



NETBALL STADIUM ROOF PLAYS TO THE STRENGTHS OF TENSILE MEMBRANES

TITLE	Auckland Netball Centre
DESCRIPTION	Sporting arena roof
LOCATION	Auckland, New Zealand
COMPLETED IN	2005
FABRIC AREA	1,000m ²
FABRIC TYPE	PVC - Ferrari 1002T2
ARCHITECT/CLIENT	Copeland Architects / Auckland Netball

AUCKLAND NETBALL CENTRE AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

The challenge – deliver efficient lighting and noise reduction for sporting venue

This sports stadium is the home of netball in Auckland. Every year it serves thousands of netballers and spectators for practice sessions and tournament games.

Key challenges for this project were lighting and acoustics. The netball association wanted a venue that could be lit naturally during the day, to minimise the cost of artificial lighting and limit heat sources that could overheat players. There was also a need to prevent excessive noise during play, which causes a problem in other indoor netball stadiums around New Zealand.

The solution – combo roof that contributes to the stadium's huge success

Structurflex worked closely with the architect to develop a design that combines steel roof cladding with PVC tension membranes. The tension membranes allow penetration of a high level of natural light, which provides excellent playing conditions during the day without the need for bright, heat-generating roof lights. In the evening, the tension membrane's reflective qualities are utilised to minimise the requirement for artificial light.

Compared with all-metal roofs that reflect sound waves, tension membranes absorb sound to reduce noise within the stadium. Even when the venue is packed with spectators, noise levels stay within acceptable limits.

Today Auckland has a world-class facility that provides a comfortable, well-lit, acoustically-friendly sporting environment.

