



NEWS RELEASE

Giraffes at the Buffalo Zoo Have it 'Made in the Shade' with a New Fabric Structure from FabriTec



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DALLAS, TX – (October 21, 2016) – [FabriTec Structures, LLC](http://www.FabriTecStructures.com), North America's leading design/build contractor specializing in tension fabric structures, announces the completion of a tensile membrane shade structure for the giraffes at the Buffalo Zoo.

Giraffes have long been a popular attraction at zoos all over the world. They are the world's tallest land mammals and their size can present unique challenges in caring for them outside of their typical environment. Just like humans, animals can be sensitive to extreme weather conditions and prefer to avoid direct sunlight during the heat of the day. So after a year of public fundraising, the giraffes at the Buffalo Zoo in Buffalo, NY now have it *made in the shade*.

Standing 19'5" tall, with a total fabric area of 307 sq. ft, the umbrella-shaped shade structure features a modest steel weight of just 2,321 lbs – roughly the same weight of an average adult giraffe.

The shade structure features a single PTFE fabric membrane, tensioned with steel cabling and clamping, giving the structure a typical shape that looks like an umbrella, but that also mimics the shape of a tree canopy, like what giraffes would find in their natural habitat.

The shade structure also provides head-level feeding for the Zoo's five giraffes.

Design/Construction: FabriTec Structures

Owner: Buffalo Zoo

Material: PTFE SF V architectural fabric

Completion Date: May 2016

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About FabriTec Structures:

FabriTec Structures, a design/build specialty contractor, has grown to be recognized as a leading brand in the tensile membrane structure industry. The company offers custom architectural fabric structures for a wide variety of markets including: Airports & Transportation, Retail, Hospitality, Stadiums & Athletic Arenas, Amphitheaters and much more. FabriTec provides imagination and innovation in fabric architecture. Visit <http://www.fabritecstructures.com> for more information or follow us on [facebook/fabritec](https://www.facebook.com/fabritec).

Contact:

Members of the press please contact:

Kathy M. Dumalski, kdumalski@fabritecllc.com, +1 (469) 706-3707

For project inquiries or projects bidding, please contact:

Kathee Wannamaker, kwannamaker@fabritecllc.com, +1 (214) 269-4111