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OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RETRACTABLE AWNINGS AND CANOPIES

Retractable Rooftop Patio Cover Systems - Metro Park VI

Retractableawnings.com Inc.

Our original contact was from the architect who requested two retractable systems that would attach to a new steel structure and that would meet local wind load requirements since the units are installed on the top of the building known as Metro Park VI. The architect wanted a contemporary, modern and very clean appearance and a product that would also meet International Building Code Requirements. The purpose of the project was to provide an area for shade, heat, sun, glare and UV protection but not rain protection, thus the use of Soltis 86 sheer mesh fabric. The client stated to the architect that the area was to be used for entertainment purposes only in good weather conditions.

The architect specified two butting/side-by-side 173.93-inch wide by 240-inch projection retractable canopy systems to be inserted in to a new steel frame structure. Each of the areas to be covered used one continuous piece of fabric and one motor. The system frame and guides specified are made entirely of aluminum which is powder coated using the Qualicoat/E powder coating process. Custom color chosen for the guides by the Architect was RAL 9006 known as White Aluminum. The stainless steel components used were Inox (470LI and 316) that are of the highest quality and have an extremely high corrosion resistance. In fact, the components passed the European salt spray corrosion test as tested by Centro Sviluppo Materiali in Italy. Fabric specified was Ferrari Precontraint 86 Color 2044 White, a fabric that is self-extinguishing. These retracting canopy systems have a Beaufort wind load rating Scale 10 (up to 63 mph) with the fabric fully extended and in use. A grey hood with end caps was requested for each end of each unit to prevent rain water from collecting in the folds of fabric when not in use. A running profile from end to end in the rear of each section was necessary to attach the Somfy RTS motor that is installed inside a motor safety box. The client chose to control the system with two remote controls, two white wall switches and two Somfy wind sensors.

This project was a challenge since the steel structure was being built at the same time as the retractable patio cover systems were being manufactured to meet a deadline, therefore there was no room for error. In addition, removing all the extrusions, fabric, etc. from the crate and hoisting them to the top of the building was difficult but accomplished.

The client was elated with the results of both retractable canopy cover systems. Along with landscaping, the exterior top floor of the Metro Park VI building was transformed and is truly a stunning example of design, function and aesthetics as can be seen in the pictures. All client requirements were met, including a contemporary, modern, stylish and very clean appearance along with providing shade, sun, UV, glare and heat protection.

Project details

Location: Alexandria, Va.
Fabrics: Soltis 86 by Ferrari S.A. from F.lli Giovanardi
Engineer: Frank L. Bennardo, P.E., Engineering Express
Architect & Design: Kent Fee, LSM Architects
Project Manager: David Doherty, Hitt Contracting
Installation: The Crew, Hitt Contracting



Outstanding Achievement Award
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