

NEMA Chicago

Chicago, IL

Sustainable Design
using SilShield™
Architectural Coating



A New Sustainable High-Rise

NEMA Chicago is a distinctive 76-story residential tower rising over Grant Park. The tower is currently the tallest residential building in Chicago, with sweeping views of South Loop, Downtown Chicago, Lake Michigan, and the Park. The tower holds 12,000 square feet of retail space at its base.

From the construction materials to the sustainably-crafted interiors, this environmentally conscious project was designed to meet demanding LEED standards. NEMA and the surrounding site have been designed to combat the urban heat island effect with construction materials that reflect rather than absorb heat. The paints and finishes were also selected based on their low chemical content to improve air quality for all residents and staff.

White SilShield 3100 Architectural Coating was chosen by the architect to coat the building's exterior, contributing to the building's unique aesthetic while reflecting heat and providing durable, long-term weather protection for the building façade.



Merging Performance and Beauty

NEMA Chicago's architect, Rafael Viñoly, wanted the highest level of waterproofing performance to protect the significant amount of exposed concrete flanking the tower's façade. SilShield Coating solution served as an effective solution to deliver weather protection while supporting the architectural vision.

SilShield 3100 Architectural Coating provides long-term defense against UV exposure, extreme weather, and wind-driven rain. The high-solids, 100% silicone coating creates a seamless elastomeric membrane with excellent tensile strength and crack-bridging capability, helping prevent moisture intrusion while allowing wall assemblies to breathe through high water vapor permeability.

Reflective white coatings help deflect solar heat, supporting improved building performance and indoor comfort, while superior color retention maintains building aesthetics over time. The low-VOC formulation meets stringent air quality requirements, making it suitable for occupied environments and meeting the air quality goals of the project.

SilShield 3100 coating offers primerless adhesion to many substrates and can be spray-, roll-, or brush-applied to vertical surfaces. With rain readiness in as little as 30 minutes and application temperatures ranging from 20°F to 120°F (-7°C to 49°C), it delivers a durable, low-maintenance solution that protects and preserves building façades for decades.



Project Partners

NEMA's architect is Rafael Viñoly, and the project was designed by the Rockwell Group and developed by Crescent Heights. The applicator on the project is All Tech Decorating in Chicago.

Awards and Recognition

NEMA Chicago is a LEED Silver certified project. The tower has been recognized with the "Best Tall Building, 200-299 Meters" Award of Excellence in 2021, as well as the "Best Tall Building, Americas" Audience Award by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat in 2021, and the Camme Innovative Building Design award in 2022.

NOTE: Performance results are those of reported accounts, and are not to be relied upon as typical or expected under any other circumstances. Performance results will vary depending upon a number of factors. Prospective customers should rely solely upon their own evaluative techniques to determine what results are attainable and optimal to their specific needs. Further note that MPM is not endorsed by or affiliated with the owner(s) of NEMA Chicago.



Contact us for additional information.

siliconesforbuilding.com

THE MATERIALS, PRODUCTS, AND SERVICES OF MOMENTIVE PERFORMANCE MATERIALS INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES AND AFFILIATES (COLLECTIVELY "SUPPLIER"), ARE SOLD SUBJECT TO SUPPLIER'S STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SALE, WHICH ARE INCLUDED IN THE APPLICABLE DISTRIBUTOR OR OTHER SALES AGREEMENT, PRINTED ON THE BACK OF ORDER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND INVOICES, AND AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. ALTHOUGH ANY INFORMATION, RECOMMENDATIONS, OR ADVICE CONTAINED HEREIN IS GIVEN IN GOOD FAITH, SUPPLIER MAKES NO WARRANTY OR GUARANTEE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, (i) THAT THE RESULTS DESCRIBED HEREIN WILL BE OBTAINED UNDER END-USE CONDITIONS, OR (ii) AS TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OR SAFETY OF ANY DESIGN INCORPORATING ITS PRODUCTS, MATERIALS, SERVICES, RECOMMENDATIONS, OR ADVICE. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUPPLIER'S STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SALE, SUPPLIER AND ITS REPRESENTATIVES SHALL IN NO EVENT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOSS RESULTING FROM ANY USE OF ITS MATERIALS, PRODUCTS, OR SERVICES DESCRIBED HEREIN. Each user bears full responsibility for making its own determination as to the suitability of Supplier's materials, services, recommendations, or advice for its own particular use. Each user must identify and perform all tests and analyses necessary to assure that its finished parts incorporating Supplier's products, materials, or services will be safe and suitable for or waive any provision of Supplier's standard Conditions of Sale or this Disclaimer, unless any such modification is specifically agreed to in a writing signed by Supplier. No statement contained herein concerning a possible or suggested use of any material, product, service, or design is intended, or should be construed, to grant any license under any patent or other intellectual property right of Supplier covering such use or design, or as a recommendation for the use of such material, product, service, or design in the infringement of any patent or other intellectual property right. Before purchasing or using any Momentive products, please visit www.siliconeforbuilding.com/LegalDisclaimer to view our full product and sales disclaimer. Copyright 2026 Momentive Performance Materials Inc. All rights reserved.



Licensed
Partner