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AKKARVIK ROADSIDE RESTROOM

Location: Moskenes island, Lofoten
Built: 2009
Client: The National Tourist Routes
Cost: Nkr 2,4M
Consultant: Siv.ing. Finn-Erik Nilsen AS

The rest room replaces an old toilet facility that had been lifted off its footing by strong winds. The design had two aims. One was to make the small building very heavy so it would not easily be moved off ground. The other was to make interiors that shut the scenery out. The first objective was of course very pragmatic, a direct response to the history of the building's predecessor. The other objective was more obscure. The experience of the place, mountains and sea and the ever-present coastal climate is very intense. The restrooms were conceived to present a pause from the impressions of the surrounding nature, offering an experience of different sensuous qualities. Thus the building is made of 10-12 mm sheets of structural corteen steel welded together on site. Two large glass openings provide view to the sky and the reflected horizon. Surfaces that the visitors surly get in contact with are made of stainless steel or covered in clear glass to prevent rust staining.

Nominated for the Mies van der Rohe Award 2011.

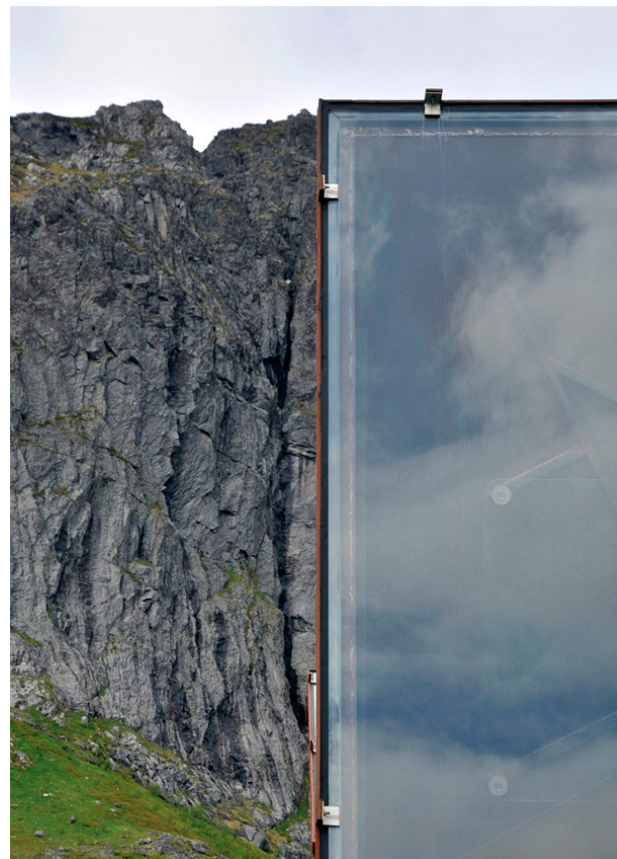


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