StoraEnso

Satama Event Centre
Kotka, Finland

The Saitama Event Centre, designed by ALA Architects, is a striking venue in Kotka's Kantasatama Harbour, southern Finland. Its signature sloping roof nearly touches the ground, inviting visitors to experience its unique design up close, sparking interest in its use of tension and cantilevers with engineered wood.

This venue is designed to host a variety of events, including concerts, exhibitions, meetings, seminars, and sports events that can accommodate small gatherings as well as large events with over 3,000 people.

The architecture is particularly noteworthy for its extensive use of mass timber, signature lobby and cantilevered roof making it a significant project for the international community interested in building with engineered wood products.

Cantilevered roof made with mass timber

The roof descends from its northern edge close to the ground, allowing visitors to almost touch the upright wooden surface. One of the most exciting aspects of this project involves using mass timber to bear tensile loads. The foyer cantilevered roof was achieved by hanging close laminated veneer lumber (LVL) Sylva™ Rib panels without beams. This method not only showcases the versatility of mass timber but also sets a new benchmark in architectural design.

Acoustics

The acoustics are managed using fully absorbent mineral wool, which ensures excellent sound insulation. Additionally, the project integrates electronic acoustics, enhancing the overall auditory experience within the space.

About ALA Architects

ALA Architects, based in Helsinki, Finland, is renowned for its innovative and sustainable architectural solutions. The firm has a strong focus on public buildings and urban spaces, often incorporating advanced sustainable materials and technologies into their designs.

Awards

2024 World Architecture Festival (WAF) Awards in the category of "Best Use of Certified Timber." This nomination recognizes the innovative and sustainable use of mass timber in the building's design, particularly highlighting its architectural significance and environmental impact.

Finnish Wood Award 2023 for its exceptional use of mass timber and its contribution to sustainable architecture.

International Architecture Awards 2024 for its unique architectural solutions and the integration of advanced acoustic technologies.

BREEAM certification at the **"Very Good"** level

View more event / theatre spaces made with a Sylva™ kit of parts

Roundhouse Works

Wisdome Stockholm

StoraEnso

Regents Park Open Air Theatre

Sherborne Girls School Arts Center

David Brownlow Theatre

Learn more about the advantages of construction with mass timber download the whitepaper

BREEAM certification Very Good level

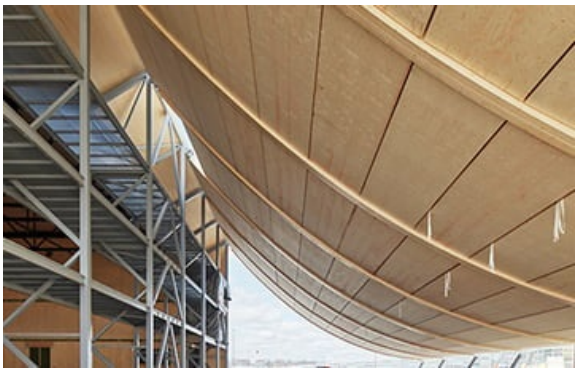
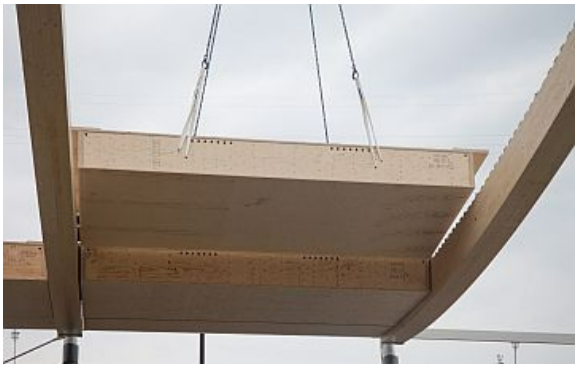


Photo credit: ©ALA



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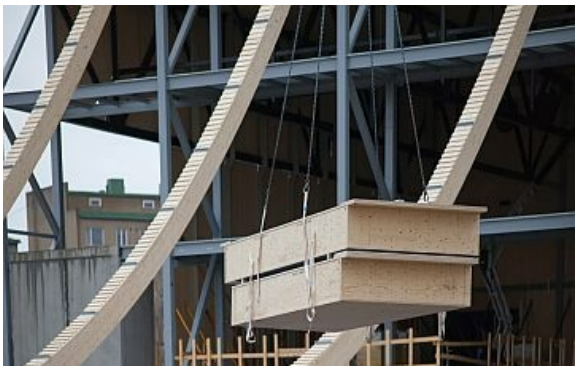


Photo credit: Stora Enso/ ©Mats Vuorenjuuri

General

Delivery year

2023

Building type

Others

Area (m²)

7,700

Products

Products and Services

Sylva™ CLT Floors and Roofs, Sylva LVL Rib Roofs, End Grain Sealer

Product quality

VI and NVI CLT and 5,200 m² LVL Closed Rib

Product volume (m³)

700

Product delivery duration (weeks)

20

Number of deliveries

78

Team

Developer

Backstaff Oy (City of Kotka)

Architect

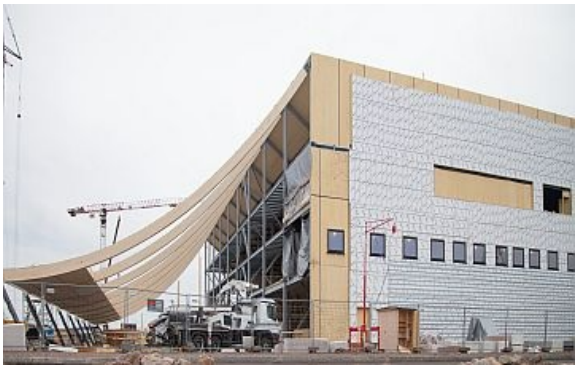
ALA Architects

Structural Engineer

Ramboll Finland

Main contractor

SRV



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Others

Construction cost (€)

27,600,000

Construction duration (months)

24

Timber superstructure erection duration (weeks)

20