Stainless-steel grilles for solar shading

Stainless-steel grilles or mesh are an interesting option for solar screens. Excellent weather resistance and an attractive appearance make this material a good choice for such applications.

Local authority offices and police station, Toulouse, F
Client: City Council, Toulouse, F
Architect: SCP Galavielle, Toulouse, F

Aligned either vertically or horizontally, stainless-steel grilles can be used to control the levels of sunlight that penetrate a building.

Multi-purpose building in St Marc Orléans, F
Client/Architect: City Council, Orléans, F
Photo: Germain photographie, Châtellerault, F

The grilles are made up of a mesh of bars welded or press-fitted together. Structural requirements and the level of light transmission required determine how closely or how far apart the bars are spaced, and whether the spacing is variable or even. A range of standard sizes and models of stainless-steel solar screen is available on the market, but designs can also be custom-made. Flat or curved styles are possible.

Such grilles give control over shading and daylight penetration inside a building. How effectively a panel performs that function is dependent on correct spacing of the bars within the panel. This has to be calculated for the particular location and orientation of the façade.

Jean Moulin School in Montreuil, F
Client: Sodedat/Conseil Géneral 93, Bobigny, F
Architect: Lipa & Serge Goldstein, Paris, F
Photo: Euroslot, Scorbé Clairvaux, F

In this school building stainless-steel grilles perform a dual function – as façade cladding and as solar shading for the classrooms behind.