

Sporting Kansas City

Kansas City,
United States

Sporting Kansas City renewed

When the owners of Sporting Kansas City decided to reinvent their stadium, they wanted something radically different that would change the notion of soccer stadium design. They commissioned the Populous studio to create a modern, yet intimate stadium, but at the same time with a large pitch. The club is honored to say their pitch is largest than any other in the English Premier League.

Technical details:

Name: Sporting Kansas City

Location: Kansas City, United States

Year of development: 2011

Architecture and design: Populous

Construction: Turner Construction

Venue: Stadiums & Arenas

Owner: Sporting Kansas City

Total surface area: 340,000m²

Capacity: 18,467 seats

Dressign room: 22 seats

Dressing room: 22 seats

Product: RT Megaseat, 9036 Megaseat, 9113 Megaseat



Based on the concept of stop-motion photography, the design of Sporting Park seeks to capture movement and motion by celebrating both the athlete's body and the ball. In the facade, angular metal fins repeat, representing the players' and movement on the field. The fins align over the length of the building facade to recreate that appearance of animated movement. The roof's polycarbonate panels create an intimate, yet grand scale while amplifying crowd noise. Its material was specifically selected to allow sunlight to penetrate through to the pitch.





Challenges and solutions

The personality of a stadium is portrayed clearly by its seating, and in this case each type of seat has very defined characteristics in line with its projected use. Standard Figueras models, specially personalized for Sporting Kansas City, served as the basis for the seating in this stadium's VIP areas, Club area and changing rooms. The seats are spacious, hard-wearing, sport the corporate colors and are mostly fitted with a head-rest and cup holder.

The specific seating layout at the Sporting Kansas City stadium is as follows:

- The VIP club area at pitch level was fitted out with the 9036 Megaseat for maximum user comfort.
- The players' bench consists of the 9113 Megaseat, which stands out in light blue and has a head-rest bearing the club crest.
- The VIP area in the stands, a 42-pax suite, is fitted out with the 9036 Megaseat in navy blue and bearing another version of the club crest. In this area tables are also included every two or three seats, depending on layout.
- The VIP loft is also fitted out with the 9036 Megaseat in navy blue.

Lastly, and as a clear example of the specific features the seats can have, is the changing-room. In a semi-circle and facing each

player's box, the 9113 Megaseat has been personalized to rotate and recline, thus enabling players to choose whatever position they prefer at any given time, whether for resting, listening to the coach, or chatting amongst themselves. The rotation is achieved by means of the RT System, which turns 360°. The seat incorporates a USB port for players' electronic devices such as music players and laptops.

The elegance of the changing-room equipped with this Premium model, as well as the seat's particular features, without doubt puts the finishing touch to a stadium which, starting with its façade, is a tribute to soccer players and denotes a resolve to put them on an equal footing with players of other more popular sports in the United States, such as baseball and American football.

