

press release

## glass façade and roof create fascinating play of light at entrance to gateway arch museum

**The visitor centre for the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St. Louis was opened in a festive ceremony on 3 July 2018. As part of the complete redesign of the Gateway Arch Park, seele was appointed to create a spectacular entrance zone for the museum.**

Gersthofen, 4 July 2018. In February 2017, seele began installing the steel and glass construction for the entrance to the world-famous Gateway Arch National Monument, designed by Cooper Robertson, Architect with James Carpenter Design Associates and Trivers Associates. The new, inviting entrance area consists of a 5.5m high curving glass façade and a glass roof to ensure that plenty of light reaches the interior.

### **Glass roof with cantilevering stainless steel beams**

The roof comprises a total of 74 three-ply laminated panes in sizes of up to 2 x 5.5m which are supported on a steel structure weighing 85t in total. The 38 stainless steel cantilever beams are made from milled solid stainless steel sections tensioned with tie bars. A pattern printed on the glass lends the roof glazing a feeling of vitality. The glass façade, too, with its 24 panes in sizes of up to 1.4 x 5.5m, helps to ensure an interior flooded with daylight. Each of the glass panes of the façade weighs 460 kg and the joint between façade and glass roof permits movement. From inside the building the uninterrupted glass permits spectacular views of the area in front of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial and the skyline of St. Louis. seele built a mock-up of the proposed solution on its own testing grounds in Gersthofen. The mock-up, consisting of three cantilever beams and the roof panes mounted on these plus the bent façade panes, convinced the architect and the client.

“The project at the famous Gateway Arch monument has allowed us to demonstrate our expertise in façade construction – and especially complex steel-and-glass structures – once again. The Americans in particular are very much aware of exceptional design and structures, which makes this exactly the right place for us.” That’s the view of Michael Steinhülb, managing director of seele, Inc. in New York.

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## seele group of companies

The seele group, with headquarters in Gersthofen in Bavaria, is one of the world's top companies specialising in the design and construction of façades and complex building envelopes made from glass, steel, aluminium, membranes and other high-tech materials. The technology leader in façade construction was founded in 1984 by master glazier Gerhard Seele and steelwork engineer Siegfried Gossner.

Based on a profound understanding of design and materials, seele provides everything necessary for ambitious one-off designs true to the original ideas of engineers and architects. The seele group offers its building sector and industrial customers a complete package of services ranging from R&D, individual advice and joint conceptual design right up to the planning, detailed design and construction of their projects. seele's own production plants for technologically challenging designs and the group's own erection crews on site provide a guarantee of the very highest quality "made by seele".

The 1,000 employees of the seele group worldwide together generate an annual turnover of more than €200 million.

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Images



Glass roof and façade by seele at the Gateway Arch national monument. ©Nic Lehoux



The new layout of Gateway Arch Park. ©Nic Lehoux

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Fascinating play of light at the entrance to the Gateway Arch Museum. ©Nic Lehoux



From inside the building the uninterrupted glass permits spectacular views of the area in front of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial and the skyline of St. Louis. ©Nic Lehoux

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Mock-up at the testing grounds in Gersthofen. ©seele