

OCEANOGRÀFIC – ELDORADO FOR ALL UNDERWATER FANS

Recently, Valencia has become the home to the largest sea aquarium in Europe. The “Oceanogràfic”, embedded in the “Ciutat de las arts y de les ciències”, awaits visitors with unique attractions; the dimensions alone are spectacular: The park covers an area of 80,000 m², and 500 animal species live in the basins containing a total of 42 million litres of water. The various marine ecological systems of our planet are presented in 12 pavilions. The oceans and seas differ greatly in terms of temperature, salt content, flora, rock and, naturally, in terms of their inhabitants: sharks, whales, dolphins, sea lions, penguins, star fish, sea urchins, crustaceans and countless fish.

The fascinating undersea world can be admired through gigantic Plexiglas panels that are in part 24 metres long, without visible supports. An 80 metre long transparent underwater tunnel makes it possible to walk face-to-face with the sharks. However, the visitor can also drink a coffee or go shopping under the watchful eye of the sea inhabitants.

The Oceanogràfic also includes an auditorium with a seating capacity of 350 for all types of conference and event. It is a place where research, science, culture, leisure time and relaxation all have their own place.

A LARGE VANDEX JOB

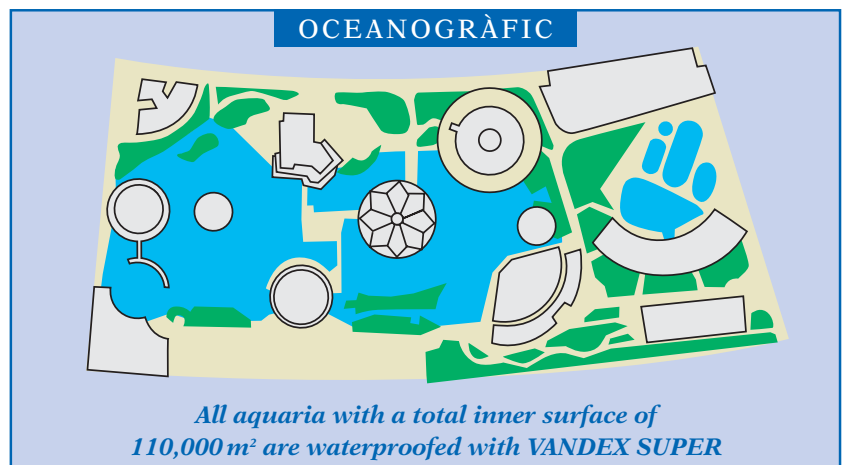
The draft design for the Oceanogràfic originates from the architect Félix Candela, who died prior to the opening. Above all, he used three materials: concrete, steel and Plexiglass. In this respect, sealing and protection of the aquaria, which have three main requirements to fulfil, played an important role: the animals and

plants should live in perfect sea water, the sea water containers should be waterproof and reliably protected against attack by the salt water, and the operating safety of the aquarium should be ensured on a lasting basis. Overall, 110,000 m² of reinforced concrete surface areas of the structure, with contact to the sea water, and 8,500 m² of construction joints were coated with VANDEX SUPER. The dosage corresponds to the Vandex standards: horizontal surface areas: 1.2 kg/m², vertical surface areas: 1.5 kg/m², construction joints: 1.5 kg/m².

VANDEX SUPER is continuously tested for water tightness, suitability for drinking water, microbiological and physical characteristics and resistance to salt, in accordance with international standards.

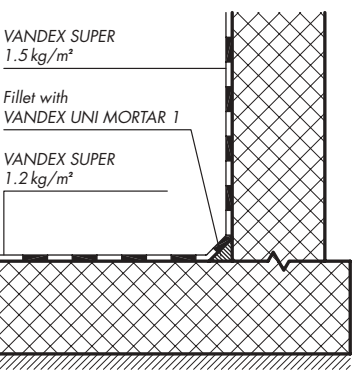
VANDEX SUPER has been in use throughout the world for 20 years in numerous large sea water aquaria. Once again, Vandex has proven itself as the optimum coating.

Project name: Oceanogràfic, Valencia, Spain, **Owner:** Ciutat de les arts y de les ciències, Valencia, Spain, **Architect:** Félix Candela, **Vandex Applicator:** Katorce Engineering SA, Impermeabilizaciones especiales, Barcelona





CROSS SECTION AQUARIUM WATERPROOFING DETAIL



VANDEX SUPER application on walls and base slabs