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## Profiles of Selected Architects

### Sedak at Brookfield Place

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By: John Hill



The northern entrance of Brookfield Place shows an impressive all-glass structure. Glass fins up to 7m fabricated by Sedak take the weight of the façade's glass panes and increase the already high transparency. (Photo: Greg West Photography)

The shopping mall at Brookfield Place in New York's Battery Park City, designed by Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, features two new highly transparent entrance façades supported by glass fins supplied by Sedak.

The new façades, completed last year, are part of a larger plan that has transformed the former World Financial Center's (WFC) food court and shops into a space catered to high-end shoppers and "foodies," more in line with today's trends of shopping and eating. Cesar Pelli designed the original WFC in the late 1980s and his firm is responsible for the overhaul for new owner Brookfield Properties. Another notable aspect of the redesign is a pavilion adjacent to the old Winter Garden (rebuilt soon after it was damaged on 9/11) that overlooks the September 11 Memorial and the rest of the World Trade Center site to the east.

#### PROJECT CREDITS

**Owner**  
Brookfield Properties

**Main Contractor**  
W & W Glass LLC

**Architect**  
Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects

**Client**  
W&W Glass LLC/Vidaris

**Installation Period**  
08/2014-10/2014

**Project Management**  
Maic Pannwitz, sedak, Inc.

**Sedak scope of work**  
34 glass fins up to 7m (12mm low-iron glass / triple laminate with SG interlayers)

**Photographer**  
Greg West Photography



In the south, the glass fins allow an almost unobstructed view to the interior of the building and outside. (Photo: Greg West Photography)

While the new pavilion looks to the east, the two new entrances façades face north and south; the latter looks onto a plaza and harbor at the center of Brookfield Place's four towers, while the former is aligned with a covered pedestrian street that leads to the residential towers at the north end of Battery Park City. In between the façades is a double-height space capped by skylights. Formerly a food court open to above, it now features two floors of retail spaces, with Bonobos, Diane von Furstenberg, Michael Kors, Theory and other brands. (A new food court, with an upscale grocery store, cafés and restaurants, is located on the other side of the Winter Garden.)



The transparency of the all-glass façade creates openness and allows an unobstructed view of the Hudson River. Disturbing metal constructions are unnecessary thanks to the 7m long glass suspension systems. (Photo: Greg West Photography)

The new glass walls are more aligned with the reimagined shopping spaces inside, but their transparency also gives the mall better visual connectivity with the outdoors. This almost seamless visual integration of the mall and the exterior spaces is aided by the Sedak glass fins that fully support the horizontally oriented glass walls. The seven-meter-long fins are connected to the curtain wall with small plates at the horizontals, while the fins are connected to each other with longer, yet still slender plates. The triple-laminated glass fins were manufactured by Sedak in Gersthofen, Germany, and shipped to New York City, then assembled on site in only three months.



The 7m long glass fins bear the load of the all-glass façade. The connection parts are kept unobtrusive so that the transparency of the building envelope is hardly affected. (Photo: Greg West Photography)

[http://www.world-architects.com/architecture-news/products/Sedak at Brookfield Place 4978](http://www.world-architects.com/architecture-news/products/Sedak%20at%20Brookfield%20Place%204978)