SKÝLI BY UTOPIA ARKITEKTER, STOCKHOLM
Innovative architects that are dedicated to working with sustainable materials in their buildings are who SSAB strives to work with. One good example is Utopia Arkitekter from Stockholm, Sweden, who wants to build a trekking cabin in the mountains with a strong sustainable angle – the Skýli.

The Skýli trekking cabin features sharp pyramidal shapes, a strong, durable and stable structure and many practical details. The triangular gables resemble a classic tent, the most basic shelter used by trekkers worldwide.

The brilliant blue Skýli color of the roof, which will be made from GreenCoat® color coated steel, from SSAB, represents the Nordic light and ensures that Skýli is visible in the Nordic landscape. It will make the cabin easy to find, while at the same time creating a strong symbol for shelter and safety.

Though not yet in the construction phase, Skýli has already been noticed by peers in the world of architecture. It has been shortlisted for the World Architecture Festival (WAF) Award 2017 in the category “Leisure-led Development - Future Projects”. GreenCoat® color coated steel will be used in the roof because it is currently the most sustainable color coated steel product on the market, using Swedish rapeseed oil in the coating instead of fossil based oils. Since Skýli will be built in the mountains or in harsh, cold-weather environments, choosing materials for extreme weather is another important factor. Here, GreenCoat® steel products fulfill the highest demands.

They deliver extreme durability, resistance to corrosion and long color retention. Furthermore, they provide building specifiers with a significantly lighter material compared to alternative solutions and have low temperature elongation to guarantee a clean look without buckling or deformation, for years to come.

The WAF Awards are highly recognized globally by architects and are presented each year at the World Architecture Festival, a three-day event, for architects and interior design professionals.
The Skýli is currently in a design concept phase. What kind of challenges could you face during construction? Transportation to the kind of remote sites we are considering is a main challenge. Bad weather is another one. Therefore we have designed Skýli as an assembly kit. The speed and ease of assembly is crucial.

How does the location influence the design of Skýli? Skýli means shelter in Icelandic and that’s what it’s all about. Skýli will offer a fantastic stay in almost any weather condition.

Why do you want to use GreenCoat® steel for the Skýli cladding and not other materials? For us at Utopia Architects, it is always important to find and work with materials that are sustainable, durable and have a great look. We found all of these qualities in GreenCoat® steel. The great variations in temperature between the summer and winter seasons also demanded a metal product with the lowest thermal expansion, so for us it was a very easy decision to choose GreenCoat® steel.

What do you think about having selected sustainable steel with Swedish rapeseed oil in the paint? GreenCoat® steel from SSAB has a very small CO₂-footprint, which is a key feature in our eyes. And of course, knowing that the fossil oil based solvents in the paint have been replaced by Swedish rapeseed oil makes it even better.

Why did you choose the bright blue color for the cladding? Skýli will be built in sensitive locations and we wanted the color to have a natural feel to it, but also to be visible from a distance and have an identity of its own.

Do you have more examples in which GreenCoat® steel is being/will be used? One example is a residential building in the city of Norrköping, Sweden. This building will be covered with a steel façade of different colors. Since it will be built with one part in the river connected to the Baltic Sea, we need a material that can withstand strong humidity. GreenCoat® steel is a perfect choice.

How do you feel about being shortlisted as a finalist for the WAF 2017 awards? It is a great honor and we are very happy that the jury has seen the qualities that we have worked so hard to achieve for this project. We will keep our fingers crossed.

Skýli is currently nominated for: 2017 Shortlisted World Architecture Festival (WAF) Awards.
GreenCoat® is SSAB’s brand for innovative color coated steel solutions for the building and component industry. As the greenest product portfolio of high quality color coated steel for exterior building applications and one of the most comprehensive for the entire building industry, GreenCoat® provides many benefits including:

- High color retention and long-lasting finishes in any weather
- Environmentally conscious color coatings (most products use a substantial portion of Swedish rapeseed oil in the coating)
- Nordic top quality steel
- Easy formability — even at temperatures below zero for some products
- Low weight
- Wide color offering
- Performance guarantee

SSAB has manufactured products for the building industry for more than 50 years and is the pioneer and innovator of creating sustainable color coated products offering Swedish rapeseed oil in the coating. This unique, patented solution reduces the environmental footprint of GreenCoat® products significantly and it makes the GreenCoat® color coated product portfolio the market’s greenest offering for roofs, façades and rainwater systems.

SSAB is a Nordic and US-based steel company offering value added products and services developed in close cooperation with its customers to create a stronger, lighter and more sustainable world. SSAB has production facilities in Sweden, Finland and the US and employees in over 50 countries.