

student sports centre rietveld



project description
consultancy facade renovation

client
real estate management eindhoven
university

year
2014

project team
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The sports hall of the former 'Technische Hogeschool Eindhoven' has been designed by Gerrit Thomas Rietveld. During the last fifty years this building has become part of a larger ensemble; the current Student Sports Centre (SSC) of Eindhoven University of Technology. The original design was characterized by its omnidirectional orientation and strong articulation of the entrance. However, this quality faded as the original translucent polyester facade elements at the top of the sports hall were deteriorating. This caused water to penetrate through these elements and created the hazard of a corroding loadbearing construction. Bauhütte,

commissioned by the Real Estate Department of Eindhoven University of Technology, conducted a feasibility study on the replacement of these original facade elements. The original elements, Kalwall panels, costly but still available, have been compared to alternative translucent facade materials. The impact of the Kalwall panels and alternative materials have been assessed, based on their specific detailing, esthetic quality and costs. The renovation has been carried out using the Kalwall panels combined with an improved detailing of the joints and a reintroduction of the thin parapet, which is highly characteristic of Rietveld's original design.