

CASE STUDY

Maintaining Our Railway Network (MORN) – Platform Shelter Project

LOCATION: Melbourne, Australia
CLIENT: Metro Trains Melbourne (MTM)
DATE COMMISSIONED: June 2016



Introduction

As part of Metro Trains Melbourne on-going program to improve the railway network, Global Rail Australia were initially awarded a contract to install 10 No platform shelters of various sizes across the metro networks metropolitan stations.

Having successfully delivered the first Phase, Global Rail Australia was awarded further contracts and to date Global Rail Australia have installed 25 platform shelters at various locations.

The works commenced in April 2015 and form a fundamental part of the MORN programme to improve passenger experience at metropolitan railway stations around Melbourne.

The scope involves the complexities of working around a live railway environment, materials management and site logistics, to then construct at each site a new shelter consisting of a fabricated and powder coated structural steel frame, a new roof, guttering and downpipes, perforated side panels, new seating and associated bases, new ceiling panelling and electrical lighting works.

Having a multi-disciplinary workforce including Civil and Structural Engineering, M&E and General Construction along with in-house project management, allowed Global Rail Australia to provide a compelling bid, deliver to program and produce a high quality finish on every occasion.

The Deliverables

Global Rail Australia provided a fully managed program of works, effectively co-ordinating with station staff and other stakeholders to achieve compliance with all relevant quality, safety and railway standards, based of the following scope of activities:

- ① Full risk mitigation assessment at each site prior to work commencement
- ① Preparation of a detailed program of works to take into consideration after hours working, including close liaison with MTM's station staff and track safety personnel
- ① Site mobilization at each location with the erection of appropriate screening for the works - due to the station being fully operational
- ① Fabrication, painting and delivery by hand of structural steel components for each shelter
- ① Standing and rigging of structural steel canopy frame including all necessary drilling and tapping
- ① Fitting of roofing
- ① Installation of new guttering and downpipes
- ① Fitting of perforated side panels to each canopy
- ① Installation of seating
- ① Fitting of ceilings
- ① New lighting and associated works
- ① Provision of full as-built documentation

Challenges and Solutions

The first challenge that had to be solved was managing the public interface, as the works were to be undertaken in a live rail environment. Global Rail Australia undertook a series of risk mitigation assessments at each site. In consultation with MTM a bespoke methodology for each station was prepared including details of site access arrangements and detailed implementation programme.

Each canopy location was cordoned off to avoid impact on the public. Elements of the works were undertaken at night due to close proximity to the OHLE, the works were undertaken under the supervision of MTM track safety personnel.

Materials were delivered by hand to each location during off peak hours, and the majority of works were undertaken during daytime hours subject to agreement with MTM.

To ensure that standards in this regard were maintained, Global Rail Australia undertook regular audits of their systems, documents and site housekeeping to maintain the health, safety and well-being of all those coming into contact with the project.

The out of hours working did have an impact on the already tight program of works. With an installation timeframe of 1-2 weeks per site and a directive from the client to have no more than two sites running concurrently, Global Rail Australia's project management came to the fore.

By managing internal resources and subcontractors carefully and then providing hour by hour activities, the team were able to logically program the works, monitor each task and using their sizable in-house resource and dedicated supply chain, flex the requirement to meet any demand.

Attention to detail is something that Global Rail Australia pride itself on. This project has been no exception, with quality control of the highest level. The project delivered has been delivered to a high standard, which has enabled each shelter to be handed over on time and to budget – critical to the success of this project and the continuation of the relationship between MTM and Global Rail Australia.

The Benefits

By appointing Global Rail Australia as a single point of contact, MTM were provided with the surety of a contracting organisation that would fully manage the project and the complex interfaces on their behalf.

Having a multi-disciplinary workforce across civil/structural, building and M&E allowed Global Rail Australia to fully plan and co-ordinate all activities and where needed flex their large in-house railway resource to keep the works on track.

Having a contracting organisation deep rooted in railway engineering, also aided planning and having management systems that work in accordance with certified bodies across safety, quality and environmental, provided the client with a lasting legacy at these stations.

Global Rail Australia also have a strong pedigree in training and look to the future with local apprenticeships, using this project as a platform for mentoring and up-skilling their engineers of the future

The business also aligns closely with the communities in which they serve and provided a considerate, safe and secure environment for all staff and stakeholders during these works.

Testimonial

Global Rail Australia were engaged by MTM to construct and fit out a suite of railway station canopies. Global approached this project with energy, professionalism and superb attention to detail. They are a great bunch of guys to work with from site level up.

They achieved a defect free project - which is a great achievement and liaised closely with all stakeholders throughout to ensure there were no surprises. Their clear communication and appreciation of the railway environment were invaluable to the successful delivery of the works. It has been a pleasure to work with GRA on this project.

Chris Hughes
Project Manager | Projects & Planning
Metro Trains