



Stratford Town Centre Link
London, UK

Client: Stratford City Developments Ltd (Westfield Shoppingtowns Ltd)
Architect: Knight Architects
Consultants: Buro Happold / Pinniger
Contractor's Team: Morgan Est / Watson Steel / Buro Happold

Completed: 2011

The Town Centre Link forms a vital pedestrian crossing over one of the busiest sections of rail in the capital for shoppers, residents, workers and visitors to the London 2012 Olympic Games.

The brief called for a high quality piece of infrastructure which satisfies a highly complex series of constraints. Chief amongst these is how to economically and safely install the structure while maintaining rail movements.

The concept design solution

provides for a broad 12m wide deck and fully glazed 5m tall sides, providing secure and transparent enclosure within the structure of the Vierendeel truss. The careful use of weathering steel simplifies maintenance requirements over the electrified rail tracks and brings a sophisticated, urban appearance.

The 130m bridge is gently curved in plan and the inner chord of the truss is warped so that it is inclined

to 15 degrees at midspan, creating a dynamic sense of movement and increasing the view of the sky where the truss is tallest. The sense of movement is enhanced by a linear paving pattern and a simple, rhythmic lighting design of white luminaires.

