located in the heart of Rome, a few meters from Piazza della Repubblica and in an extremely strategic area for the image of the city. The renovated hotel hosts: 134 rooms, 3 suites with private terraces, 1 congress center with capacity for up to 200 people, cocktail bar & restaurant, fitness area. The particularly bright rooms, the contemporary style with warm tones and the use of quality materials and finishes distinguish all the rooms of the structure.

To learn more about this project : [Hotel St. Martin](#)



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PLASTERBOARD CATEGORY

WINNER

Country: Mexico

Project: Waldorf Astoria Cancun

Contractor: Aplica y Recubrimientos S.A de C.V

Project description: Waldorf Astoria Cancun is a 173-room luxury hotel and resort set behind a natural mangrove reserve. It offers the perfect combination of Mexican heritage and modern sophistication for an unforgettable experience. Interiors that offer a unique interpretation of the region's natural wonders as well as the combination of materials (glass, metal, wood, natural fibers), different textures, the balance between natural and artificial lighting, will make the stay in this resort an unforgettable experience.

To learn more about this project: [Waldorf Astoria Cancun](#)



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Country: India
Project: Meta India (formerly Facebook)
Contractor: Ambiance Interiors Pvt. Ltd.

Project description: Meta's first standalone office in Asia located at Gurugram spans over 135,000 sqft across 6 floors. The office building also houses 'Centre for Fuelling India's New Economy' that aims to train and skill 10 Mn small businesses and 2.5 lakh creators over the next three years. The office houses Meta's largest team in the country from Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp. The workspace design incorporates spaces that meld real, online, virtual and augmented worlds. The new office has artworks by renowned artists Pratap Morey, Rohini Devasher and Sameer Kulavoor that reflect India's cultural and ideological diversity. The building has also received the LEED Platinum Certification by the US Green Building Council.

To learn more about this project: [Meta India \(formerly Facebook\)](#)



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PLASTER CATEGORY

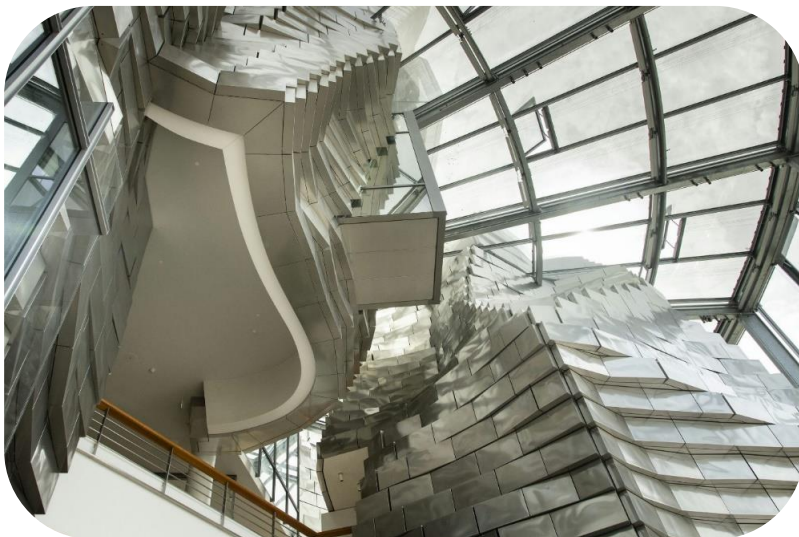
WINNER

Country: France
Project: Luma Foundation
Contractor: Ile de France Plâtrerie

Project description: Following the Louis Vuitton operation, the architect Frank Gehry started the construction of the Luma foundation tower, a cultural building of 5000 m², 9 floors and 53 glassboxes. The tower houses exhibition rooms and research spaces for artists. For this prestigious cultural project, the company which has already worked with the architect on the Louis Vuitton foundation project in Paris, applied its plaster expertise and used new technologies such as 3D modelling and BIM to achieve the desired shapes by Frank Ghery.

The project was modelled with “Digital Project”, Frank Gehry’s architectural design software. On site, a layout station placed on the survey point allowed the model created with the software to be transposed and modelled on site in 3D. Then, the structural office carried out the calculations necessary for the implementation of the metal structure. Finally, with its expertise in sprayed plaster, Ile de France Plâtrerie applied Lutèce® Projection 33 XPERT sprayed plaster to makes works such as the «skirts», formed from a structure calculated and fixed only at the top, forming a magnificent drapery; and the glassboxes.

To learn more about this project: [Luma Foundation](#)



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Country : United Kingdom

Project : Langley Park House

Contractor : George Jackson Ltd, Multiplex, Stortford Interiors

Project description: A luxurious hotel in an 18th century Grade 2* listed Palladian mansion, fitted out to the very highest standards. Extensive heritage plasterwork repairs, along with beautifully crafted Glass Reinforced Gypsum (GRG) ceilings to a hotel and 2,000 m² Spa. The interface with the existing listed building fabric was of primary importance and the package also captured heritage lime plaster, fibrous plaster and GRG cornice repairs.

To learn more about the project: [Langley Park House](#)



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RESIDENTIAL CATEGORY



Country: Cyprus
Project: Sustainable Residence Limassol
Contractor: Marcon Designs Ltd.

Project description: The aim was to build the first Cross Laminated (CLT) Sustainable house in Greece and Cyprus. Studies for this type of construction are almost 20 years old and have confirmed that this is the way forward. Timber is a carbon sink and is the one of best solutions to the Climate change increasing demands. Timber construction, when protected from humidity, can last forever and Building process can be very fast. Cyprus is located in an extremely high seismic region and the timber construction guarantees no failures. In addition, Insurance companies insure timber constructions with lower fees. In combination with Saint-Gobain's innovative drywall and insulation systems, the target was to achieve excellent sound, fire, thermal insulation properties, highest indoor air quality and technical breakthroughs.

To learn more about the project: [Sustainable Residence Limassol](#)



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Country: India

Project: DY Patil University Hostel Blocks

Contractor: DHIPL Projects Pvt. Ltd

Project description: DY Patil University, a sprawling campus spread across 65 acres, which also houses residential hostels for girls, boys and staff quarters. As part of expansion plans, new hostel buildings were constructed spread across three phases to help extend their residential facilities for the increasing number of student admissions. The lower 5 floors are in RCC and upper 5 floors are in composite steel construction. The upper levels are supported by full height Steel frames and by hangers from a 'crown structure'. Their main requirement was construction of a complex overhanging truss supported structure of around 37000 sqm with a quick turnaround time.

To learn more about the project : [DY Patil University Hostel Blocks](#)



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NON-RESIDENTIAL CATEGORY



Country: Belgium

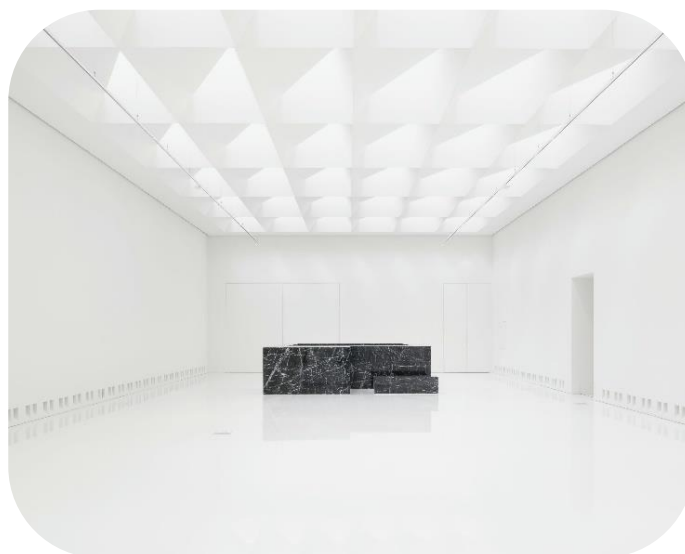
Project: Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp

Contractor: Muller Complete Afbouw België BV

Project description: Full renovation and expansion of museum. Drastic, comprehensive renovation and restoration of the Royal Museum of Fine Arts in Antwerp (Belgium). In addition to the work on the existing museum, four of the building's historic patios were converted into new museum space, increasing the exhibition space by 40%. Thanks to all this work, the 19th-century KMSKA building is now future-proof. Two different worlds have been brought together in one building. A difficult task.

Specific technical requirements (bearing capacity, fire resistance, finishing, etc.) were set for this challenging renovation. Muller Complete Afbouw België succeeded in completing it to perfection, in close collaboration with Gyproc® and the architect, who monitored the detailed execution closely. With its bright white exhibition halls, hidden rooms, long staircases, far-reaching sightlines and varying gradations of daylight, the new museum charts a route full of surprising vertical experiences, all made possible by the Gyproc® solutions.

To learn more about the project: [Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp](#)



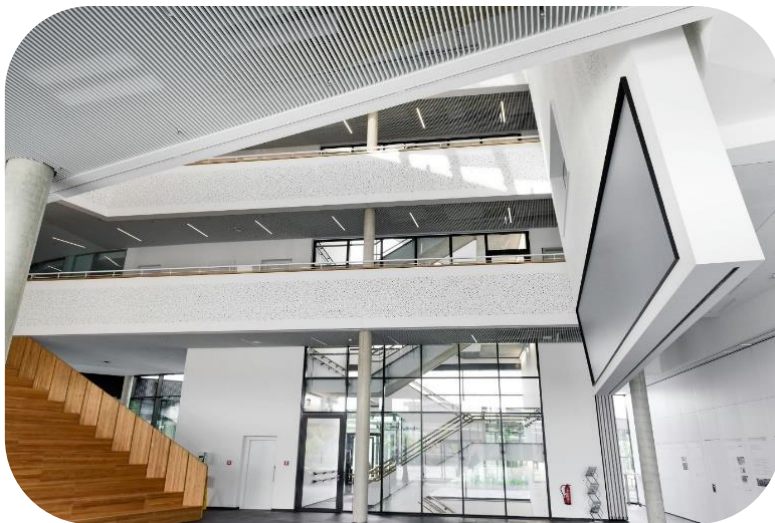
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Country: Germany
Project: Fraunhofer IEE Institute
Contractor: OKEL GmbH & Co. KG

Project description : The new building of the research institute in Kassel houses offices as well as laboratories and technical facilities on a gross floor area of around 13,400 m². The basic building concept envisaged optimizing each structure for its respective use and bringing them together via a common roof figure. Inside the building, a central entrance hall connects all four floors. Due to the different types of room use and the required adaptability, almost the entire range of modern dry lining systems was required: Wall constructions with high fire protection and room acoustic requirements, wall systems with particularly high static load-bearing capacity, walls and ceilings as design elements including light integration and much more. The complete technical elaboration, architecture planning and implementation was executed by Okel GmbH & Co. KG. The centerpiece of the foyer reception hall presented a special challenge: a 21-meter-high sound-absorbing wall spanning over several floors, inclined vertically at an angle of about 6° and thus following the receding floor levels. OKEL's dry lining experts demonstrate herewith again their «knack» for challenging large-scale projects. The German jury recognized both the sophistication of the immediately eye-catching constructions, as well as the numerous fine finishing details hidden after completion.

To learn more about the project: [Fraunhofer IEE Institute](#)



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Country: Thailand

Project: Bangkok Boulevard Clubhouse

Contractor: TTK ONE GROUP CO., LTD

Project description : Inspired by the Mont Blanc Mountain, this “Club House” of the luxury housing village enhances the total value of the properties. The aesthetic of the building is the key differentiation of properties from the others. It offered a seamless roofing solution for luxury residential Thai private compounds / villages segment of single house.

To learn more about the project: [Bangkok Boulevard Clubhouse](#)





Country: Canada
Project: University of Alberta Dentistry Pharmacy Building
Contractor: Kerr Interior Systems

Project description: The Dentistry Pharmacy Building was originally built in 1922, and is one of the University of Alberta's most historic buildings and it entered redevelopment in 2020. The building has been renamed the University Commons as it sits in the heart of U of A and will be a gathering space for all members of the community, housing various academic, research, service and administrative units. This 42,000 m² facility blends old with new to create a bright, modern, dynamic space for learning, teaching and research and will meet Silver LEED standards. It required innovation and creativity to rebuild and repair many of the intricate architectural details like the 100-year-old ceiling referred to as the "fruit bowl". This building has blended the campus history with the future. The building's 1922 brick façade now leads to a meeting place in a modern, new glass seven-story north wing and the 1922 building is now face to face and one seamless unit. Kerr has worked diligently the past 22 months planning, innovating, restoring, reinforcing, repairing and rebuilding the original elements all through the 1922 building while simultaneously erecting a seven-story start of the art modern and innovative north wing.

To learn more about the project: [University of Alberta Dentistry Pharmacy Building](#)



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CEILINGS CATEGORY

WINNER

Country: United Arab Emirates
Project: SEAWORLD ABU DHABI
Contractor: International Decor Co. LLC

Project description: SeaWorld Abu Dhabi will bring the region's first Marine Life Theme Park to Yas Island. Opening its door in 2023, the Park will feature multiple different realms, offering immersive experiences as well as dynamic habitats that will house different species together, as they are in their natural habitat. The Marine Life Theme Park will be home to more than 150 species of marine animals including sharks, shoos of fish, manta rays, sea turtles, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates, in addition to hundreds of birds including penguins, puffins, murre, flamingos and more. To be located next to the Marine Life Theme Park, SeaWorld Research and Rescue Abu Dhabi, the UAE's first dedicated marine research, rescue, rehabilitation and return center will open this year. It will support regional and global conservation efforts, providing an advanced knowledge hub with a focus on indigenous Arabian Gulf and marine life ecosystems. The SeaWorld Abu Dhabi experience will tell a unified "One Ocean" story, based on the interconnectivity between all life on earth and our one ocean.

To learn more about the project: [SEAWORLD ABU DHABI](#)



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2nd PRIZE

Country: Brazil
Project: Acquamation Gramado
Contractor: MB Rodrigues

Project description : Implanted in almost 50,000 m², Acquamation is the only indoor theme water park in South America. It has naturally heated thermal waters, and special air conditioning that guarantee thermal comfort at any time of the year. The Glasroc® X plasterboard delivered all its performance to replicate an open sky indoors, with many details and different angles in more than 6.000 m² ceiling area, something that would be very hostile for any other plasterboard, considering the permanent conditions of humidity and steam in the place. To ensure that the conditions of use of the product were respected, and that the system delivered its full potential, multiple meetings were held with the technical department of Saint-Gobain.

To learn more about the project: [Acquamation Gramado](#)



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ABOUT SAINT-GOBAIN GYPSUM ACTIVITY

Saint-Gobain's Gypsum solutions are represented by 4 brands: Gyproc®, Placo®, Rigips® and British Gypsum®. With over **13 800** employees, we provide plaster and plasterboard solutions in **39** countries, through **100** sites. From 1917 to the present day, the Gypsum's brands benefit from more than a century of experience and innovation. We design, manufacture and supply plaster, dry lining and ceilings innovative products and systems that improve wellbeing in living spaces. Our gypsum brands offer a range of gypsum-based building materials from plasters to plasterboards and ceilings. They also supply wall corner protections, plasterboard jointing, metal frames and fixings solutions for a complete system. We offer solutions for a variety of application to adapt to the needs of all building occupants whether it be in residential, commercial, leisure, hospitality, or healthcare buildings. For more information, please visit <https://www.saint-gobain.com/en/gypsum-brands>

ABOUT SAINT-GOBAIN

Worldwide leader in light and sustainable construction, Saint-Gobain designs, manufactures and distributes materials and services for the construction and industrial markets. Its integrated solutions for the renovation of public and private buildings, light construction and the decarbonization of construction and industry are developed through a continuous innovation process and provide sustainability and performance. The Group's commitment is guided by its purpose, "MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER HOME".

€51.2 billion in sales in 2022

168,000 employees, locations in 75 countries

Committed to achieving Carbon Neutrality by 2050

For more information about Saint-Gobain, visit <https://www.saint-gobain.com/en> and follow us on Twitter [@saintgobain](https://twitter.com/saintgobain)

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