

Gand-Saint-Pierre railway station

This project to develop a new station building forms part of the overall redevelopment programme of the entire station area with a view to addressing the strongly increased passenger volume of recent years.

The new station comprises various parallel concrete viaducts accommodating one or two railway tracks. The ribbon of light connecting adjacent railway viaducts creates spacious platforms. Above this is a steel-frame roof covered with glass, making the entire structure transparent. There is ample space below the viaducts for kiosks, bicycle stands, technical areas etc. Several lifts, staircases and escalators between the platform level and the area below the railway viaducts provide ample connections to channel large flows of passengers efficiently.

The undersides of the trough bridges are covered with prefab bowed concrete shells.

The columns comprise concrete-filled tubular steel sections. The inside of the tubular steel columns are fitted with a section affording space for the cable run.

The steel roof structure protects passengers against inclement weather conditions while the extensive use of glass maximises the level of light.

The bridge viaducts at the Ostend side of the station will be constructed above a new tram station that has yet to be realised; the tram rails are diagonal to the railway tracks, giving the impression that the slanted columns are positioned at random.

The central station area accommodates the passenger centre in which the columns have been arranged in a more regular pattern.

The railway tracks at the Brussels end of the station continue over existing solid ground.

A complex element of the studies is mainly the particularly tight timing and the unavoidable subphases: no more than two tracks may be out of use at any time.

Tendering authority : Infrabel – Infrastructure Management.

Partners : NMBS Holding, De Lijn, Ghent Municipality, Flemish Region, third parties.

Architect : Jacques Voncke.

Situation : Koningin Maria Hendrikaplein, Ghent, Belgium.

Execution : 2010 - 2015.

Budget : EUR 58 500 000 exclusive of VAT (from platform 8 up to and 12).

Assignment : Executorial design of the new station building, parcel 1, i.e. from platform 8 up to and including platform 12.

