

A Glazing Solution So Good-Looking You Can't Tell It's Fire-Rated.

George S. Eccles Student Life Center, University of Utah

Location: 1836 Student Life Way
Salt Lake City, Utah

Architect: MHTN Architects
Salt Lake City, Utah

Product: 45-minute & 60-minute vision doors
60-minute curtainwalls - custom extruded
60-minute storefront walls with butt joint
fire resistant glazing

Applications: Interior building compartmentalization

Customer: Mollerup Glass Company
Salt Lake City, Utah

General Contractor: Okland Construction
Salt Lake City, Utah



Photo Credit: Dana Sohm

To learn more about the entire line of **Aluflam** fire-rated aluminum glazing systems, contact Aluflam North America at **562.926.9520** or email info@aluflam-usa.com. Or visit www.aluflam-usa.com.

Project Story



60-minute vision doors and curtainwall

When the University of Utah joined the PAC-12 in June 2010, the need to keep pace with other “big-time” conference schools was magnified. First, the university would have to upgrade its athletic facilities in addition to building other new world-class, state-of-the-art facilities as a way of bolstering the collective image of the entire 1,530 acre campus.

The 180,000+ sq. ft. George S. Eccles Student Life Building was a main focus of change. In January 2015, lengthy processes ranged from fundraising to design to final completion. It is a recreational facility for all students attending University of Utah. Peggy McDonough, MHTN Principal-in-Charge, states, “The owner didn’t want the Center to look like an academic building, but something that could build upon the surrounding nature. We wanted the exterior to communicate a more playful message, which is done by tilting mullions, and using a variety of colors in the skin and for some of the geometrics.”

Dazzling interior spaces include a challenging 45 ft. climbing wall and three full-size basketball courts. It’s a place for students to improve their health and wellness as well as just hang out and socialize. The striking exterior of the new Center showcases an abundance of glazing and other unique materials. Barbara Snyder, VP of Student

Affairs at the U said, “The architects really listened to our students. The Student Life Center is a very vibrant, open, active, and energetic place. It’s just very cool, very inviting and welcoming.”*

The complex steel and concrete envelope system called for a diverse mix of fire-rated products to be integrated into the interior building compartmentalization without compromising the integrity of the architect’s and student’s visions. Mollerup Glass Company brought in the fire-rated glazing systems experts from Aluflam to work on developing a suitable building plan that included 45-minute and 60-minute vision doors along with 60-minute curtainwalls and 60-minute storefront walls with butt-joint glazing. This added up to over 2,000 feet of clear anodized storefront and curtainwall extrusions.

The Aluflam Role: What We Did Best

To make sure of one critical specification - that the installer receive fire-rated aluminum materials that could be efficiently maneuvered inside the building with its many interior openings both large and small. The process required coordination with the restrictions on what size window units could be fabricated and shipped from the Aluflam factory.

Custom lengths of the larger curtainwall mullion extrusions were ordered and the unusually long lead time of 12-18 weeks was quoted. Actual ship date was 15 weeks after release for production.

Another key feature of Aluflam framing, with factory-installed intumescent tape, eliminates the need to apply glazing tape in the field resulting in reduced handling of glass units.

Side-By-Side You Can't Tell The Difference.

The University of Utah project offered some great opportunities for Aluflam to showcase one of the key advantages of fire-rated aluminum glazing systems. The form and finish of the extruded Aluflam mullions make for a superior level of design continuity between rated and non-rated materials.

The image below shows Aluflam 60-minute fire-rated wall system compared to the non-rated vision wall on the right separated by a column.



The Timeline

December 2013: Aluflam was contracted by Mollerup Glass Company for fire-rated aluminum glazing systems.

January 2014: Shop drawing and engineering calc submittals were made.

August 2014: Project was released for production and work began.

November 2014: Materials shipped on dedicated flatbed trucks.



Exterior view of facility's rock climbing wall



60-minute curtainwall



Left: 60-minute doors and storefront window with butt joint glazing **Center:** 60-minute curtainwall **Right:** Non-rated curtainwall

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*Fulmer, Brad, (February 2, 2015), "New Life, U of U's Student Life Center, School of Dentistry Add Depth to Salt Lake Campus," *Utah, Construction & Design*. Retrieved from utahcdmag.com.