



European Steel Design Awards 2025 – ESDA 2025

The overall winner **ESDA 2025 Laureate** and **Special Awards** were announced and celebrated in the frame of the International Conference & Workshop On Seismic Design Of Steel Structures And Retrofit (<https://sdsr.tucsaevents.org/index.html>) on 16 October 2025, in Istanbul.

The European Steel Design Awards are given by the European Convention for Constructional Steelwork (ECCS) every two years to encourage the creative and outstanding use of steel in architecture. The awards are dedicated to the owners, the architects, the engineers, the general contractors and the steelwork contractors.

The Professional Jury met online on 11 June 2025:

Annamarie HAGOORT, The Netherlands, Chairwoman of the Promotional Management Board of ECCS;
Yener GUR'ES, Turkey, President of the Turkish Constructional Steelwork Association;
Ahmet ALATAŞ, Turkey, Architect, AAW - Ahmet Alatas Workshop;
Ahmet TOPBAŞ, Turkey, Civil Engineer, Founder and Director of Attec Design.

The European Steel Design Awards 2025 nominees have been selected out of 14 projects submitted in total by the ECCS member associations.

Steel is recognized for its high potential in terms of strength, durability, design flexibility, adaptability, recyclability and reusability. Today's steel structures allow the best adaptation to modern life and renovation of historical elements of our built environment, being in cities or countryside. Steel is also the perfect material for reaching a circular economy while leaving the necessary room for creativity in design.

ECCS is the European Federation of National Associations of Steelwork Contractors, the unique platform gathering all the actors of the sector: steel producers, contractors, researchers and academics. ECCS is a federation of 16 National Associations of steelwork contractors: www.steelconstruct.com.

ESDA 2025 LAUREATE

Portugal - The Emory Hotel

Located between historic Knightsbridge and Belgravia, the Berkeley is one of London's leading hotels, offering idyllic views of Hyde Park. The main building was completed in 1972, later extending in 2006 to increase the building's capacity. The client, Maybourne Hotel Group, acquired two adjacent sites at 33 to 35 and 37 to 39 Knightsbridge as part of its future expansion plan, making space for additional suites and luxury facilities like a 22.5m pool, spas and restaurants, 2 penthouses, and a rooftop bar.

Originally, the intend was to extend the Berkeley but then Maybourn decided to construct a separate luxury hotel, The Emory, that uniquely shares services and facilities with the Berkeley. The Emory Hotel, design led by RHSP and WSP, consists of a 10-storey building of about 7,000m² with 96 hotel rooms. The superstructure is served by two central lifts and a fire escape staircase on the south side. To allow open spaces, the upper floors are suspended from the roof structure. A small bridge connects the new block to the existing north wing at every level. One of the design objectives for the structure has been to achieve a similar floor depth to that of the existing North Wing building. This allows the same storey heights to be realised and therefore enables same level circulation between the two buildings.

Owner:

Maybourne Hotel Group

Structural Engineer:

WSP

Architect:

Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners

General Contractor:

CorraMore Construction Ltd

Steelwork Fabricator:

bysteel



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The Emory Hotel, London project is a great case for sustainable, creative, elegant steel-hybrid engineering and architecture. It combines re-using and adapting existing structures and materials along with a challenging construction and design process to add new components, and make them work together. The steel structure is visible from the roof to the ground floor lobby. The structural principals of the system are visible throughout. The hanging of the façade and the perimeter floor

system from the core braced system, opening up the ground floor to create a column-free and attractive entrance and façade, and meanwhile demonstrating the revived existing structure, are elegant expressions and celebrations of structural engineering and steel architecture. The steel sections are carefully sized and shaped to fully express the structural function and fabrication practices. Meanwhile the architecture of steel is choreographed to maximize the expression of the material, force, and light. The jury selected as winner due to its success in achieving holistically engineering and architectural excellence, meanwhile re-bringing energy to an existing structure in a sustainable fashion.

ESDA25 Special Award - Structural Artistry

Germany – Dalkebrücke Gütersloh

The Dalke Bridge in Gütersloh replaces a dilapidated pedestrian bridge and connects city and countryside in an accessible manner. Its innovative steel structure integrates all elements functionally and aesthetically. With its minimalist design, efficient use of materials and weatherproof steel, it impresses both technically and architecturally, creating a durable, elegant structure with high recognition value.

Owner:

DREWES + SPETH Beratende
Ingenieure im Bauwesen

Structural Engineer:

DREWES + SPETH Beratende
Ingenieure im Bauwesen

Architect:

Lohaus · Carl · Köhlmos

General Contractor:

Stadt Gütersloh - Fachbereich Tiefbau

Steelwork Fabricator:

Heinrich Rohlfing GmbH



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The Dalkebrück Gütersloh project was awarded the special Structural Artistry Award by the jury because of its elegant solution for crossing long and continuous spans with forms that are created through resistance to forces. And in a much clever way. The slender deck coupled with the handrail plate system, formed to be stable under the compression out of plane with only very thin plate thickness, meanwhile taking tension and shear forces via the CNC-carved-lines in the plate that come out of force distribution. These were very genuine solutions, using the design, engineering, and fabrication possibilities of steel construction. Pushing limits, and creating elegance at the same time.

ESDA25 Special Award - Sustainability

The Netherlands – Lab42

LAB42 is a multifunctional building for the growing Faculty of Science, Mathematics and Computer Science (FNWI) of the UvA. The building of approximately 14,000 m² houses the Institute for Computer Science, the Institute for Logic, Language and Computation, and the Innovation Center for Artificial Intelligence.

For the FNWI, and especially for the future users of LAB42, collaboration with the business community is becoming increasingly important. This requires a building that opens up to society and the environment, and clearly shows the creativity and groundbreaking developments in the field of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence. The building looks transparent and accessible due to the modular grid structure that is filled with wood, glass, steel and 3D printed structures in a very diverse way. In the transparent plinth, the Visualization, Robo and Game labs will soon be visible to everyone.



© Lab42 Bentheim Crouwel Architects

Owner:

University of Amsterdam –
Housing Development

Structural Engineer:

Strackee Bouwadviesbureau

Architect:

Bentheim Crouwel Architects

General Contractor:

Kropman, Visser & Smit Bouw

Steelwork Fabricator:

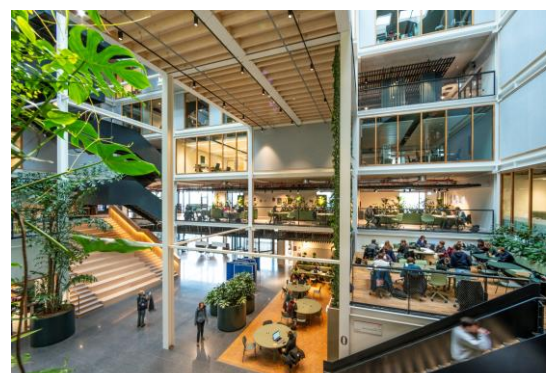
CSM Steelstructures, Hamont-
Achel (Belgium)

Inside, a high and light atrium runs diagonally through the entire building and playful voids, connecting walkways and varied work landscapes provide a structure that is clear and well-organised but also dynamic and inspiring. A division into three clearly recognisable zones (from concentration areas to spaces where meeting and discovery are central) enables optimum cross-pollination between the different disciplines.

The energy-neutral building is designed as a modular framework. The steel main frame of the building consists of a 100% reusable structure that works like a kind of shelving unit that can be taken apart and rearranged down to the last detail. This demountable construction makes the building flexible in daily use but also future-proof and easy to adapt to new developments and collaborations. Plenty of greenery inside the building, natural wayfinding and natural ventilation make

the building, in addition to being very sustainable, also a healthy faculty with a pleasant indoor climate for all users: the optimum working and learning environment.

The Lab 42 project was awarded the Sustainability Special Award by the jury because of the hybrid values and solutions that it brought to the design and construction of steel structures. The combination of mass timber and steel creates a great opportunity for light, pre-fabricated, intelligent, carbon-negative solutions, and Lab 42 is a great example. The future of construction is higher efficiencies with more hybrid solutions, catered to specific problems. This project was a way to the future. The rational dividing of spaces with steel beams and columns and light allowance with the central atrium was made all possible with the high strength steel continuous frame systems. Lightness, light, and strength: all three very distinguished characteristics of steel, with the high qualities of timber were showcased in the project. The mass timber slabs bring warmth as well as lightness to the structure that also eliminates need for false ceilings, which in turn again becomes an efficiency and carbon-saver values.



ESDA25 Special Bridge Award

Norway – Vøringsfossen, Norwegian Scenic Routes Hardangervidda

Vøringsfossen has been a destination for nature enthusiasts, artists and tourists since the end of the 19th century and is one of Norway's most visited tourist attractions. For many years, the area suffered from terrain wear, poor accessibility, littering and insufficient safety, which has led to several fatal accidents. An overall goal of the project has been to secure the area against accidents, while maintaining and enhancing nature experiences.

The project covers a continuous promenade surrounding the waterfall, including viewpoints, resting areas, toilet facilities and parking, making the 182m high waterfall the central focus point. In addition to the protected landscape, several heritage sites are also included, as the listed old stone bridge, Vøringfoss bru. The new measures vary in scale and complexity, from small steps and narrow paths to advanced bridge and platform constructions.



© Hølmekbakk Øymo

Owner:

Norwegian Public Roads Administration,
Norwegian Scenic Routes Section

Structural Engineer:

K. Apeland

Architect:

Hølmekbakk Øymo

General Contractor:

Mesta AS (Phase 1 and 3a), Consolvo AS
(Phase 2) and Brun Bygg AS (Phase 3b)

Steelwork Fabricator:

Procut AS (Phase 1), Consolvo AS (Phase
2), and Størksen AS (Phase 3a and b)

The Vøringsfossen project in Norway was awarded a special Bridge Design Award due to its success in achieving something seemingly so simple, yet very hard: elegance and feeling of lightness, while crossing great spans. Steel material can be used in a very utilitarian way with very common shapes and industrial forms, that architecturally-sought genuineness may not be always possible. This bridge project used very common methods and shapes yet architecturally and environmentally made a great contribution: combined with the land really well



that it became elegantly invisible. Yet a careful eye can detect the engineering and architectural success it is achieving. We award the project because it shows these possibilities of steel structural design.

Only can be done with steel!!

The European Steel Design Awards 2025 Finalists were (by country alphabetical order):

Austria:

- Flughafen Frankfurt – T3 Check-In-Halle aus Stahl & Glas

Czech Republic:

- Football stadium Hradec Kralove

Denmark:

- Bridges for approach lights to Nuuk Airport

France:

- Hangar 105
- Passerelle des Arts

Germany:

- Dalkebrücke Gütersloh
- Studierendenhaus Braunschweig
- Münchens neue Arena im Olympiapark – SAP Garden
- Student: Wasch-Werk

Netherlands:

- Lab42
- Villa Wassenaar

Norway:

- Vøringsfossen, Norwegian Scenic Routes Hardangervidda

Portugal:

- The Emory Hotel

Turkey:

- Antalya Necropolis Museum

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