

Lotte World Aims to Leave Guests in Awe with Underwater Aquarium Escalator Manufactured by Reynolds Polymer Technology

The recently completed Lotte World Aquarium, in South Korea, features a subsurface escalator, underwater viewing tunnels, and a nearly 30-yard long main viewing window. RPT manufactured a number of state-of-the-art R-Cast® acrylic panels for the attraction.

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Grand Junction, CO. January 14, 2015

The highly anticipated Lotte World Aquarium in Seoul, South Korea, brings 650 species and 55,000 individual specimens of sea life to the surface for visitors to discover. As guests travel through the various exhibits, they will be able to experience these wonders of the deep due to the impeccable clarity offered by R-Cast® acrylic.

Lotte World is distinct in that it is a two-story aquarium comprised of a dozen specific aquatic zones. Traveling from one floor to the next represents the experience of traveling though different elevations of ocean life. To make this journey especially remarkable, a 29-foot long R-Cast® tunnel encases the escalator between floors giving visitors a dynamic underwater view.

The viewing window at the Ocean exhibit is at the heart of Lotte World Aquarium. Here, R-Cast® acrylic offers dynamic views of cownose rays and nurse sharks as they leisurely swim inside a specially-designed habitat. The main panel is an astonishing 80-feet long and 22-feet tall. Observers will likely never notice that the window is actually 18-inches thick because of Reynolds Polymer's ability to cast a monolithic sheet that maintains remarkable clarity and nearinvisible bonds - regardless of size.

Visitors will also be able to experience the magic of the Ocean encounter through the unique view of a demitunnel. This 27-foot long panel features a 90° bend, offering both horizontal and vertical views into the main tank. There is also a full tunnel in the Amazon River zone that is 53feet in length, almost 6-feet tall and features a 167° bend, allowing for unlimited overhead viewing.

For the star animal of Lotte World the beluga whale- Reynolds Polymer manufactured a one-of-a-kind panel. R-Cast® acrylic was custom-cast to create a 180° bend to provide guests expansive insight into the beluga habitat. The half-circle design is fourfeet tall and a total of 50-feet long.

"This was a rewarding project," said Matt Houlihan, Executive Vice President of RPT. "The creative tunnel design above the escalator made for some exacting geometries. We love a challenge."

Lotte is the most recent of several oceanariums in South Korea that have involved Reynolds Polymer Technology. Aqua planets Yeosu, Jeju, and Ilsan have also opened in the last few years and feature numerous exhibits made from R-cast® acrylic.



The Amazon River zone features a full tunnel with 167° of arc that is 53-feet in length and 6-feet tall. This design allows for nearly unlimited overhead viewing.



The main panel at Lotte is an astonishing 80-feet long and 22-feet tall. Observers will likely never realize that the window is actually 18-inches thick due to the clarity of R-cast® material.

About Reynolds Polymer Technology, Inc.

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During its 30 years in business, Reynolds Polymer Technology, Inc. has completed more than 1,600 projects in 53 countries, including the Aquadom in Berlin, Shark Reef in Las Vegas, and many other custom works. Reynolds is the manufacturer, fabricator, designer, and installer of R-Cast® acrylic sheets. The company is constantly raising the standard for what can be done with acrylic resins, and their products have been used extensively in the architectural, signage, aquarium, water-retaining, and scientific industries. Headquartered in Grand Junction, Colorado, Reynolds Polymer also has operations in Rayong, Thailand. Visit www.reynoldspolymer.com for more information. Proud member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.