



**Anchorage Museum**

AT RASMUSON CENTER

121 W. SEVENTH AVE. • ANCHORAGE, AK 99501  
907.343.4326 • WWW.ANCHORAGEMUSEUM.ORG

EXPLORE ALASKA'S HISTORY AND CULTURE

## Anchorage Museum Expansion Custom Glass Curtain Wall Façade

*"The façade will give an overall reflective quality to the entire building, reinforcing its volumetric form while allowing particular views into and out of the building."*

*David Chipperfield, Architect*

The shimmering glass façade of the museum expansion is a design concept created by architect David Chipperfield. It is a curtain wall that will reflect views of the distant mountains and the lush landscaped commons nearby. It serves as the external skin of the building but is not a weight-bearing part of the structure.

The specially designed façade panels are made of glass manufactured in Germany and then shipped to China for custom fabrication. The glass has a low iron content which results in a very clear product with no color.

A Chinese company, Sanxin Special Glass Technology Company Ltd., located in Shenzhen, produced the panels because of its specialized manufacturing capability.

### Panel Details

- The glass façade allows for 25 percent transparency of the museum.
- More than 600 panels, four feet wide and in varying heights, will complete the façade.
- The two-sided glass panels are 12 inches thick, allowing for different applications in different parts of the museum.
- The panels are unique because of the frit, a reflective exterior chemically-applied striping, and the height, which is up to 26 feet tall. The mirrored frits will appear as matte stripes from the interior.
- In some areas the panels will be clear and in other locations they will sandwich insulation and an aluminum lining that will render the building's exterior opaque.

## Panel Details (continued)

- Some panels are fitted with blinds to protect museum collections from sun damage. All of the glass offers ultraviolet protection.
- To ensure that the panels meet strength, seismic and weather resistance standards, some early production units were rigorously tested. The panels were tested by Construction Research Laboratory in Miami, a facility that has provided the service for construction projects around the world since 1955.

For more information on the Anchorage Museum expansion, visit [www.anchagemuseum.org](http://www.anchagemuseum.org) or call (907) 343-4326.