

New Zagreb Airport terminal – form giving structure

Jure RADIC Professor Faculty of Civil Engineering Zagreb, Croatia *jradic@grad.hr*

Jure Radic, born 1953, is a full time professor at the Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Zagreb. His research areas are Limit states and sustainability of bridges. He has designed over 20 bridges. Andjelko VLASIC Associate Professor Faculty of Civil Engineering Zagreb, Croatia vlasic@grad.hr

Andjelko Vlasic, born 1979, received his civil engineering degree from the Univ. of Zagreb in 2003 and his Ph.D. in 2010. His research areas are steel bridge decks. He was in a design team for over 10 bridges, revisions.

Summary

New Zagreb airport terminal is currently being built following the winning design from an international competition called upon by Zagreb City in 2008. Croatian government signed a concessionary agreement with French company Bouygues for the erection of the terminal according to the winning design, granted some minor changes. The awarded design by two architects Branko Kincl and Velimir Neidhardt, and one structural civil engineer Jure Radic, comprises an integral multidimensional approach between the structure, form, urbanism, ecology, functionality and aesthetics.

Keywords: airport, Zagreb city, form, architecture, steel space truss, tubular, prestressed slab

1. Project data

The conditions from the 2008 winning design were somewhat changed to optimize the cost of the structure, but at no expense to the original architectural and structural concept (Table 1).

	Competition winning design	Main design (as being built)		
Passengers / year	from 5 million (phase 1) up to 8 million (phase 2)			
Layout area (Main building)	155 x 165 m	129.6 x 136.8 m		
Pier lenghts	353 m (left), 151 m (right)	83 m (left), 40 m (right)		
Gross construction area	73.320 m ²	65.883 m ²		
Number of Levels	Basement, 0, 1-4	0, 1-3		
Concrete construction	Monolithic, RC	Monolithic, RC, Prestressed		
Steel roof construction	Three-directional Plane Truss	Triangular grid Space Truss		
Cost	280 – 300 mil €	236 mil €		

Table 1: Terminal technical and economic information



Fig. 1: Main design of the terminal building as being built

2. Construction

An overview of concrete construction is given in Table 2.

Table 2: Concrete construction elements

	Element	Туре	Size / thickness	Spans
MAIN BUILDING	Vertical elements	ANTISEISMIC: Concrete cores Shear walls	20, 25, 30, 40 i 50 cm	
		Columns	60/60 - 70/70 cm Φ70, Φ80 cm	
	Floor slabs	Prestressed concrete monolithic slabs with wide and shallow beams	1 st floor slab: Beam 160/55 cm Slab 18cm 2 nd and 3 rd floor slab:	7.2 x 14.4 m
			Beam 300/55 cm Slab 25cm	14.4 x 14.4 m
PIERS	Frames	ANTISEISMIC: 3 RC frames longitudinally Transversal RC frames every 7.2 m Shear walls	Columns Φ70 1st floor: Edge Beam 70/80 cm 2 nd floor: Edge Beam 70/70 cm 50 cm	7.2 m
	Floor slabs	RC monolithic slabs	1 st floor slab: Slab 22cm 2 nd floor slab: Slab 25cm	7.2 x 14.4 m

The roof structure of the main building is a steel space truss structure. Between the space trusses of front facade of the main building and the piers is a dilatation separating space trusses (and also concrete floors). The basic plan-view disposition of the main building comprises triangular grid shapes with each triangle having the base of 3.6 m and the height of 3.6 m. These triangles define the axes of the chord truss members. The grid of the bottom chord is displaced 1.8 m longitudinally and 1.2 m transversely in respect to the top chord (Figure 2). The basic plan layout of the pier space truss is $\approx 3.6 \times 2.4 \text{ m}$. Steel space truss is made of tubular circular members with connecting elements and spherical nodes with threaded holes.



Fig. 7: View of the space truss

3. Conclusion and current progress

New Zagreb airport terminal is a perfect blend between architecture, urbanism, environment and construction. The form of the architectural expression is directly derived from the natural conception of the load bearing structure. No elements have been forcibly added to satisfy only one need, but rather to be a part of the multifunctional solution.

The completion of the project is planned for end of 2016.

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