

Custom designed practical alternatives



ABOVE: Audience shelter at Emperors Boat Race, Tai Po, Hong Kong.

BELOW: Paddle boat pavilion at Ontario Place, Toronto.



Car park canopy at Good to Go HEB store, Austin, Texas.

Picture architectural forms that soar and swoop – performing useful functions and enhancing the landscape with their dramatic simplicity.

A Soper's tension structure evolves from the computer's three-dimensional digital canvas to on-site functional reality. Virtually unlimited variations in shape are achieved by tensioning fabric over a creative placement of masts, cables and towers.

For 125 years, Soper's has been expanding the boundaries of engineered fabric design, starting with tents and awnings in the 19th century. The company now designs, manufactures and installs computer-designed tension structures that reflect American architect, Louis Sullivan's (1856-1924) oft-quoted design dictum: "form ever follows function." Soper's supplied some of Canada's first permanent tensioned membrane structures in the 1970's, developing a solid reputation for quality and customer satisfaction.

The ideal combination of form and function – with flair...

Whether it's a cover for a band shell, amphitheatre, outdoor market, theme park attraction or tennis court, a Soper's tension structure is custom designed, manufactured and installed to deliver the ideal combination of function and form. Their dynamic shapes are engineered to withstand the sun's penetrating ultra-violet rays, winter's heavy snows or the wind's gusty blasts – adhering to American and Canadian building codes and material standards in the process.

Choose a Soper's engineered fabric solution, and you gain experience, quality, design excellence, service and cost-effectiveness

Whatever the challenge, Soper's can help you find the solution. Creatively. Cost-effectively. Soper's also offers custom designed solutions for interior applications, bringing dramatic shape into typically linear space like shopping malls.

Soper's can deliver sensational silhouettes and delicate architectural lines of imaginative fabric structures supported by a rugged, high strength structural frame.

Benefits

- Protection for large spaces where free and open access is required
- Exceptionally stable: shapes formed by tensioning space-age fabrics over masts, cables and towers
- Unlimited shape variations
- Soper's can deliver a turnkey operation complete with custom design, in-house manufacturing of components and on-site installation services
- Modular; components can be designed to link together in dramatic fashion to form a single structure
- High quality, low maintenance, long-lasting fabrics (20-plus year lifespan)
- Although white fabrics membranes have become an industry standard, a rainbow of optional colors in opaque or translucent formats are also available
- Structures designed to withstand typical North American wind and snow loading, rain and sun
- Structural components fabricated from high-strength, coated, corrosion resistant steel, stainless steel and aluminum

Soper's: a turnkey solution

Soper's specializes in manufacturing tension structures and the turnkey co-ordination of design, engineering, site preparation and final installation.

Working in close and creative concert with clients, contractors and architects throughout the design phase enables Soper's to deliver an imaginative structure that meets the customer's aesthetic and functional design objectives. Soper's will also consult on initial design development for tensioned membrane projects.

Then comes the fabrication process, a synergy of diverse expertise drawn from Soper's broad alliance base: designers, engineers, steel and cable fabricators and architectural fabric suppliers. Once the site is prepared, Soper's will install the finished product.

The result is an imaginative yet functional structure, custom tailored to meet any outdoor event challenge.

BMW display canopies at Cumberland Valley Motors, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.



Keeping the elements at bay...



Uses are almost unlimited

- Complete roof enclosure systems
- Stage and audience coverings (amphitheatres, band shells)
- Theme parks (coverings for various outdoor attractions)
- Outdoor markets (farmers' markets, exhibition pavilions)
- Shopping centers (indoor decorative or outdoor functional)
- Commercial buildings (covered walkways, canopies)
- Recreation facilities (tennis courts, swimming pools, children's play areas)
- Protection from the weather at train stations, bus platforms, airports
- Sun protection at golf courses, automotive dealership or parking lot operations
- School playgrounds



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Tension Structures

Imaginative, dramatic tension structures close the gap between the aesthetic and the functional

