



© Viken Djafrien / FotoGraphix

ARCHITECT

Rinka Chung Architecture
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

GLAZING CONTRACTOR

Klein-Dickert Milwaukee, Inc.
Kenosha, Wisconsin

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

J.H. Findorff & Son Inc.
Madison and Milwaukee, Wisconsin

FEATURED PRODUCTS

1600 Wall System™1 Curtain Wall
Trifab™ VersaGlaze™ (VG) 451T Storefront Framing System
Trifab™ VersaGlaze™ (VG) 450
Storefront Framing System
350 Medium Stile Entrances
Window Wall with Project Out Windows
NX-8910 3-1/4" Outswing Thermal Aluminum Architectural Terrace Doors

The Moderne

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

The Moderne

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

PROJECT PROFILE

MULTIFAMILY

CLEAN AESTHETICS AND SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE HELP CREATE A SLEEK, LUXURY MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT IN DOWNTOWN MILWAUKEE

Designed to be the new flagship of Milwaukee's downtown redevelopment, the austere outline of The Moderne seamlessly blends the form of a high-rise with the function of a luxury mixed-use development.

To create an iconic visual presentation in the Milwaukee skyline and foster the economic growth of the city while also creating an exciting destination, the owner worked with Milwaukee-based Rinka Chung Architecture. According to the architect's website, the opulent yet restrained Moderne style was the biggest design theory for the facility, reminiscent of progress and forward momentum. "Visually, the glassy shaft is stretched even wider by adjacent vertical windows and slips delicately into the more dominant horizontal reticulation of the building. A flat, curved roofline appears to float above a continuous band of set-in glass."

Construction for the \$55.3 million building began in February of 2011. Klein-Dickert Milwaukee, Inc. joined the project early on as the glazing contractor and installer. J.H. Findorff & Son, Inc., located in both Madison and Milwaukee, served as the project's general contractor.

DESIGN HIGHLIGHTS

The name "Moderne" refers to the architectural style of the 1930s–1950s reflected in the building's design. Characterized by curving forms, continuous horizontal and vertical lines and a classic yet modern exterior, this 30-story high-rise incorporates luxury condominiums, executive apartments, extensive parking and ground-floor retail space.

CHALLENGES

- To meet the design needs of the architect, products used on the building needed to not only have strong aesthetic and performance capabilities, but also meet the technical and engineering needs required by the project.
- Kawneer products were manufactured in different facilities but needed to have a coordinated look.
- The design of the curtain wall was to follow the curvature of the building, which required curved glass and embeds to anchor the system because of the post tension slabs.

SOLUTIONS

- The window wall features a slab to slab application and slab edge cover, which help deliver the desired sleek and streamlined appearance of the building. The system also features 90-degree custom corners with narrow sightlines, which helped the architect meet their design objectives. Additionally, the system can be pre-engineered and pre-glazed, eliminating much of the labor and time spent on-site.
- Kawneer's 1600 Wall System™1 Curtain Wall, Trifab™ VersaGlaze™ Storefront Framing Systems and 350 Medium Stile Entrances were used on the lower levels of the building to provide its smooth, retro-futuristic appearance.
- Multiple manufacturing facilities worked together to ensure the pieces came at a coordinated time with consistent-looking paint colors for a seamless aesthetic.
- The entire building team worked closely with the engineers to ensure the curved glass could be installed correctly and all anchors were secure.

