



**Sportiplex - Derby**

.....  
**Contractor**

Bowmer & Kirkland Ltd

.....  
**Architect**

Fluid

.....  
**Engineer**

Buro Happold

.....  
**Steel Tonnage**

300 tonnes

Caunton Engineering completed the structural steelwork for the Derbyshire Cricket Academy. This development was constructed by locally based but nationally operating, main contractor Bowmer and Kirkland.

The building was at the maximum three storeys high and comprised of three distinct zones; the cricket hall, the community zone and the terrace block. The main cricket hall, the focal point of the academy was 24 metres wide and 43 metres long. It was a double height column free space generated by 24 metres long N type steel trusses at 7.2 metre centres. It housed five cricket training lanes and can be utilised for both training and indoor matches. It was clad in polycarbonate strips which were translucent, affording views of the silhouette of the steel within. This utilised the feature of steel's relative slenderness though its high strength to weight ratio.

With this in mind, engineer Buro Happold and architect Fluid came up with a most unusual form of bracing, which was repeated along the length of the façade. This provided a combined solution to the need for stability against wind loads and the desire to make a strong aesthetic statement.

**Caunton Engineering Ltd.**

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