

European Steel Bridge Awards 2016

The ECCS Steel Bridge Awards 2016 were awarded at an event in Stockholm on Monday the 14th of November. The Awards are given by the European Convention for Constructional Steelwork every two years to encourage the creative and outstanding use of steel in construction of bridges. There are two main categories: *Road and Railway Bridges*, and *Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridges*. In addition, the Jury members decided to give two special awards: *Special Social and Research Award*, and *Special Engineering Award*.

Winner Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridges: The Schlossteg 2.0

The Schlossteg 2.0 is a beautiful addition to the site. Taking into account the historical metallurgical heritage and its position on the iron road, the bridge suits its context and becomes a symbol of the past. The pedestrian bridge, with a single span of 60 m, has an aesthetically pleasing design and details. The lightweight and slender bridge was fabricated close to site and slid into place with a smart erection process. The integrated lighting suits the simple and non-imposing architecture, and the choice of the weathering steel is a robust and long lasting choice for the future.



The architect and engineer Ulrich Eder from Tragwerkstatt Ziviltechniker GmbH accepted the award in the Pedestrian- and Cyclist category. To present the award: chairperson of the Architecture and Awards committee (right) Lasse Kilvær and Secretary General of ECCS Veronique Dehan (left).

Winner Road and Railway Bridges: The Sundsvall Bridge

The Sundsvall Bridge is a sophisticated solution to a complex problem. The bridge has a total length of 1420 meters and spans varying from 88 to 170 meters. With its curvature in plan and elevation, and the low, horizontal profile, the massive bridge manages to not dominate but instead relate to the low undulating hills of Sundsvall. The detailing of the tapered pylons and the well-resolved heads allows the slender deck to appear to glide above the water. The steel superstructure was fabricated and erected in an impressively short time span using an impressive fabrication, logistics and erection concept. The bridge answers to the high architectural expectation of its location and the reflections of the water gives the repetitive structure life.



The architects Henrik Rundquist, Anders Hedås and Hanna Karasalo from &Rundquist and Magnus Lundberg from Trafikverket accepted the award in the Road- and Railway category. To present the award: chairperson of the Architecture and Awards committee (left) Lasse Kilvær and Secretary General of ECCS Veronique Dehan (right).

Special Social and Research Award: bridgingMZAMBA

The Jury would like to give a special mention to the project *bridgingMZAMBA*. The bridge, with a total length of 131 m, crosses a river that separates the inhabitants west of the river from necessary infrastructure, such as educational facilities, healthcare and general food supply, thus improving their daily life. The design of the bridge accounts for the difficulties of the site conditions, with problematic soil for abutments and difficult access. The project is a collaboration between the Carinthian University of Austria and a Swiss engineering firm, while the construction was done with mostly local labor and the NPO Build Collective. The construction of this bridge brought skills and knowledge of building techniques to local workers, enabling the possibility of regular maintenance, and roots the bridge in the community of the Mzamba River.



Special Engineering Award: The New Botlek Bridge



The New Botlek Bridge is an example of outstanding structural and mechanical engineering. It exhibits the possibilities of steel to build precise and complex structures. This new bridge brings substantial improvements to road, rail and ships traffic conditions in the area. The bridge has two lifting spans, each span with 102.5 m, and a deck composed by three longitudinal truss girders. The steel structure enables to comply with the required precision and limited tolerances for the railway tracks and expansion joints. The concept is a convincing solution to this very complex situation. The challenging fabrication and erection processes are also remarkable achievements.

For more details, please visit the official website at: <http://steelbridgeawards.com/>