

For Immediate Release

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**Cambridge Parkade™ Mesh System Brings Safety and Urban Appeal to
Downtown Los Angeles Parking Structure**

Cambridge, MD... A woven metal fabric system from Cambridge Architectural offers a modern and streamlined street-level barrier for the new Olympic West parking structure in Los Angeles, CA.

The 1,000,000 square-foot parking structure contains over 2,500 spaces which accommodate patrons attending events at the Staples Center, Los Angeles Convention Center, and surrounding metropolitan areas. The Olympic West parking structure is located in undoubtedly one of the busiest spots in the city, and so the building needed to meet the highest standards of security and safety, all while blending into the upscale, bustling streetscape of downtown Los Angeles.

A Cambridge Parkade™ architectural mesh system provides a durable and aesthetically-pleasing boundary between Olympic West's interior and the neighboring sidewalk without negatively affecting ventilation or visual transparency. The striking look and versatile function of metal fabric made it a perfect fit for the structure.

“One of the most interesting things about mesh is that it is both finely crafted and virtually indestructible – that's incredibly unique for any material,” says Heather Collins, Director of Marketing for Cambridge Architectural. “The Olympic West structure really shows off both of those qualities, exhibiting the hard work that mesh does and the fact that it looks good doing it.”

Since one floor of the Olympic West parking structure lies adjacent to the street, safety was a top priority for that level. Cambridge architectural mesh was chosen to cover these openings of the garage because of its both impenetrable and transparent nature. As a result, passersby on the sidewalk can still see through the cladding, which is crucial to parking security.

“We really liked the look of Cambridge's mesh, and its performance in regards to ventilation and garage security,” says David Herjeczki, Senior Associate of Gensler, the architect of the project. “The transparency of the material was especially interesting, as it looks solid during the day and beautifully transparent at night.”

In the interests of ventilation and space management in the Olympic West parking structure, metal fabric's open yet closed nature also allows for effective division of space without impeding the airflow in that space - two necessary considerations for parking structure design and operation.

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Cambridge is committed to assisting the design and construction team from initial concept to final installation on each and every project. For the Olympic West parking structure, Cambridge developed an ideal system to address all the visual and functional needs of the sleek exterior cladding. The system was then specifically engineered to fit the structure's openings, making installation as simple as possible.

“Cambridge did a very good job designing and installing the mesh system,” says Bill Esaki, Construction Manager for PCL Constructors, Inc., the contractor/installer of the project. “I think it works well architecturally and for the owner's security purposes.”

The Parkade system was fabricated with mesh in Cambridge's Scale and Stripe patterns, which both feature flexible open weaves that shade and screen structures including facades, parking garages and pavilions.

Cambridge's J-bolt tension attachment hardware was used to install the Scale and Stripe product. This is a simple attachment of flexible metal fabric to structural supports via J-bolts. The clearly articulated connection requires a rod that is threaded through the metal at top and bottom edges. The J-bolt hardware is appropriate for lengths of metal fabric held in tension up to 15-20 feet.

Construction on the Olympic West parking structure was completed in September 2007. The project team consists of architect Gensler, Santa Monica, CA, contractor/installer PCL Constructors, Inc., Glendale, CA and facility owner Classic Parking, Inc., Los Angeles, CA.

Cambridge Architectural Parkade metal fabric solutions lend unique aesthetic appeal, functionality, affordability and sustainable benefits to parking structures. As exterior cladding for parking garages, Parkade applications provide ventilation, fall protection, visibility, headlight attenuation, safety, security and many additional functional benefits. Cambridge offers a wide range of metal fabric patterns and corresponding attachment hardware, and is always available for comprehensive design and engineering assistance. With every project, Cambridge provides turn-key installation.

Cambridge Architectural is the world's most experienced – and only – full-service provider of sustainable architectural mesh systems for both interior and exterior building applications. Cambridge offers full system design, engineering and collaboration from concept through installation – including highly challenging building projects, environments and budgets. Cambridge metal fabric systems are categorized by the primary application the system serves. These include: Parkade™, Solucent™, LandscapeInteriors™, MeshFX™, MeshDefense™ and Meshellaneous™. For more information about Cambridge Architectural call 1-866-806-2385 or visit www.CambridgeArchitectural.com.

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