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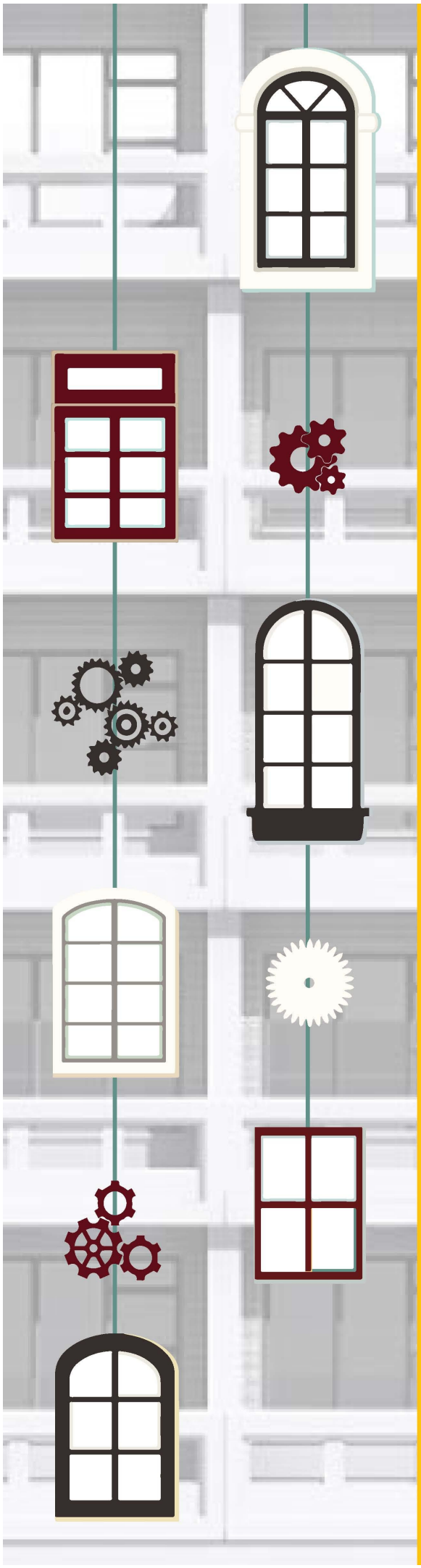

FENSTERBAU FRONTALE Tab INDIA

Facade and Fenestration news for India

Novel Technologies in Facade & Fenestration Design

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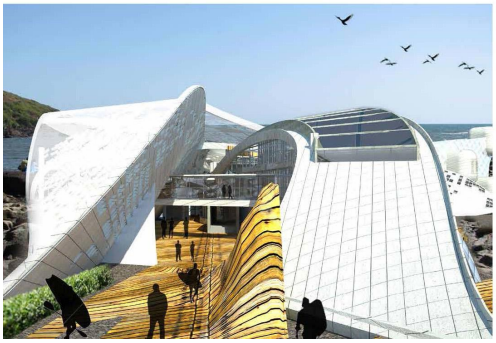
NIWS, Goa

M:OFA Studios

Façade, can aptly be summed as a conscious interface between the inside and outside. Similar to how our skin senses the external stimulus and sends signals down the brain, following which an action is interpreted that supports both our internal and external workings. This skin, in terms of architecture, has evolved over the time from being a static vertical envelope to a responsive and performative intermediate. It responds to the relevant contextual and climatic parameters of a structure, facilitating appropriate interior conditions for the users. What surfaces to the sight remains its visual impact to the public, making facades a paramount element in crafting the city fabric. The current scenario where technology takes the lead before anything has inundated the façade industry with ideas and opportunities making it a complexly diversified subject in itself. Backed by state of the art engineered solutions, its only now when we are slowly drifting to implement technology in our built skins through fully integrated design strategies. In our project National Institute of Water Sports which is being built in Goa, opened us up to the opportunities for conceiving an indigenous vocabulary prevalent across the city, yet our approach was to connect it with both the realms of indigenous and contemporary architecture. Inpired by the beauty of local natural laterite, with its rustic red color and earthy texture that extends its relevance to the vast rural expanses of goa, we felt the need of injecting the structure with a contemporary language. It was then through technological interventions, we introduced corten steel in conjunction with laterite as the material for façade and fenestrations. The rustic patina of weathering steel along with its efficient reflex from climatic nuances made it an ideal choice for NIWS.

Brief of the Project

Commisioned in 2010 through an international level competition proposed by Ministry of Tourism and Government of Goa, the NIWS is projected to be one-of-its-kind in Asia. It forsees the vision of connecting people with leisure water sports, providing cutting edge technology, facilities and opportunities.



Concept

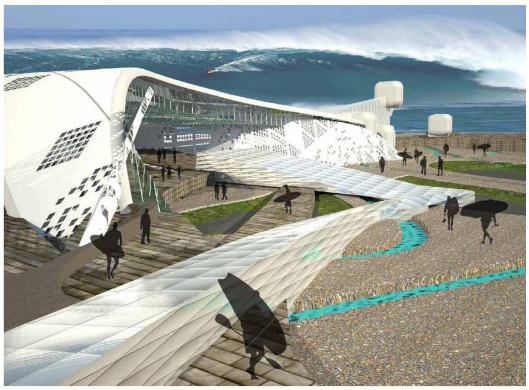
Ideated about mentally transporting human spirit in the midst of the sea, the Architecture of National Institute of Water Sports elucidates the temporary yet adventurous moment, when the fiercely driven surge of waves, escalating high in the sky beckons the surfer. The surfer sets his foot into the sea and embraces its wild outbursts. While surfing against the flow of current he proceeds where he sometimes manages to jump over, dodging the intense flow of waves while at other gets engulfed within its wake. The built form is a manifestation of the ever changing energies of the surfer and the sea, in a potent oscillating time lapse. A seamless fluid form, this two storey structure glides into a discernible ease in the context as landscapes rises and falls intermittently just like the waves of the sea, with melting voids to an amorphous interconnected succession of spaces.

Corten Steel as façade & fenestration

The design attempts to dissolve traditional and contemporary façade treatments into a dynamic whole, backed by technology and a deft acquaintance of elemental constraints. Locally quarried laterite juxtaposed against ultra-modern corten steel delves in the harbor of both aesthetic and functional nourishment. Through the appropriate technological aid, we were able to endow steel the required feasibility and efficiency to combat the extreme climatic conditions of Goa while leaving an indelible expression of identity amongst its indigenous counterparts. It has been extensively used in façade and fenestration, for it ages in its softest glory making ageing one of the most beautiful processes of nature. Pressed against torrential rains and winds, the façade panes shields the structure from these constraints while regulating adequate ventilation and comfort for the users inside. To deal with the impact of harsh daylight, perforated corten steel sunscreen filters controlled daylight into the interiors while creating patterns of dappled light that enhances the aesthetics naturally. The weathering façade presents a mellow spectacle, where through the course of time the aesthetics evolve turning into myriad shades of austere elegance. From bright orange, rustic brown to ambre hued patina when put forth against the enormous sea, enhances with age. Its choice as a façade material with its acknowledged intricacies spurs both the elements of visual appeal and structural efficiency, making it extremely befitting in the context of goa .

- Zohra Khan (Media Researcher)

PROJECT FEATURE



Manish Gulati, Principal Architect, M:OFA Studios

Working for more than 15 years, his experience from designing Accessories/ products , Exhibitions , Retail, Residences to National Institutional projects, Sports stadiums, Hospitality and residential. His past and current assignments include NIFT Kangra Campus , HP; DPCC Head Quarters, New Delhi ; NIWS Campus Goa; ITM Campus, Gwalior& Sports Academies for Directorate of Sports & Youth Welfare, Hospitality and Retail projects, Accessories/ products , Exhibitions , Retail & Residences. His forte & driving passion till date remains Design & innovation. The studio and practice from the beginning reflected his clear approach to design - Contemporary, bold & global with subtle Regional / Contextual interventions to Concepts. His innate ability to remain abreast with technology, his deep love for the arts and sensitivity towards life always remains at core to any of his works. His design processes is supported by his International & Holistic approach towards Architecture in terms of Constant Research, Resolution, Case studies & project discussions on design, functionality, Technology, inventive concepts and sustainability issues.