

### Stainless steel mesh as solar shading

In this supermarket, built by Dominique Perrault in the Austrian town of Wattens, near Innsbruck, it was important to reduce the thermal gain through solar radiation while also retaining the transparency and openness characteristic of the chain. Stainless steel mesh fulfilled both requirements.

The airy construction provides the necessary shading and protection from glare and ensures an even distribution of natural daylight inside the building. In addition this second skin offers good protection against weathering. The material itself is extremely easy to clean and maintain.

The effectiveness of the stainless steel mesh as regards solar shading is clearly legible. This semi-transparent, openwork texture also adds interest and rhythm in the way the changing light plays on its surface.



Client: M Preis Warenvertriebs GmbH, Völs, Austria  
 Architect: Dominique Perrault, Paris, France  
 Rolf Reichert, RPM-Architekten, Munich, Germany  
 Photos: Stefan Zunhamer, Munich, Germany



*The store is designed as a light-permeable space. Daylight is brought into the interior to enhance the presentation of the goods.*



*Glass panels, with and without stainless steel mesh, alternate in rhythmical fashion.*