

The project was conceived to improve the ease and accessibility for people to use rail and to therefore make Preston Station a transport Hub. The 775 car park spaces were seen by the client and other parties as key in many interesting respects: as part of an environmental strategy – customer focus – ease for traveller and commuter alike to go from door to door conveniently and safely; but also the car park space becomes the start of a revenue generator for the train operator network.

Corus worked closely with D & B Contactor, Galliford Try, during the tender stage and proposed significant reductions in steel frame, foundation and civil engineering costs. These savings provided a competitive edge that helped our client win this £10m Civil engineering contract.



Corus provided an integrated multidiscipline team comprising civils, geotechnical, environmental and architectural services. The construction works were let under a Design and Build Form of Contract, the design being developed from the Bid Stage Form A to approved Form B via the NWR standard route.

The proximity of the main West coast mainline demanded a sensible approach to works sequence, planning and component design. To this end Corus' design team work closely with GTR to produce a practical design that mitigated unnecessary network disruption. For instance, the structural frame was designed in such a way to avoid the need for temporary safety propping, which is normal associated with work adjacent to the track.

The project timetable set an overall challenging programme fostering a tight tender/design/construction programme. The design team worked closely with the contractors supply chain wherever possible to add value to the scheme and ensure value engineering could be properly considered without compromising programme objectives. The original scheme was fire engineered benefiting the client with additional car park spaces. Together with other rationalisation and re planning Corus designers achieved a 5% increase in the number of car park spaces (as offered at Form A stage).



Key achievements:

- Innovative input at the tender stage helping secure the project through cost reductions and increased parking capacity
- Corus offered a one-stop Multi-skilled team approach which enabled Network Rail / Virgin scope changes to be integrated without effect to the delivery of programme.
- Corus provided logistical planning advice: assessed and re-planned a series of phasing and layout options which were adopted. These minimize disruption to station users and offer the new parking facility on top of the old, as soon as possible.