

At-A-Glance

Philadelphia's tallest building uses stainless steel GridLine® grids both conventionally on floors and uniquely as architectural accents along the curtain wall.

CASE STORY

Comcast Technology Center *Philadelphia, PA*

About the Project

The 60-story Comcast Technology Center in downtown Philadelphia is the city's tallest structure. The 1,121-foot-tall building features 1.3 million square feet of office space and 3,500 square feet of retail and condo units, as well as multiple restaurants and a hotel. Eight large vestibules reflect the Comcast Technology Center's steel and glass exterior. Glass panels conduct lower amounts of heat than metal and the added layers of silver within them provide extra thermal protection. These two elements help to make the building the most energy efficient in the city.

Challenge

To ensure Philadelphia's newest skyline-changing skyscraper stood out in every way, Foster + Partners and Gensler Architects envisioned floor to-ceiling, lobby-to-tower top customization. Despite the need for advanced engineering systems



and data centers, designers kept all elements of the building warm, producing a natural, creative and artistic vibe. The design plan called for a mural on each floor, highlighting Philadelphia's artist community, and a massive white globe, The Universal Sphere, to make an impressive welcome at the lobby.

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Solution

For beautiful architectural accents and stunning entranceways, the design team turned to Construction Specialties. GridLine® stainless-steel entrance grids were installed to complement the grandeur of the magnificent steel and glass structure. Beyond the entries, Foster + Partners and Gensler Architects worked with CS to create architectural accents by crafting GridLine to cover 24-inch-wide trenches, which act as air diffusers along the curtain wall.

Taking full advantage of the high-tech appearance and custom capabilities of GridLine, the team incorporated 12 grates in the lobby to encompass massive trees as well as grids to surround The Universal Sphere. Additionally, stainless-steel air grille covers were installed in the upper floors of the tower. CS ensured every grid was a perfect fit, even in oddly shaped spaces.

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