

Zeitschrift: IABSE structures = Constructions AIPC = IVBH Bauwerke
Band: 7 (1983)
Heft: C-27: Recent structures: Part I

Artikel: Ice skating hall at Munich (Fed. Rep. of Germany)
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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-18283>

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9. Ice Skating Hall at Munich (Fed. Rep. of Germany)

Owner:	Münchner Olympia Park GmbH
Architects:	Kurt Ackermann und Partner, München
Engineers:	Schlaich + Partner, Stuttgart Prof. Dr. Ing. J. Schlaich, Dipl. Ing. R. Bergemann
Contractors:	Steel and cable work : Maurer Söhne, München Pfeifer, Memmingen
Duration of work :	12 months
Service date:	February 1983

An already existing ice skating rink has been covered by a translucent cable net structure. The prestressed cables of the nets are suspended between an arch along the axis of symmetry of the structure and edge cables on guyed masts along its circumference. The arch which primarily acts in compression and which is stabilized by the cable net itself is designed as a space truss with triangular cross section. Its members are steel tubes with diameters of 245 mm for the chords and 83 mm for the diagonals. The two-layer-cable nets are formed by galvanized double strands, 11.5 mm diameter each, fixed with aluminium clamps at a mesh width of 75 cm. Their edge cables are locked coil ropes with 60 mm diameter. They are anchored or supported by

cast steel joints and knots. As compared to other cable net structures including the adjacent cable net roof for the 1972 Olympic Games, where the facades are usually independent steel structures, in this case the facade has been integrated into the structure: prestressed cables of the same type as used for the cable nets are suspended between the edge cables and the ground. Glass panels are attached directly to them. Such a "membrane facade" consumes a minimum of material and permits an almost unobstructed view from the inside into the surrounding landscape.

The cable net is covered by a wooden grid which carries a white and translucent PVC-coated polyester fabric. The grid spacing is 75/75 cm corresponding to the net in the upper part of the roof along the arch, and narrows continuously towards the lower edges, where the snow weight is a maximum due to the small slope of the roof. This grid scheme contributes to the very generous and pleasing interior of the hall with its increasing translucency from the periphery towards the elevated center. There the eye-shaped slots between the edge cables of the two nets and their suspenders from the arch are covered with clear glass. This permits the arch to be seen from the inside of the hall and makes evident that this is one of the rare cases where the structure is the building or where form follows function.

(J. Schlaich, J. Seidel)



