

## EXPO 2000, Big Tipi

Undisputedly the most ambitious EXPO building for young guests from all over world is the BIG TIPI, the biggest tepee in the world. Just like the traditional meeting place of the North-American Indian tribes, the BIG TIPI is also supported by a log structure. Twelve unstripped Douglas fir tree trunks from the Black Forest serve this purpose in the grounds of the EXPO West - each of them weighing about 8 tons, between 30 and 35 m in length and with a diameter of between 95 and 130 cm. At the top, they meet to form a junction, over which a steel structure is arranged which in its turn serves as a fixture for 12 three-sided membranes made of PVC-coated textile fabric. The large, sparkling white sails not only make the BIG TIPI look just like a classical Indian tepee: they also provide the children's meeting place with reliable protection against rain, the sun and wind. Working with natural materials as it were was no major problem for CENO TEC: "Of course, the logs are not completely straight. Therefore, we had to measure and cut them very accurately. And just like with any world exhibition - by the way, not only there though - the tight completion schedule again was a tough challenge." CENO TEC manufactured and mounted the roof surfaces for the BIG TIPI reliably within the projected 8 weeks.



Project data EXPO 2000, „Big Tipi“

Architekt / Architect	Planungsgruppe Schröder/Schulte-Ladbeck/Strothmann, Dortmund
Konstruktion / Construction	Büro Engels + Partner, Dortmund CENO TEC GmbH, Greven
Statik / Statical Calculation	Büro Engels + Partner, Dortmund Ing.-Büro Teschner, Füsing
Oberfläche / Surface Area	950 m <sup>2</sup>
Material / material	PVC-beschichtetes Polyestergewebe mit Acryllackierung
Baujahr / Year of Construction	2000