

Squareline Metal Ceiling Tiles Grace Concourse of Reliant Stadium

Maintaining a clean, modern look was a major concern of architects working on Texas' Reliant Stadium, a 69,500-seat state-of-the-art facility and the world's first retractable-roof football stadium with a natural grass playing surface. Opened in August 2002, the stadium is home to the Houston Texans – the National Football League's 32nd franchise team – and host of Super Bowl XXXVIII in February 2004.

One of the most unsightly areas to deal with was the stadium's indoor ceiling. To hide the snake-like pipes and electrical wiring on the ceiling in the stadium's main concourse, architect Steve Parker, chose illbruck's SQUARELINE Metal Ceiling tiles. "We were looking for a suspended ceiling tile product that would conceal piping, lighting and other systems above it and not require us to invest in any additional systems, such as more sprinklers, explains Parker, lead architect, Houston Stadium Consultants, a joint venture of Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam, Inc. and Hermes Architects, Inc.

Of all the products being considered, says Parker, SQUARELINE was the one that was most cost effective. The tiles also gave them the finished look they wanted. "Its design complemented the contemporary architecture of the stadium, which features aluminum trim and finishes throughout. And we really liked that the product was available in a very dark gray color," he says.

Parker also was pleased to find that the tiles could be cut on site to fit for light fixtures, so they didn't have to special order anything from the factory. The time savings, Parker says, helped them get the job done on schedule.



Constructed from a unique, lightweight willtec FM foam core insert that is pre-bonded to galvanized, powder-coated expanded steel, SQUARELINE provides the clean lines to compliment any interior while also providing excellent acoustical control. SQUARELINE Metal Ceiling Tiles are ideal for small to large open environments with a high-tech look including offices, airports and convention centers.