



A phoenix rising from the ashes. St. Pancras International, London (GB)

[Architecture | Project]

Reports of the demise of the British rail network appear to have been greatly exaggerated. The much maligned railway system is, in fact, developing into a solid foundation for a resurgence in British public transport. And the flagship of this new era is the wonderfully reconstructed station of St Pancras in London. This terminal station, opened in 1868, will in future be the starting point for seven inter-city routes, including the Eurostar destined to run on a brand new high-speed link all of its own down to the Eurotunnel. The cost of the station and line: some €8.5 billion, the most money ever invested in the British railway infrastructure. The first impression is that of a cathedral, not one sporting stony vaults but rather a monumental glass roof. Under the suspicious scrutiny of the heritage preservation authorities, the construction was relieved of the patchwork of makeshift repairs which

blocked out the light. The metal components, blackened by a century of steam and soot, were repainted in their original light blue. In the basement vaults, where once beer was stored, exclusive arcades of shops are now installed. The slate for the roof was sourced in Wales, as in the times of master builders William Barlow and George Gilbert Scott, and a designated brick-making plant in Nottingham supplied the bricks as it did 140 years ago. DORMA also contributed to this prestigious atmosphere with its MANET Concept single-point fixings and ED 200 automatic swing doors. The best way to enjoy the grandiose architecture is to admire it over a glass of bubbly. This has, in itself, become a must-do for visitors to London because, since its refurbishment, St Pancras has been the holder of a rather special record: at 90 metres, it houses the longest champagne bar in Europe.

Project

St. Pancras International,
London, Great Britain

Architects

Chapman Taylor LLP,
London, Great Britain

Client

LCR, Eurostar, URN
London, Great Britain

Photos

Courtesy of London and
Continental Railways,
Chapman Taylor LLP,
London, Great Britain

DORMA products

ED 200 automatic doors
and MANET CONCEPT
single-point fixings

[Details]

Project | public



The huge steel-and-glass construction of the great railway station hall creates space and light aplenty, adding to the enjoyment available from the many activities encountered in the building.

Glass doors featuring the MANET range of single-point fixings create a light and airy atmosphere.



The MANET CONCEPT glass hardware system creates openness and transparency.



St. Pancras International Railway Station, London (GB)

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