Project

Railway Station, Swiss Museum of Transport, Lucerne, Switzerland

The new S-Bahn railway station serves the Swiss Museum of Transport, which means that modern trains offer visitors direct access to the historical locomotives, cars, ships and aeroplanes of the museum.

Built on top of the existing railroad embankment, the train station is elevated above the surrounding terrain. The embankment continues to rise from west to east. For pedestrians, a new belowground passage at Lidostrasse links the two train platforms. Ramps lead up to the platforms at one end and at the end to the east there are temporary stairs.

The platforms are over 200 metres long and each have a covered waiting area, consisting of a conspicuous glass cube that juts out over the edge of the platform.

To facilitate construction and, in particular, to ensure the efficiency of nighttime work, the platforms consist largely of prefabricated elements: concrete floor panels placed on prefabricated columns. Large-format sheets of moulded and perforated steel are multipurpose: first, they are the railing, secondly, a very long bench and thirdly, cladding for the shady space underneath the elevated platforms. People can see in and out, thanks to the large, round perforations, which also make the station look like a floating ribbon that seems to dissolve into thin air at the top. The bends in the steel form a ledge for passengers to lean against and rest not only in the waiting room but along the entire length of the platform. In addition they prevent people from climbing up and over the railing.

Like the platforms above, the ramps and supporting walls of the underpass are made of concrete, while the railings and cladding consist of steel panels, but without bends. To improve passive security, the underpass is illuminated by a metal billboard that advertises the exhibitions at the Museum of Transport.

G/G, May 2008
Credits

Project: Railway-Station, Swiss Museum of Transport, Lucerne

Address: Verkehrshaus der Schweiz
Lidostrasse 5
6006 Lucerne, Switzerland

Spatial Programme: S-Bahn Railway-Station at the ‘Swiss Transport Museum’; 2
station platforms, each 200m long; railing and benches for leaning
against made of large, perforated and folded steel plates; rain
shielded waiting area; pedestrian underpass.

Commission: 2006


Client: Canton Lucerne
Department of Building, Environment and Economy
Project Management:
Schweizerische Bundesbahnen SBB, Lucerne

Architecture: Annette Gigon / Mike Guyer, Architects, Zurich

Collaborators:
Caspar Bresch (Team Manager), Mark Zörjen (Project Manager)

Landscape Architecture: Schweingruber Zulauf Landschaftsarchitekten, Zurich

Structural Engineer Safety Barriers: Conzett Bronzini Gartmann AG, Chur

Structural Engineer Commuter Railway Station: Emch+Berger WSB AG, Emmenbrücke

Photography: Lucas Peters, Zurich