



2016 IFAI AWARD OF  
**EXCELLENCE**  
INTERNATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



### Project

Located in the south of the city, which has recently become an important residential and commercial center, Urban Center Guadalajara was conceived to become a landmark of the area. The remarkable structure lightweight structure is located in the main atrium of the shopping center. The nearly 25,000 sq. ft. (7600m<sup>2</sup>) membrane roof is both elegant and functional, reflecting the shopping center's unique style and sophistication.

FabriTec Structures, along with their Mexican partner, EHMS, designed, engineered, supplied, fabricated and installed the extraordinary roof structure that rises 46 feet (14m?) above the ground level. The suspended roof is supported by six 80m high masts. From the top of the masts, a series of steel cables, totaling 1,768 feet (539m) in length, provide stability to the fabric roof and connects it with the building. The use of cables allowed the engineers to reduce the size of the steel members that support the structure; the result is a structure that spans 138 liner feet (42m) and is supported by nothing more than thin rolled steel beams.

The structure is maximized on the spans and actually working in tension and suspension. Access to the structure was very limited which made it quite a challenge.

The roof's Teflon coated fabric (PTFE) was chosen for its lightweight and translucent properties which will let natural light while reducing the heat island effect and blocking out heat. In addition, the durable



FabriTec Structures

# Urban Center

Guadalajara, Mexico

*FabriTec Structures has been honored with a 2016 International Achievement Award (IAA) for design excellence in specialty fabrics applications. They received an Award of Excellence for its Urban Center Guadalajara project. The project was recognized in the competition's Fabric Structures, Tensile Structures, 600-2300m<sup>2</sup> category.*

architectural fabric will protect the main atrium from rain, as Guadalajara has a three-month long rain season in the summer.

Fabritec's Latin American Team and EHMS have been working together for almost 13 years and have completed many successful projects together.

### International Achievement Award Competition

For more than six decades, IAA has recognized excellence in design and innovation, highlighting truly spectacular work in the specialty fabrics and technical textiles industry. The International Achievement Awards competition is sponsored by IFAI, a not-for-profit trade association whose over 1,600 member companies represent the growing international specialty fabrics and technical textiles marketplace. IFAI received a total of 296 entries from 10 countries that were submitted for 42 categories in this year's competition. Winners were selected based on complexity, design, workmanship, uniqueness and function. Judges included industry experts, editors, architects, educators and design professionals who were chosen for their knowledge in a particular field of study or product area.

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