



Leveraging Cast Steel Connections for Steel-Timber Hybrid Constructions

7th November, 2024
SBI Steel Construction Day

Jennifer Anna Pazdon, MSE, PE
Vice President, USA | Director, UK Division
j.pazdon@castconnex.com | +44 0798 556 1101

CASTCONNEX
innovative components for inspired designs

SBI

Stålbyggnadsinstitutet
The Swedish Institute of Steel Construction

WHO WE ARE

Leader in the Design and Delivery of Steel Castings for use in Buildings, Bridges and Specialty Structures

Responsible for **tens-of-thousands of castings** in hundreds of structures in North America and globally

Portfolio includes **projects of all sizes** across every building sector

Thought Leader in the AEC industry on the benefits of steel castings

CASTCONNEX[®]





PRESENTATION OUTLINE

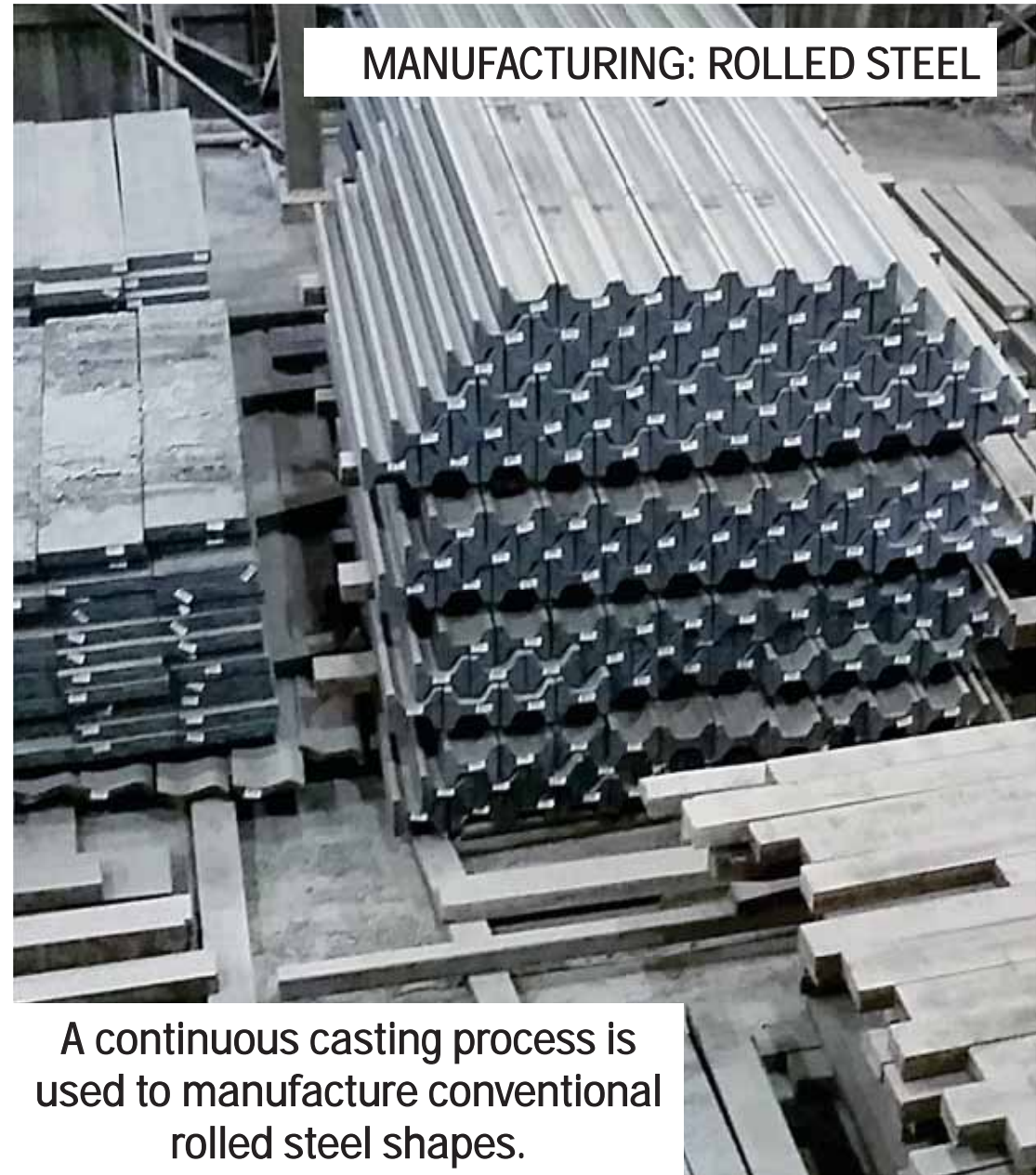
- What are Structural Steel Castings?
- Performance Benefits and a *Fast* History of Applications in Contemporary Structures
- How are Steel Castings Made: Sphere Case Study
- Steel-Timber Hybrid Case Studies
- Questions



WHAT ARE STRUCTURAL STEEL CASTINGS?







MANUFACTURING: ROLLED STEEL

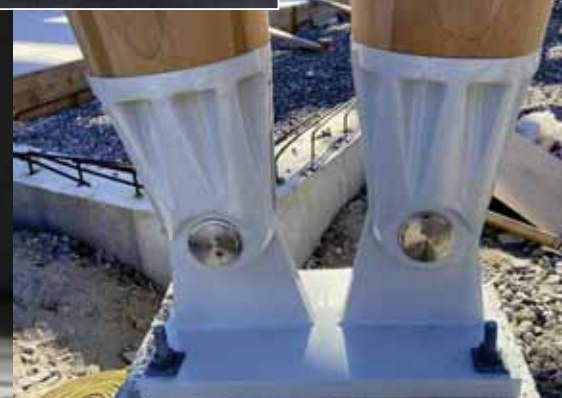
A continuous casting process is used to manufacture conventional rolled steel shapes.





MANUFACTURING: STEEL CASTINGS

Steel castings are manufactured by pouring molten steel directly into a 3-dimensional mould.





STANDARDIZED CASTINGS

- Available off the shelf in a range of sizes to fit small to large members.
- Economy of scale achieved through standardization.



CUSTOM/BESPOKE CASTINGS

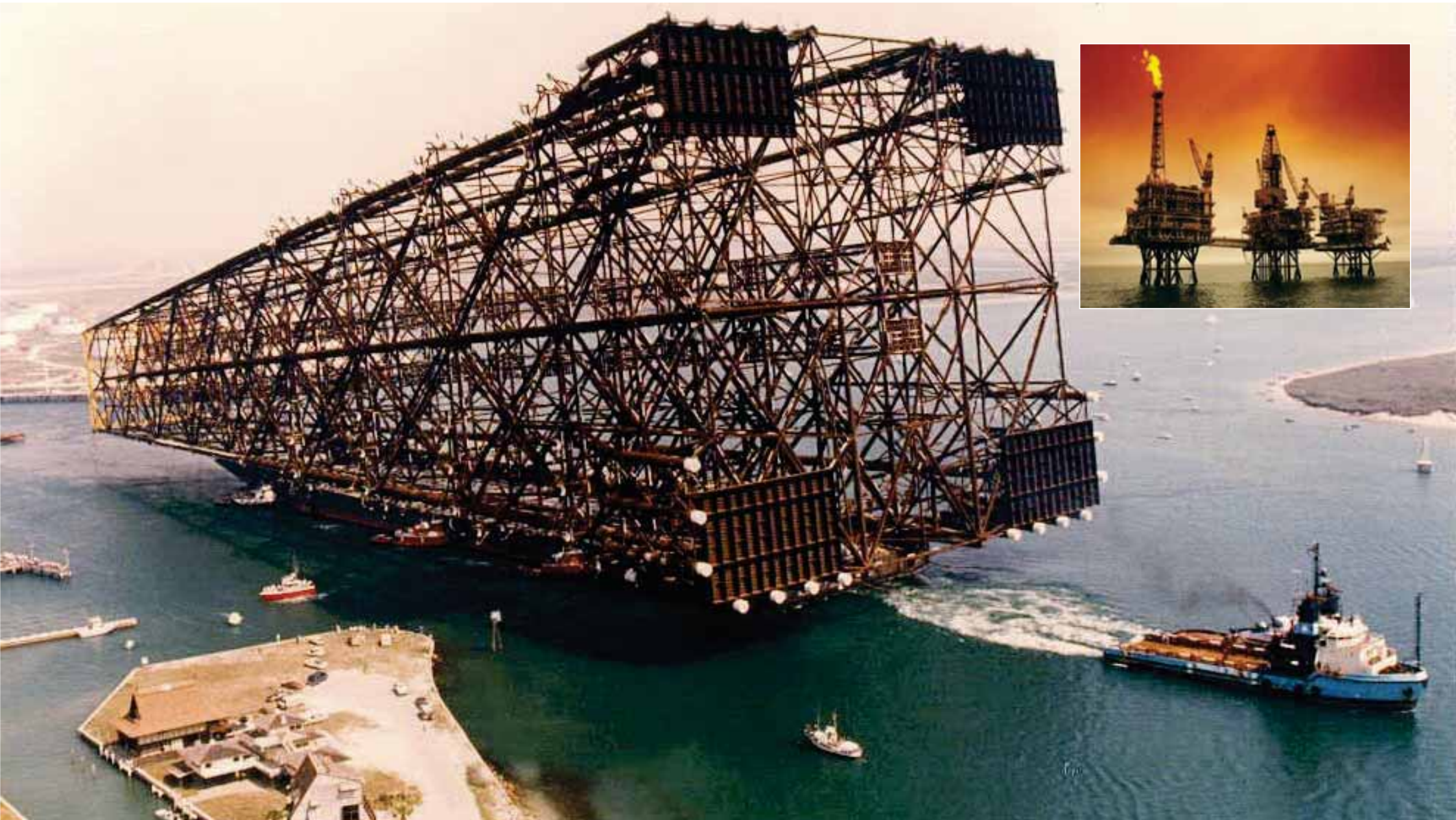
- Designed for unique project performance requirements.
 - complex geometries
 - multi-member nodes
 - arduous loading
 - repetitive geometries (economy of scale)
 - and/or aesthetic requirements



■ PERFORMANCE BENEFITS &
FAST REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

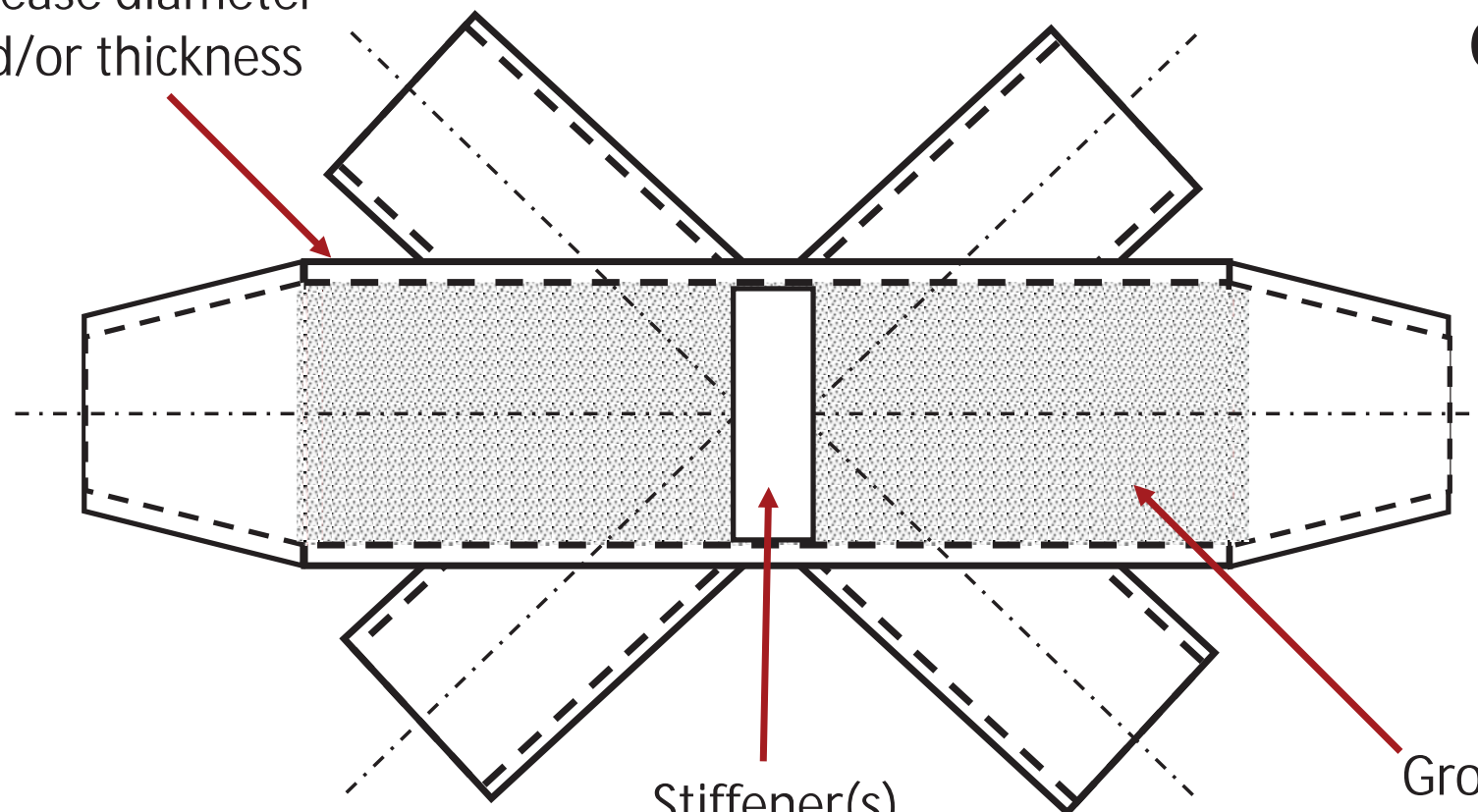






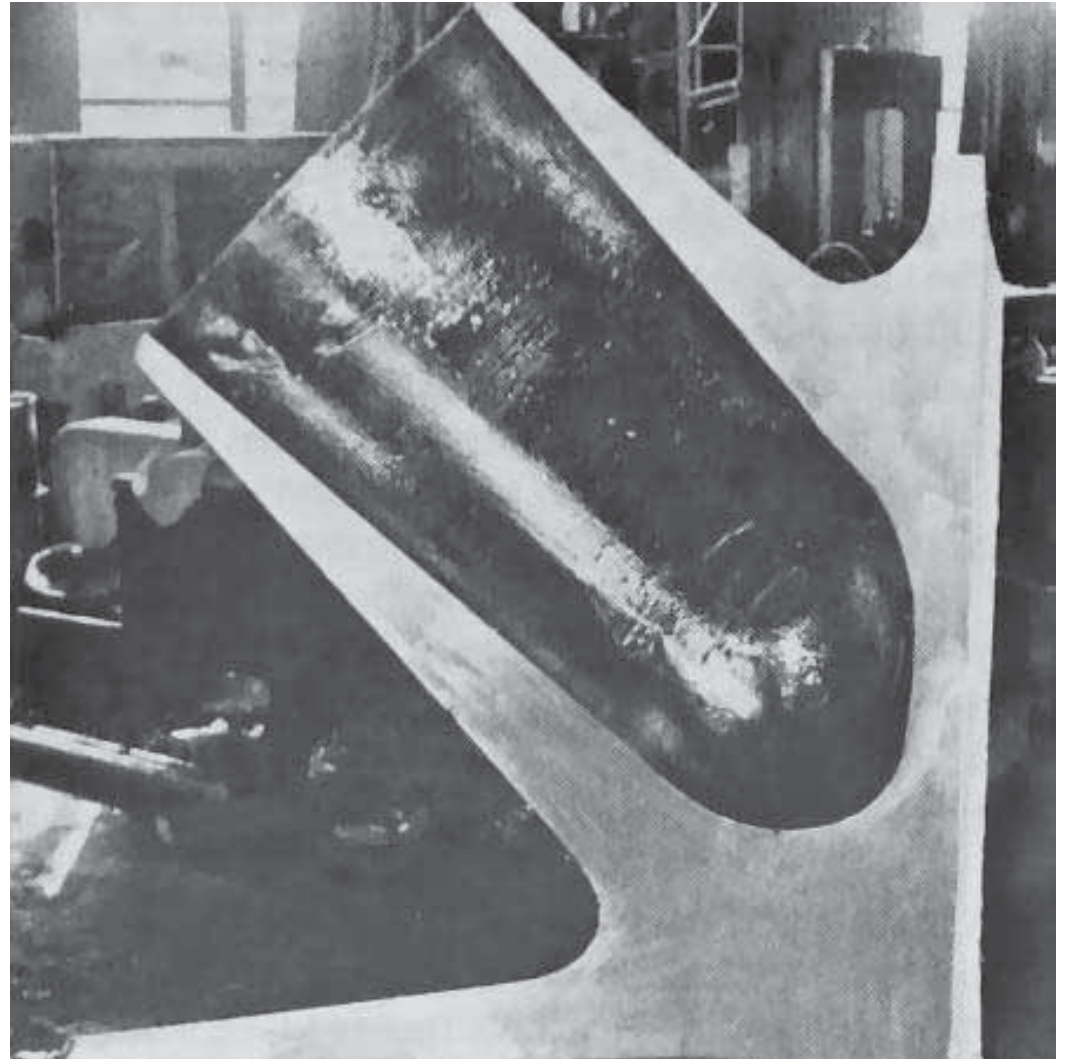
Conventionally Fabricated Connection

Increase diameter
and/or thickness

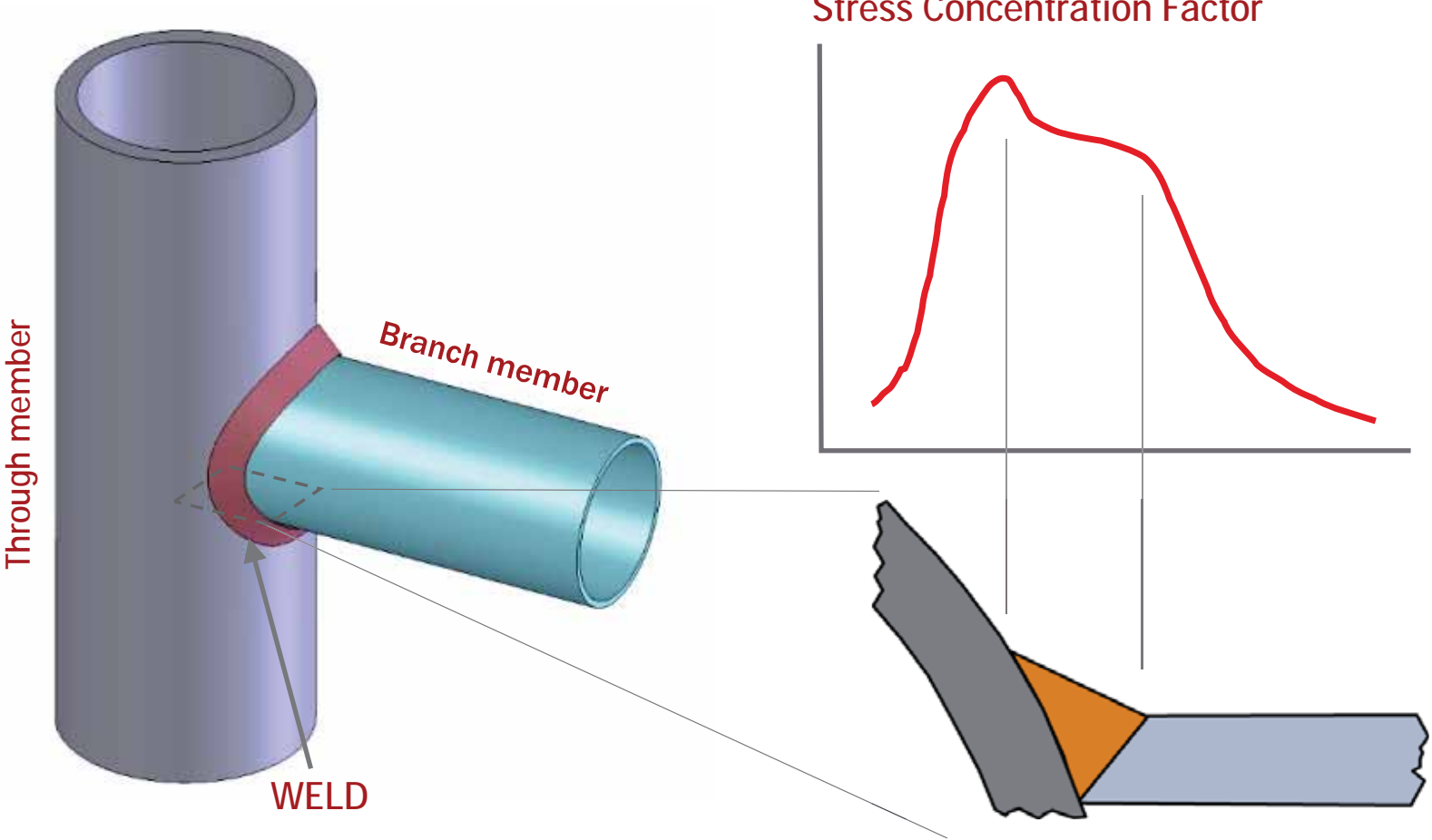


Stiffener(s)

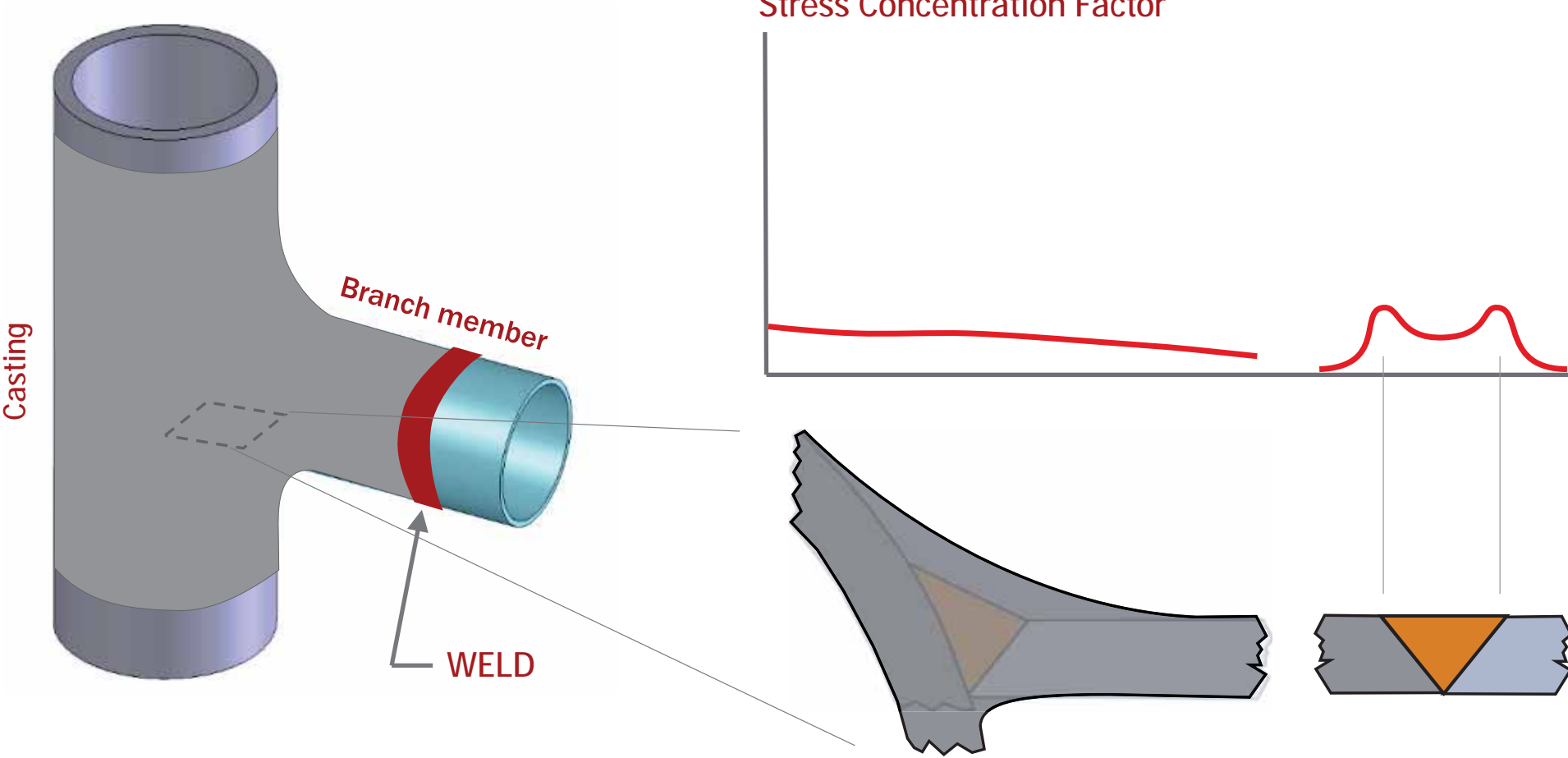
Grout-fill



CONVENTIONALLY FABRICATED HSS-TO-HSS CONNECTION



CONNECTION WITH CAST STEEL NODE



PERFORMANCE BENEFITS OF CAST STEEL NODES

Enhanced overall structural performance and efficiency via:

- Elimination of local connection limit states
- Reduction in member design forces
- Increased connection stiffness
- Improved fatigue performance

Simplified fabrication – improved weld access, elimination of complex fabrication

Simplified field activities – tightened tolerances -> improved fit-up -> reduced risk

Improved coating system performance and longevity

Installed project cost savings

Reduced total life cycle cost

PERFORMANCE BENEFITS OF CAST STEEL NODES

Enhanced overall structural performance and efficiency via:

- Elimination of local connection limit states
- Reduction in member design forces
- Increased connection stiffness
- Improved fatigue performance

Simplified fabrication – improved weld access, elimination of complex fabrication

Simplified field activities – tightened tolerances -> improved fit-up -> reduced risk

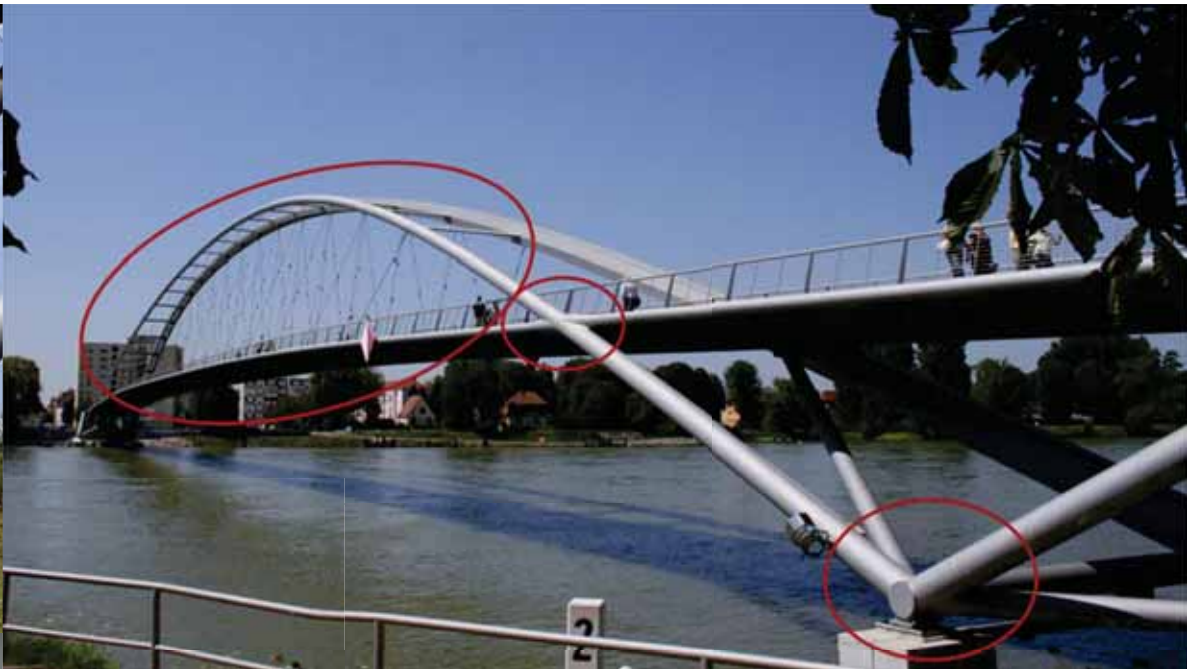
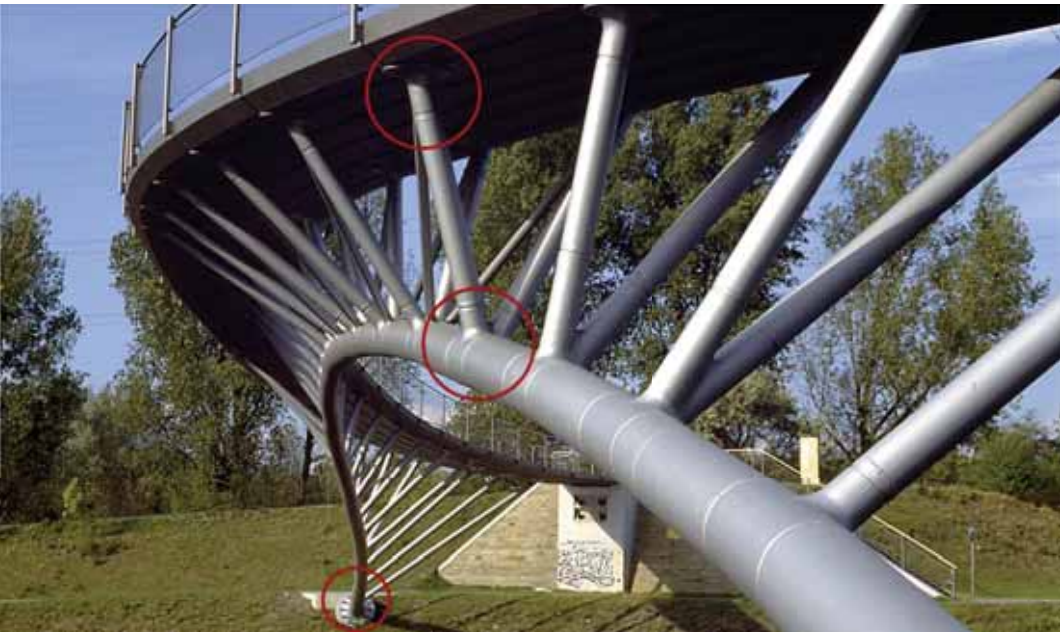
Improved coating system performance and longevity

Installed project cost savings

Reduced total life cycle cost

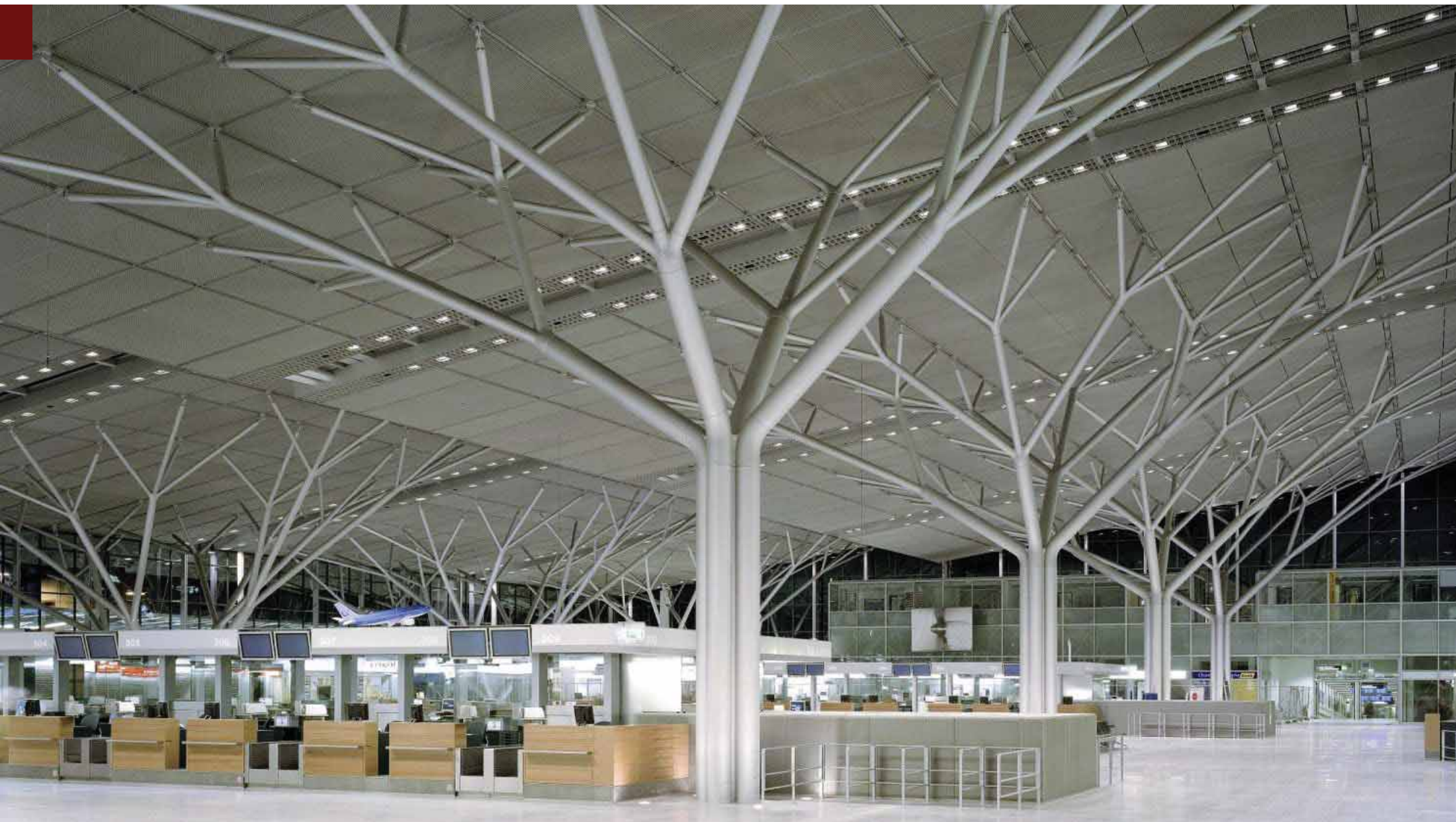
**Unmatched
Aesthetics**

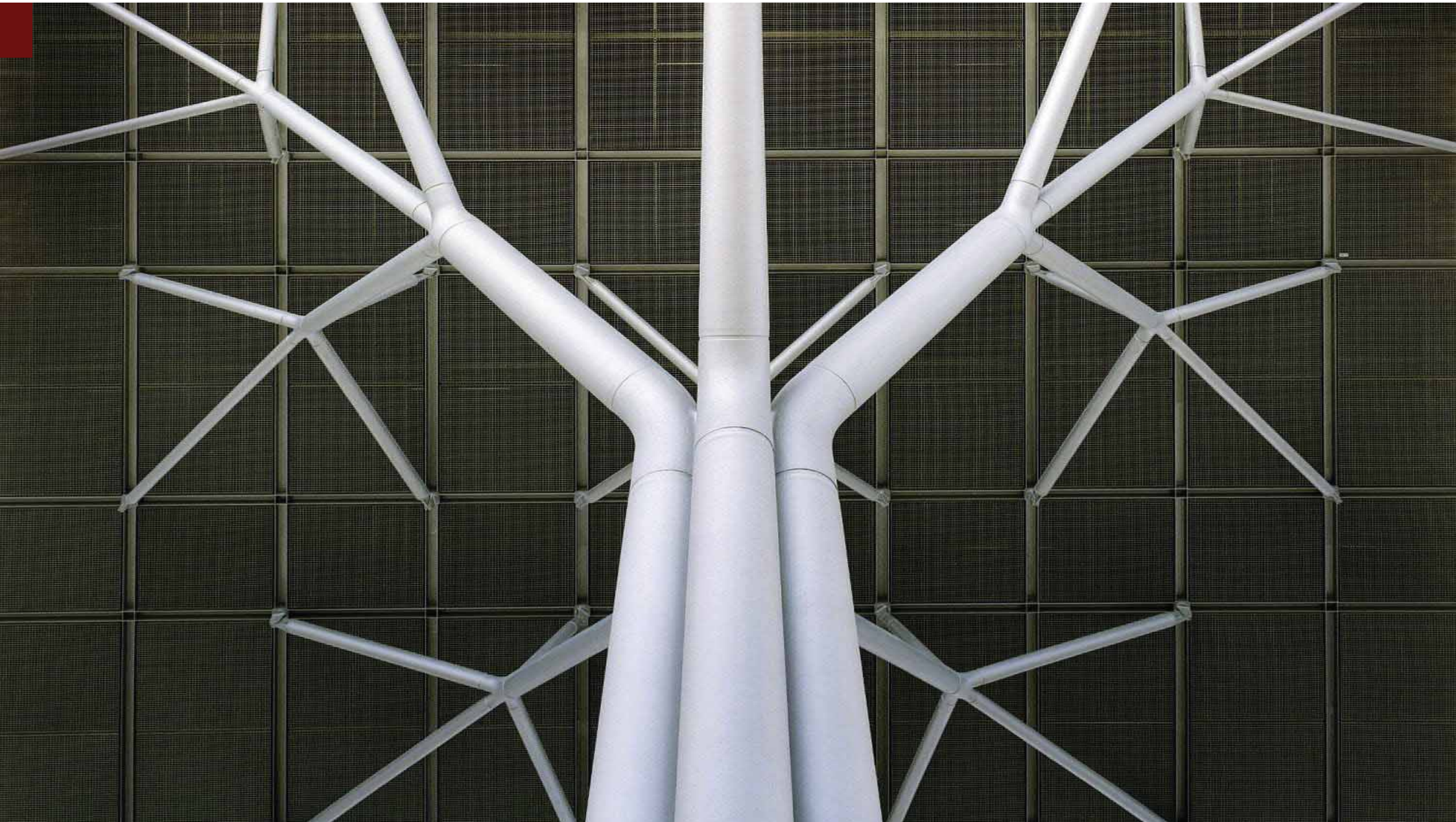


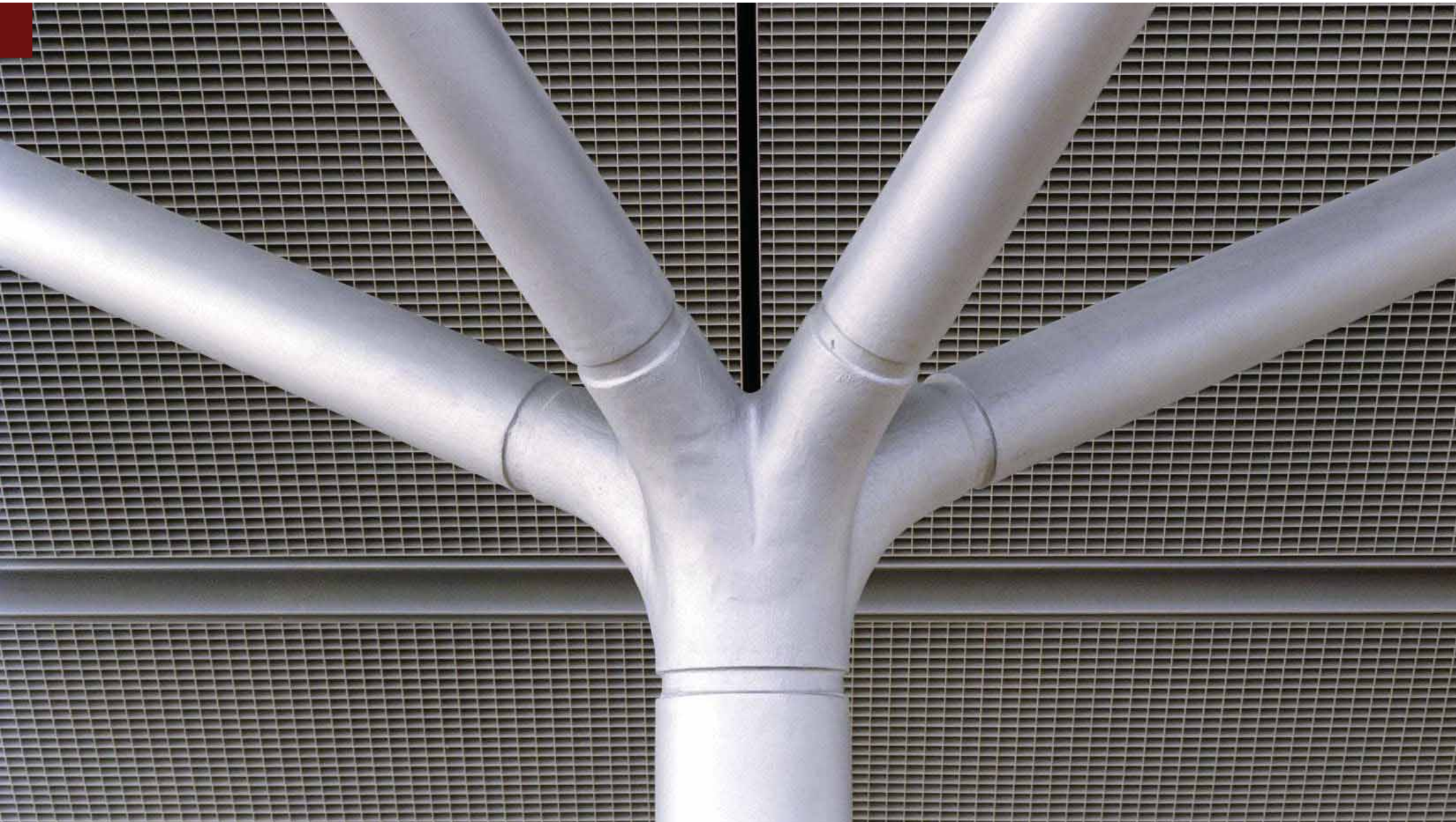
















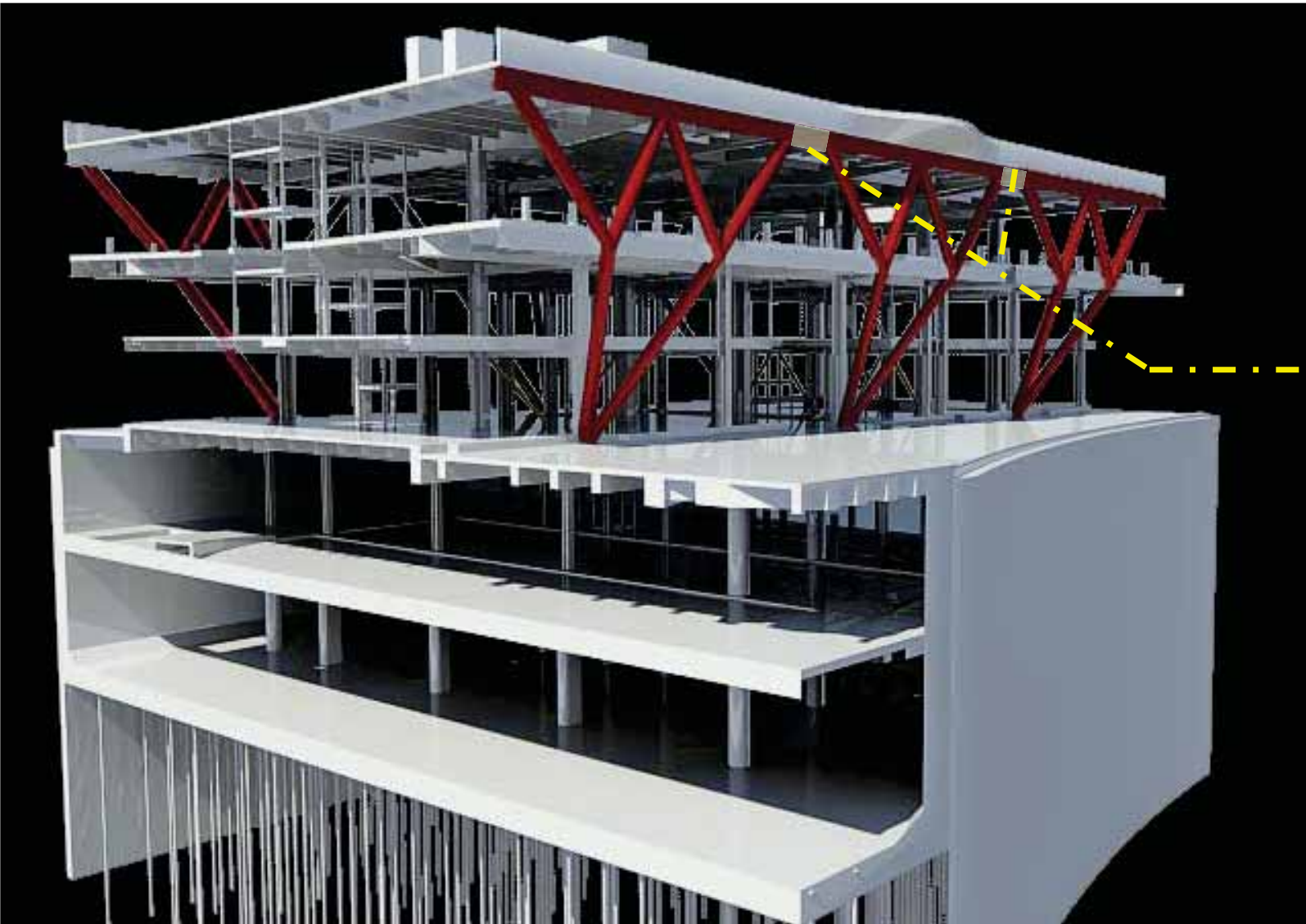


SALESFORCE TRANSIT CENTER

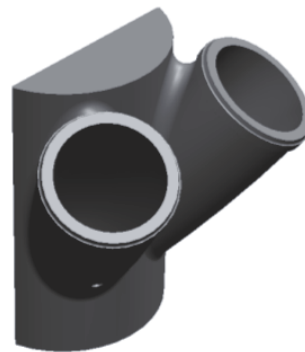
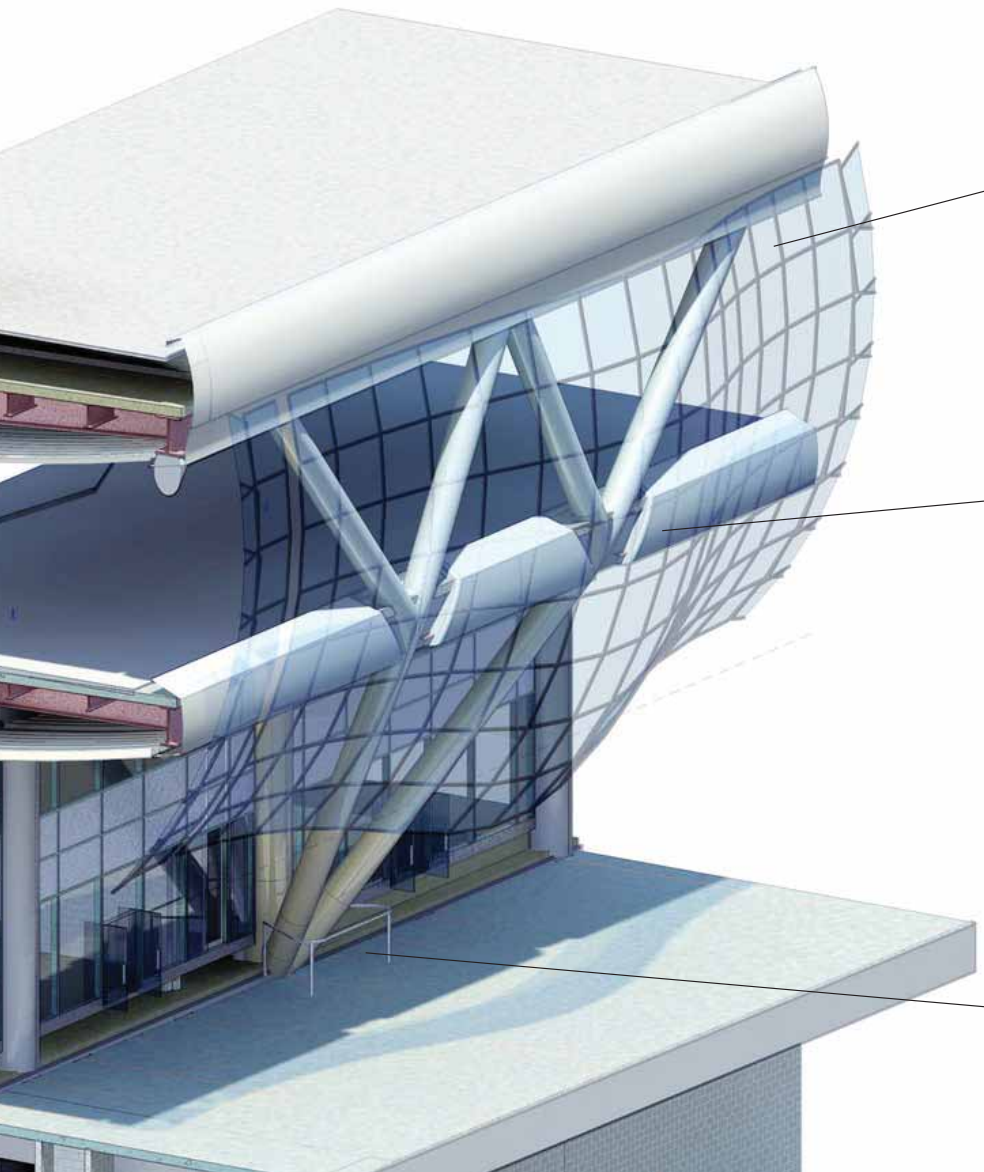
Pelli Clarke & Partners
Thornton Tomasetti
schlaich bergemann partner

San Francisco, CA

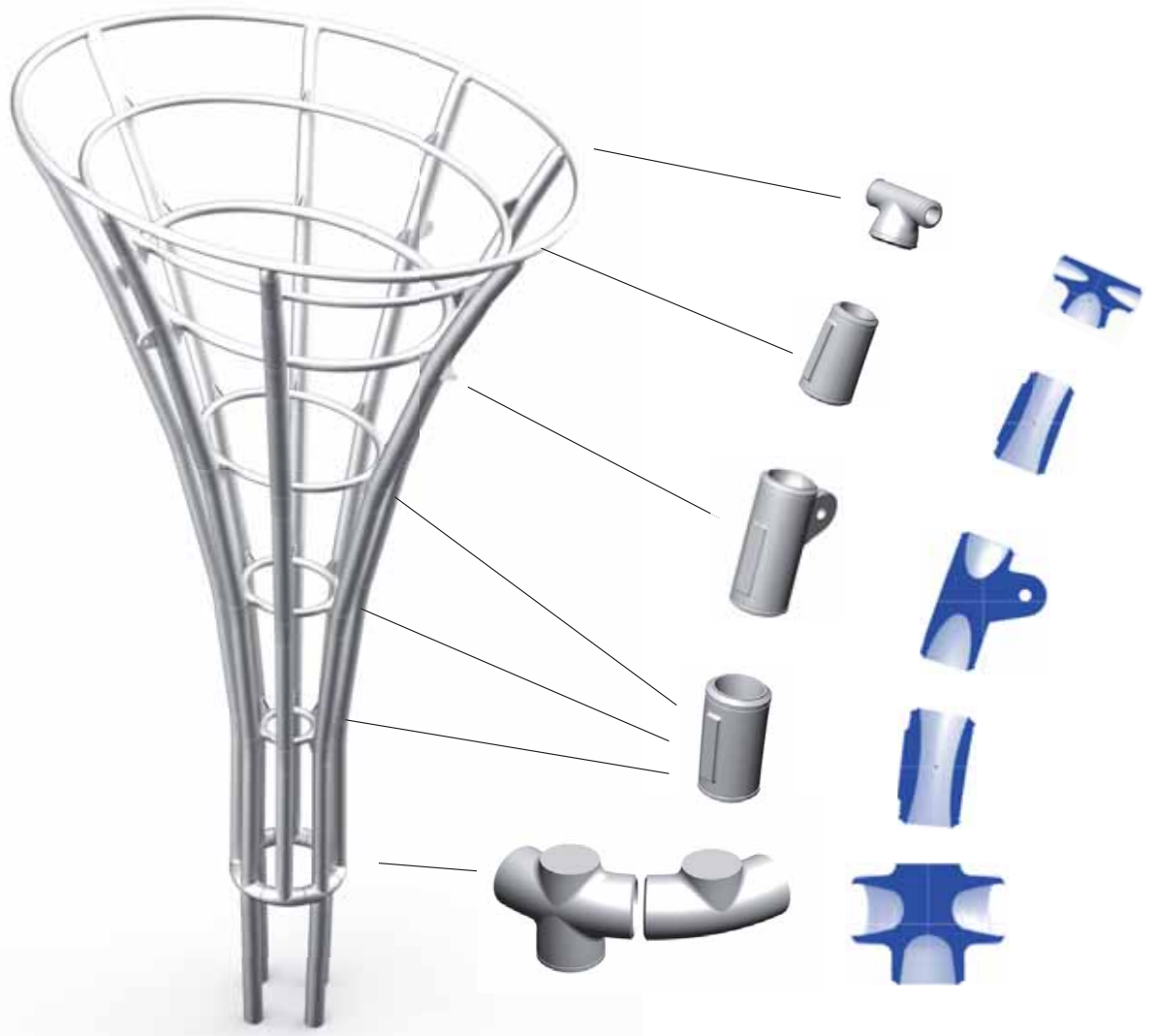




Sesimic Force Resisting System: Eccentric Braced Frame with conventionally fabricated Shear Links and cast steel tubular nodes





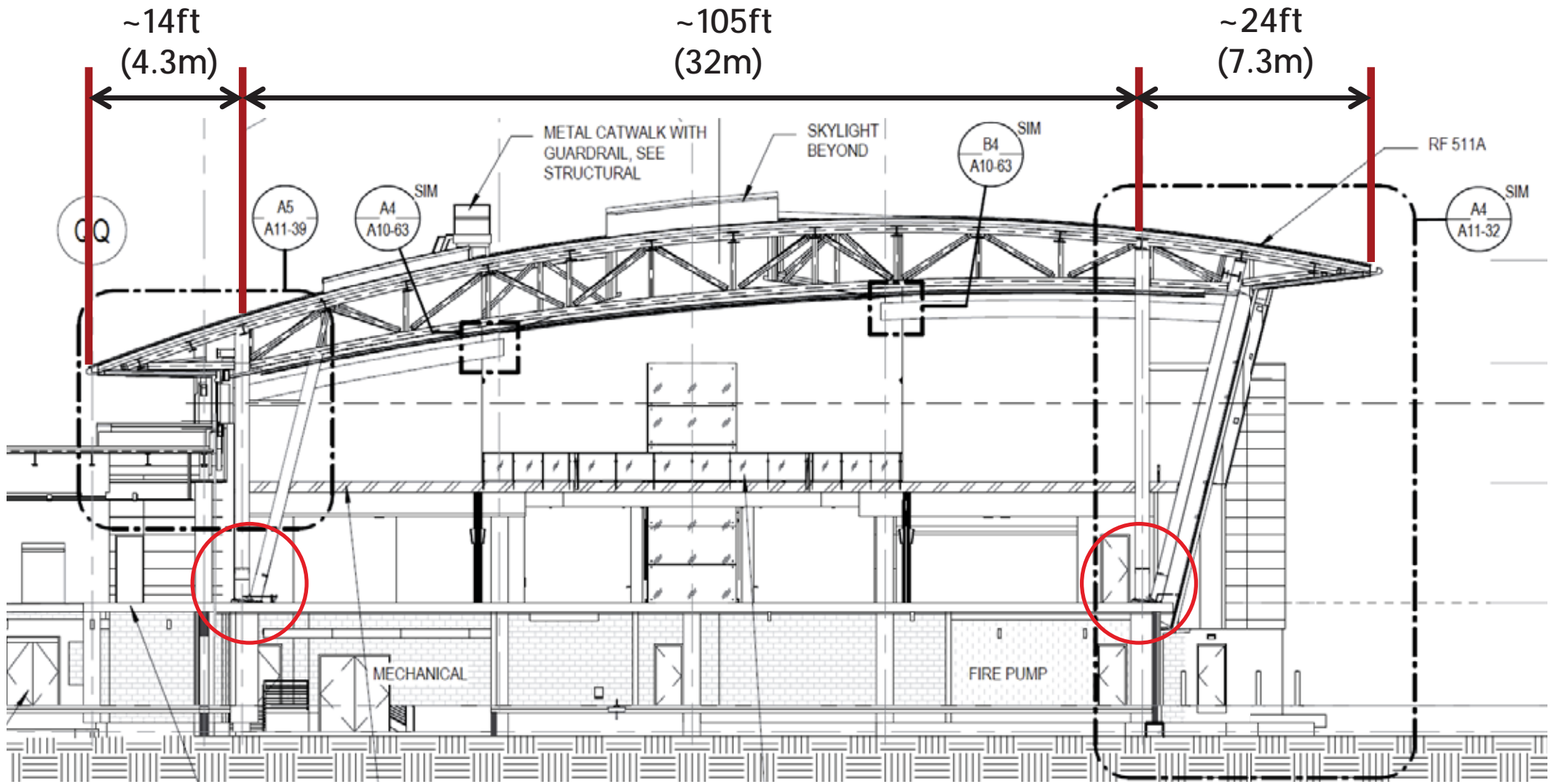




**CHARLOTTE
DOUGLASS
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT EXPANSION**

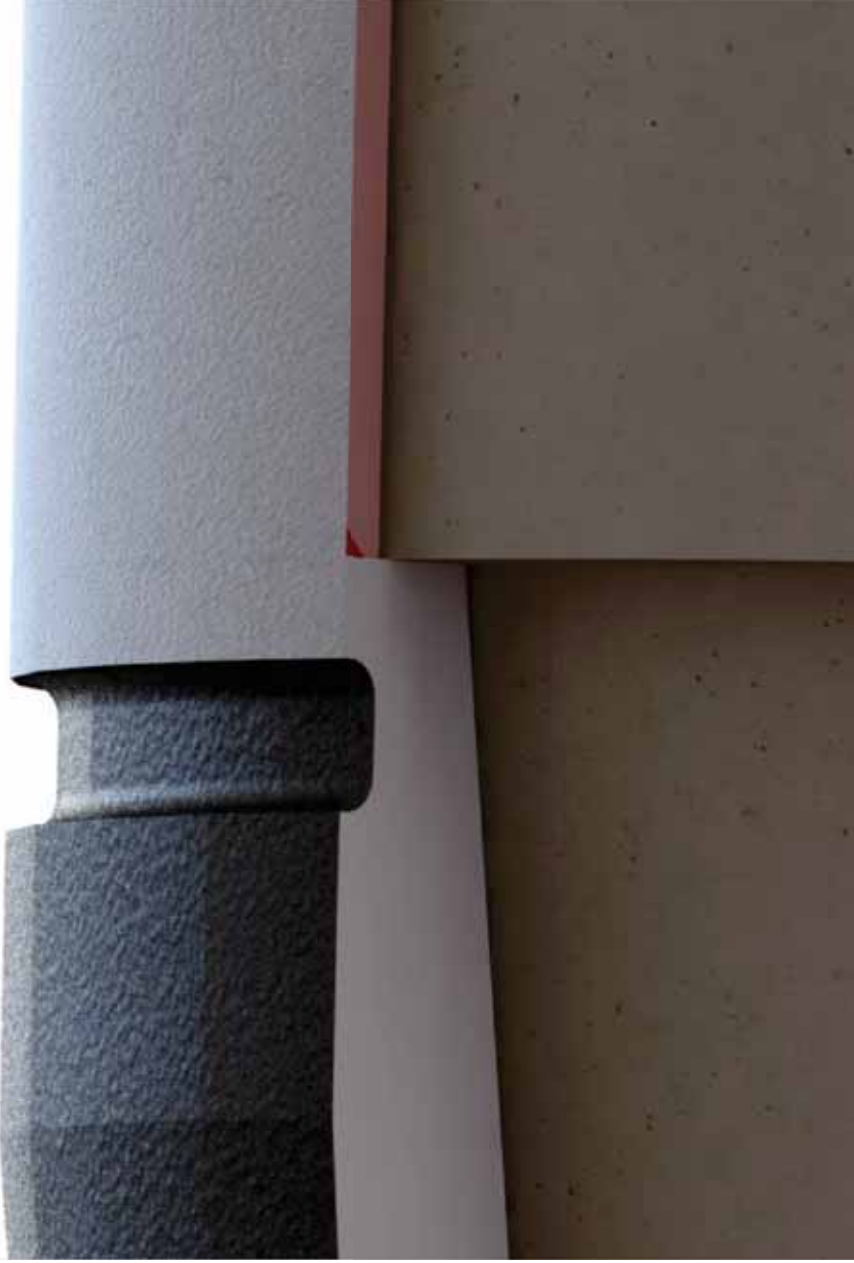
Charlotte, NC

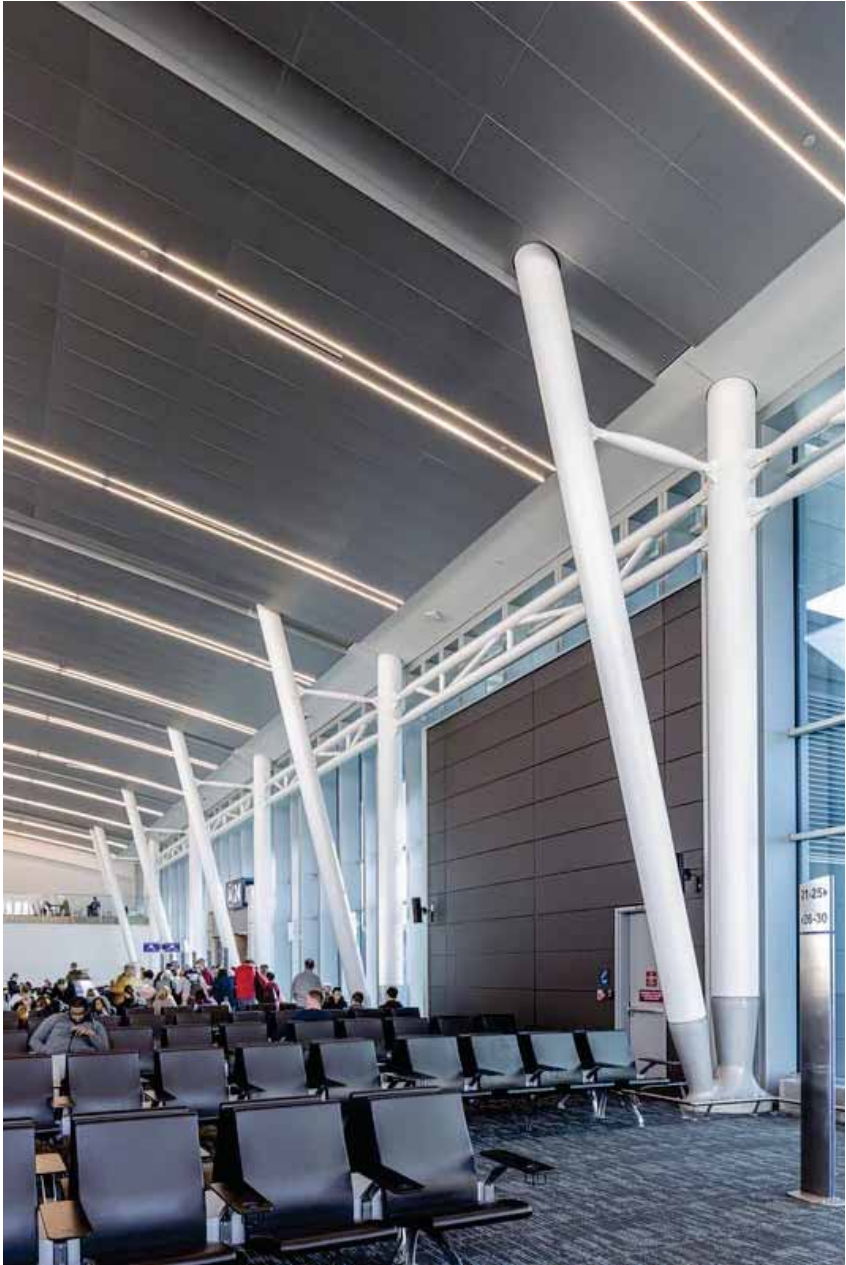
PERKINS & WILL





Intumescent
HPC







**THE LEAF AT CANADA'S DIVERSITY
GARDENS**

Winnipeg, MB, Canada

KPMB Architects
Blackwell Structural Engineers





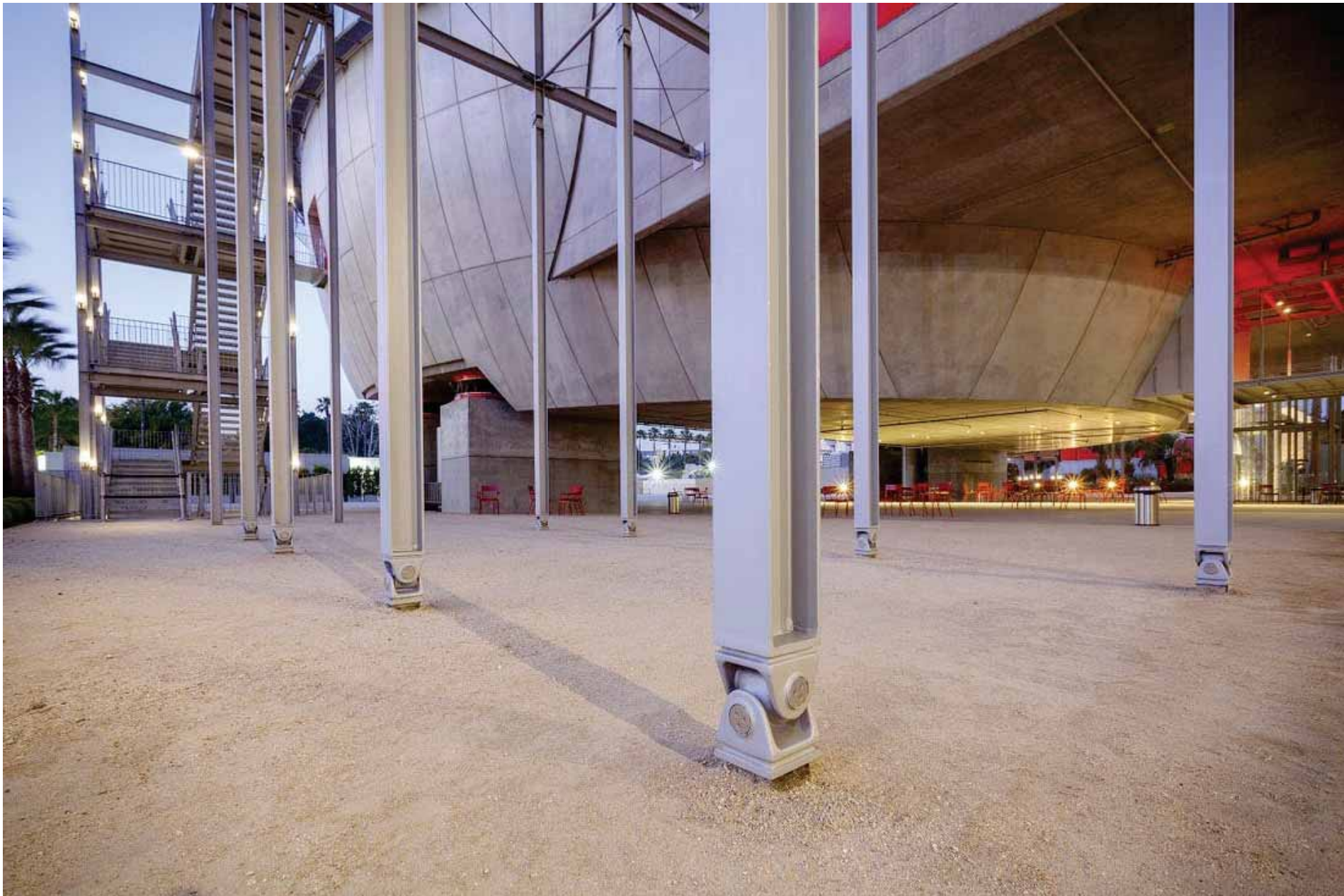


**ACADEMY MUSEUM OF MOTION
PICTURES**

Los Angeles, CA

ARCHITECT: RPBW

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: BURO HAPPOLD





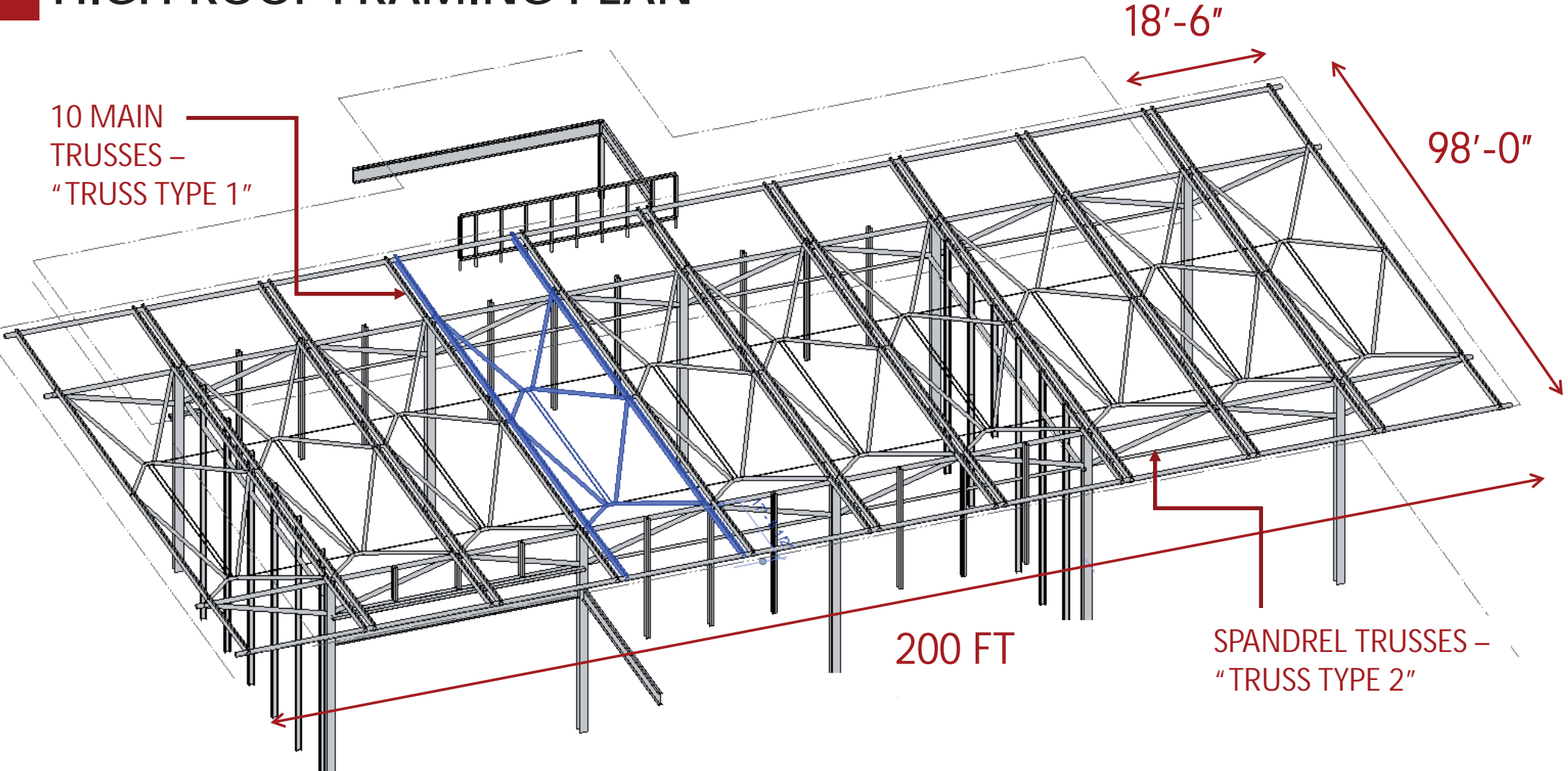
AUS International Airport West Gate Expansion

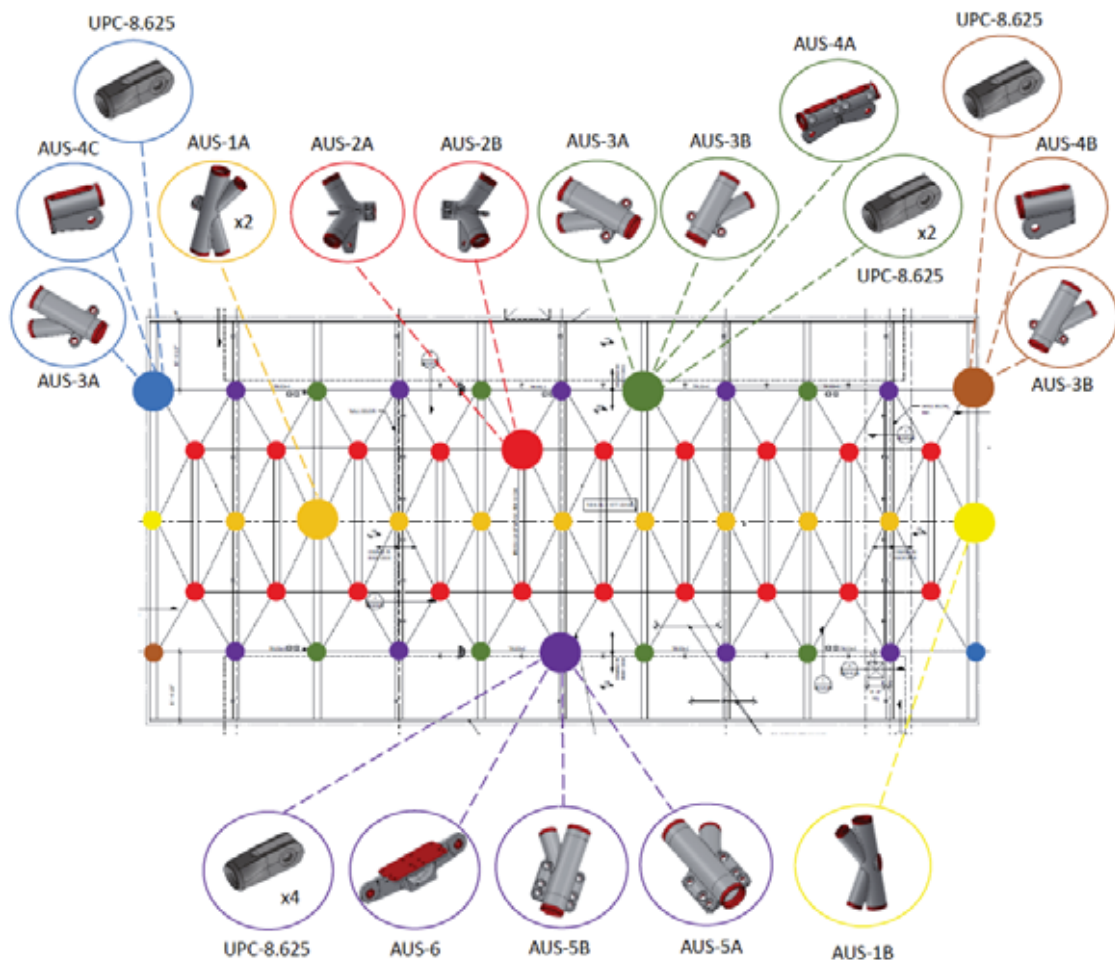
Austin, TX



A: Page/
E: AEC-Way
F: Alamo Structural Steel
E: Bosworth Steel Erectors
G: Hensel Phelps

HIGH ROOF FRAMING PLAN





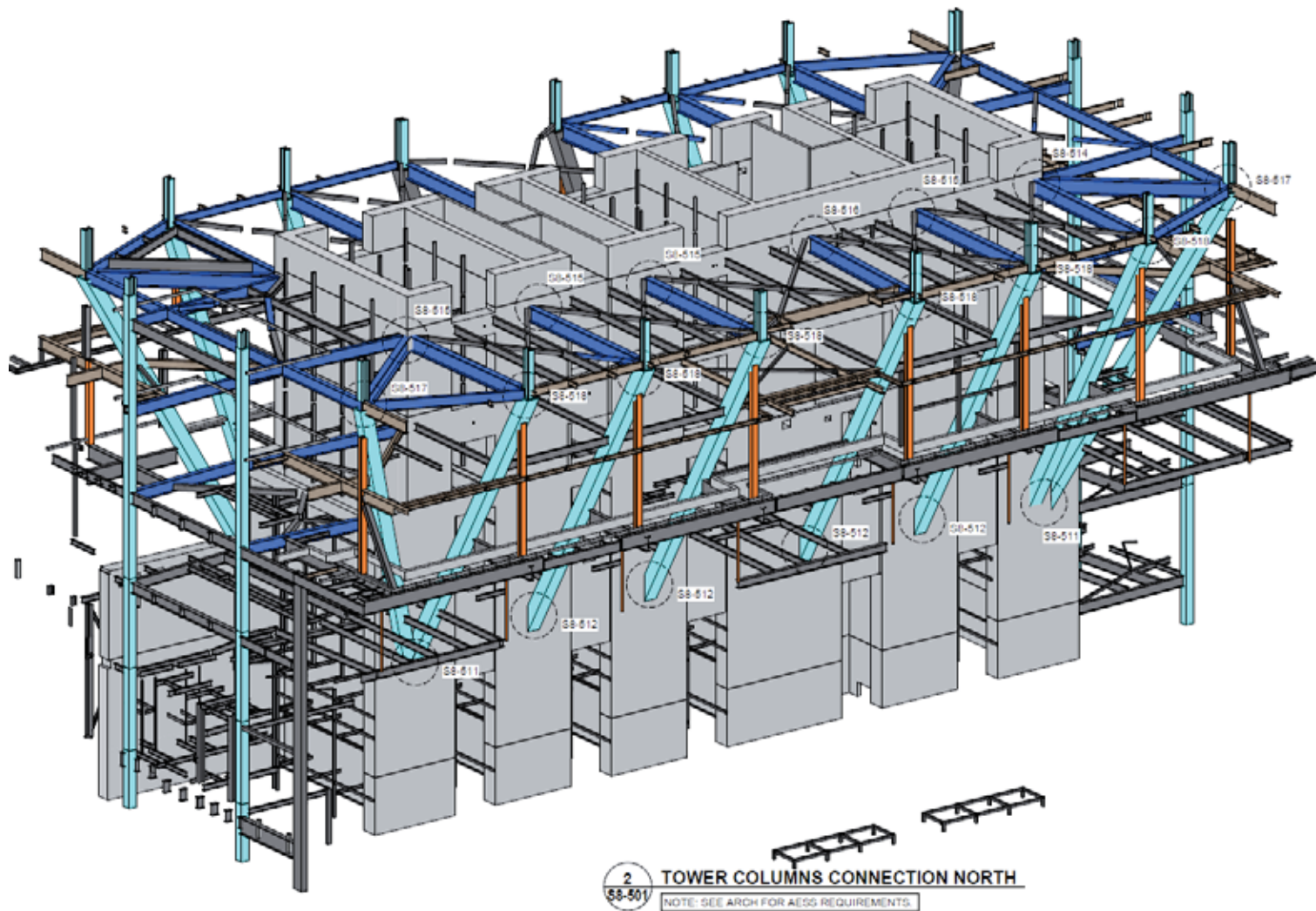




CIBC SQUARE (141 Bay St)

Toronto, ON

Wilkinson Eyre and Adamson
Associates
RJC Engineers

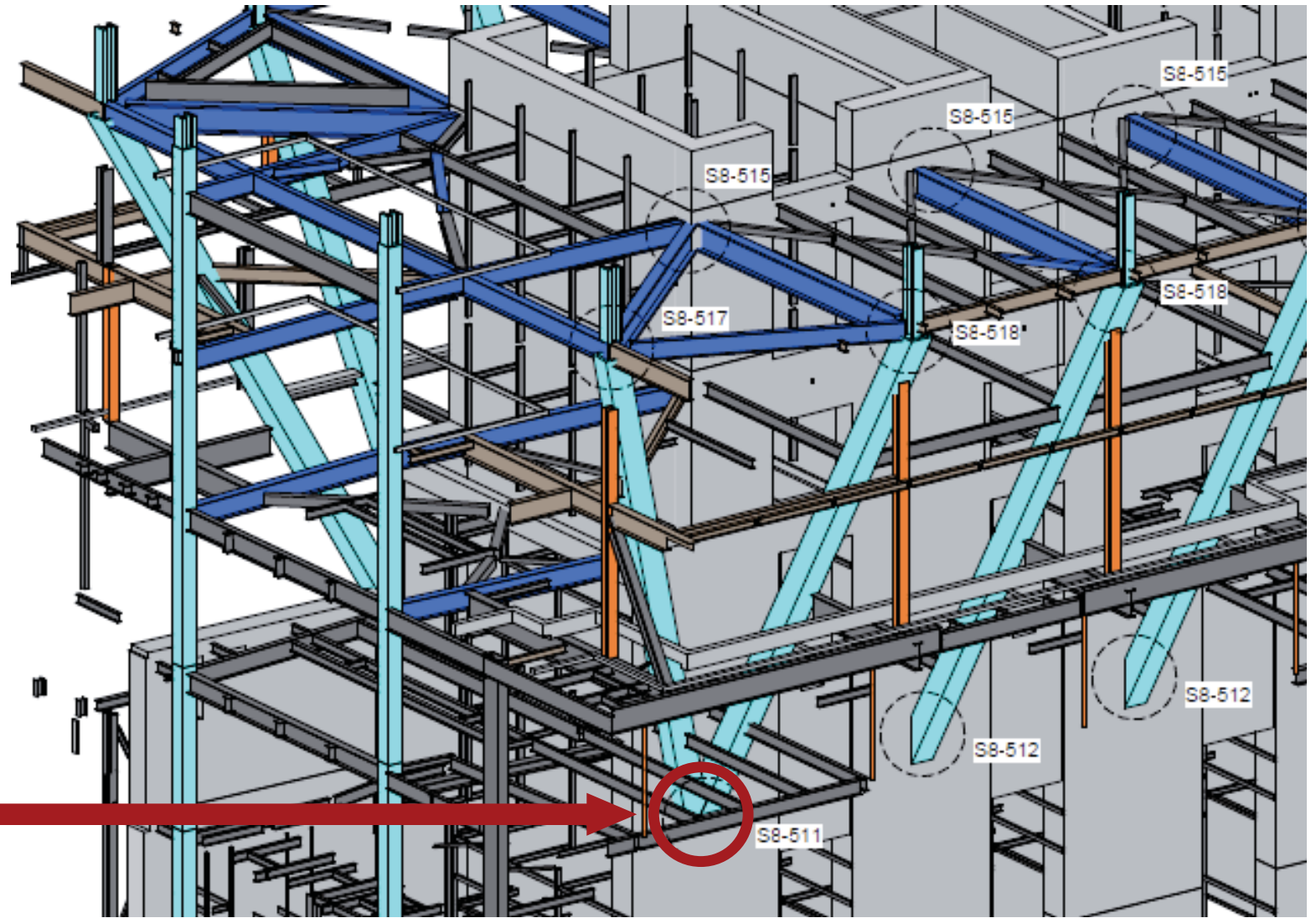


Composite construction: steel with concrete core.

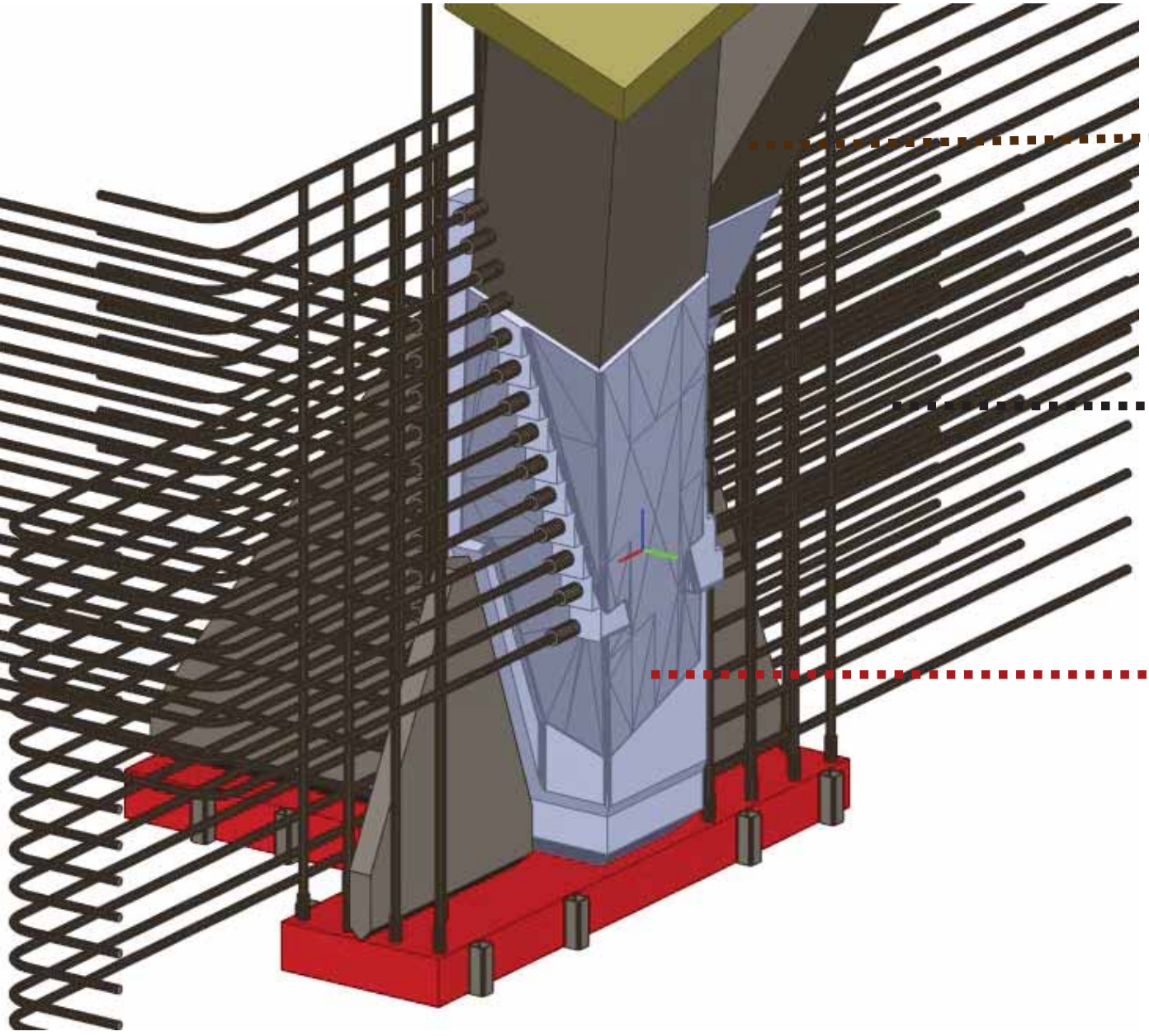
Building perimeter columns transfer back to core to avoid elevated rail and offer open lobby.

Transfer forces and complex geometries of connection points could not be adequately addressed with conventionally fabricated welded or bolted connections.

CAST CONNEX engineered and supplied custom castings and High Integrity Block (engineered cast forgings), choosing the best option for each location to optimize performance requirements and economy.



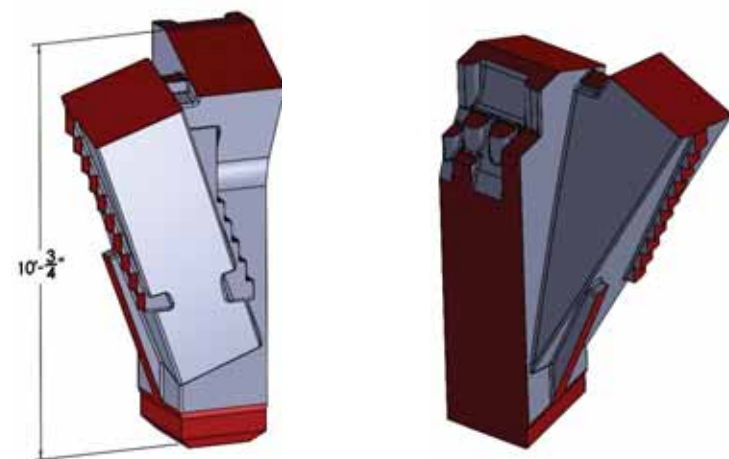
CAST STEEL NODE
EMBEDDED IN CORE



..... Rolled Steel Plate Fabrications

..... Structural Concrete Walls with Large Diameter Reinforcement

..... Custom Steel Casting:
Embedded in concrete, simplifies complex rebar detailing and resolves transfer forces.





**NASA ML2*
LAUNCHER**

Cape Canaveral, FL
(*this image is the
smaller ML1)



40-ft. modules will be a vital part of constructing the impressive 377-ft. structure.

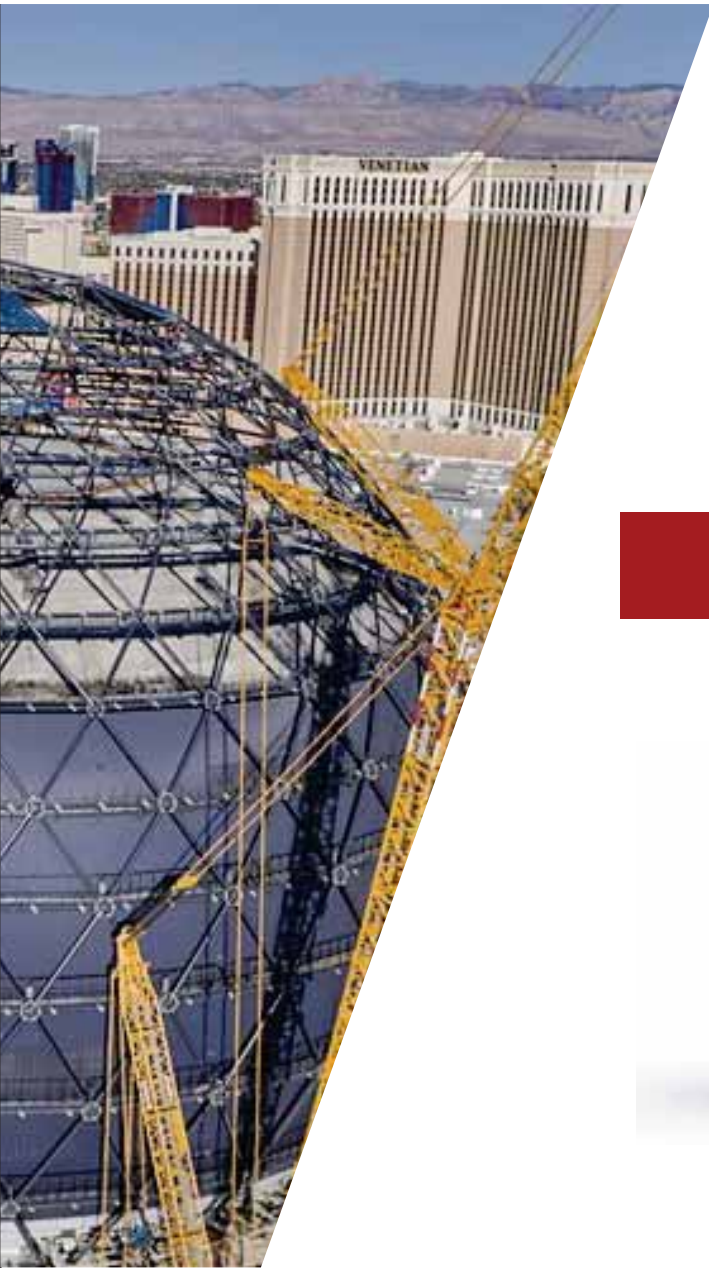




**VANCOUVER
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT**
Vancouver, BC

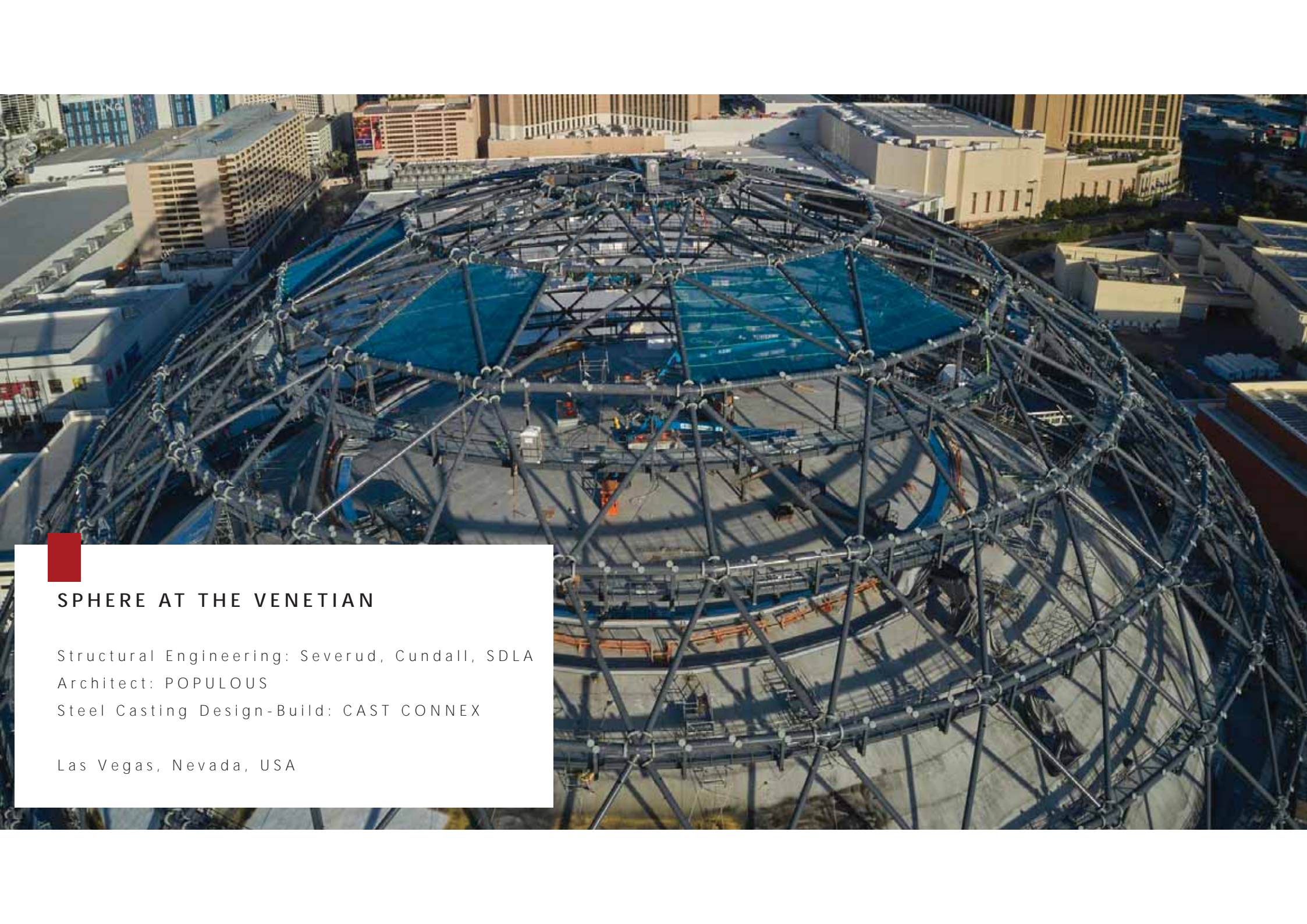
KPMB

Photo Courtesy of Vancouver International Airport



 HOW STEEL CASTINGS ARE MADE:
SPHERE AT THE VENETIAN





SPHERE AT THE VENETIAN

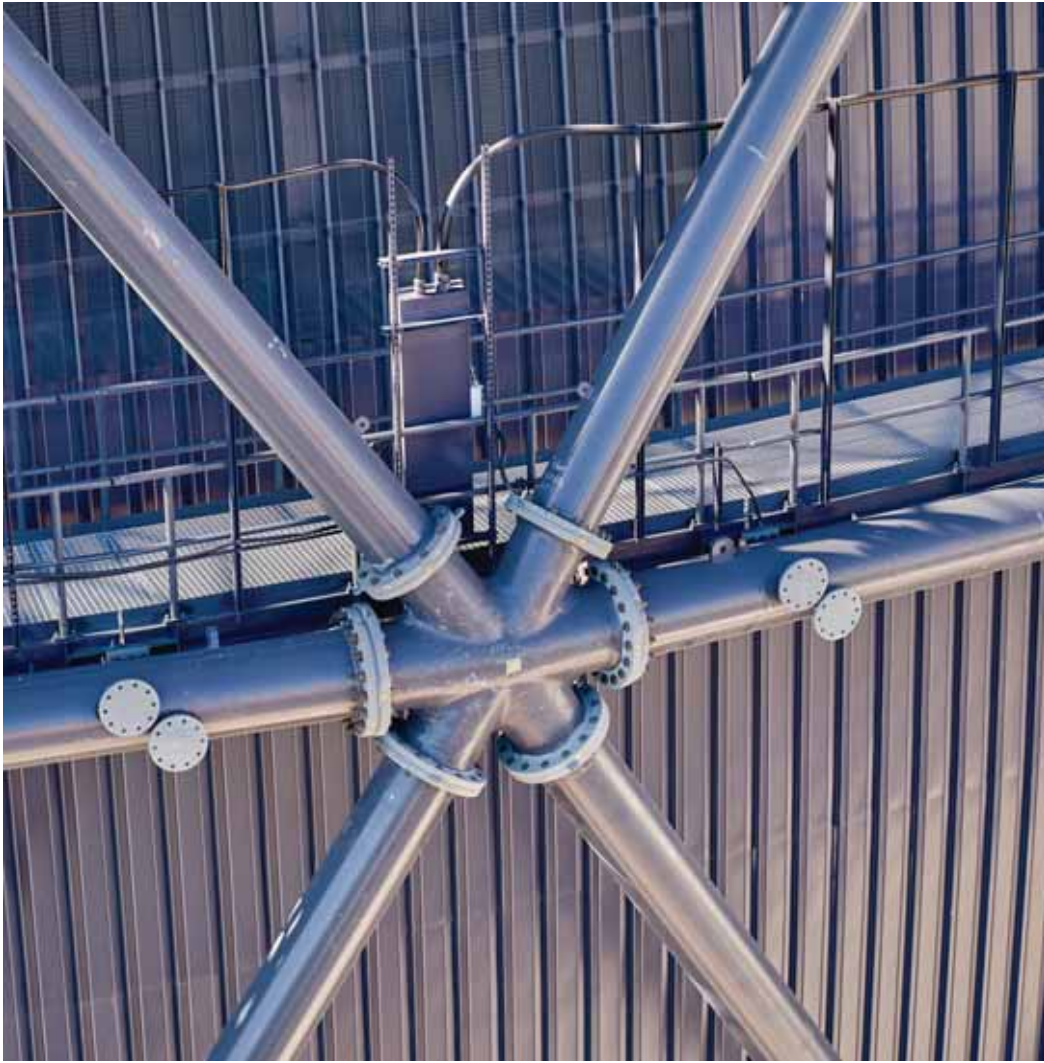
Structural Engineering: Severud, Cundall, SDLA

Architect: POPULOUS

Steel Casting Design-Build: CAST CONNEX

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA



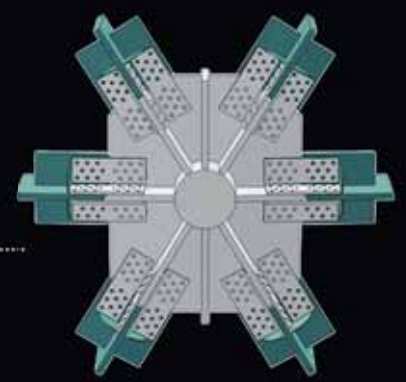




Typical Latitude 3 Node



CAST NODE OPTION

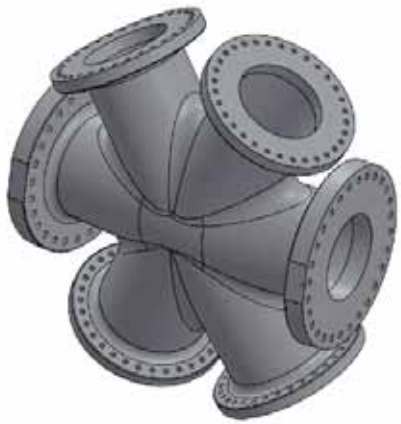


FABRICATED NODE

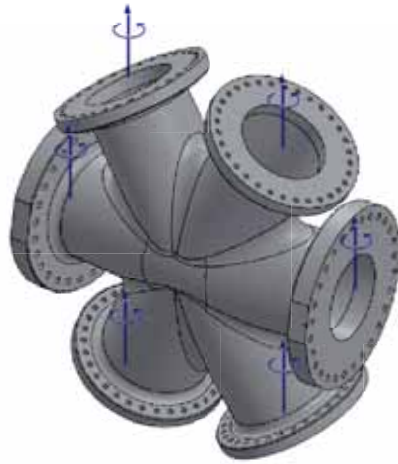
VS.

3.9T + 1.7T Flange plates welded to pipes	TONNAGE	12.8T Fabricated node and pipe
104 Ø1-1/8" A490 SC Bolts in oversized holes	BOLTS	at least 432 Ø1-1/8" A490 Bolts in standard holes Or 864 Bolts in oversized holes
86^{ft2} Node Surface Area for Coatings	COATINGS	at least 350^{ft2} Node Surface Area for Coatings
Precision CNC-machined flanges and bolt holes for spatial location and planar angle	TOLERANCES	As Fabricated Subject to mill tolerances and distortion due to heat of welding
Included in casting price. 100% UT and 100% MT of every casting	N . D . E	-
95% complete on 2/21/2019	DETAILING	Preliminary
100%	COST CERTAINTY	Estimated tonnage and price.

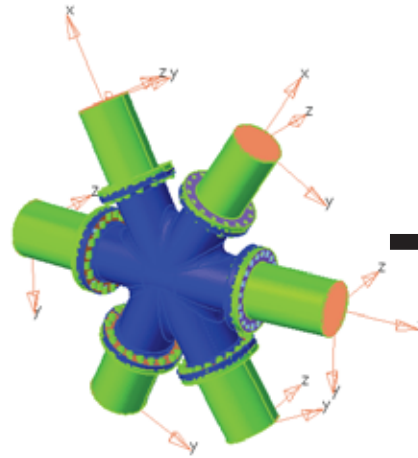
1. Geometry



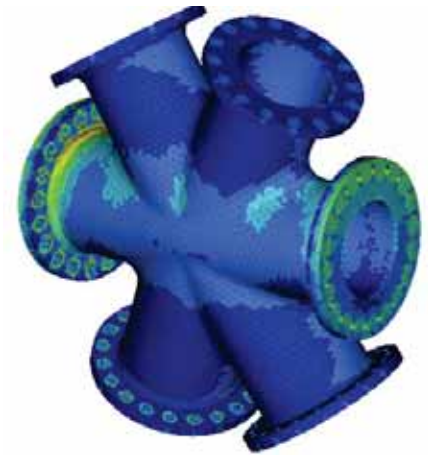
2. Loading

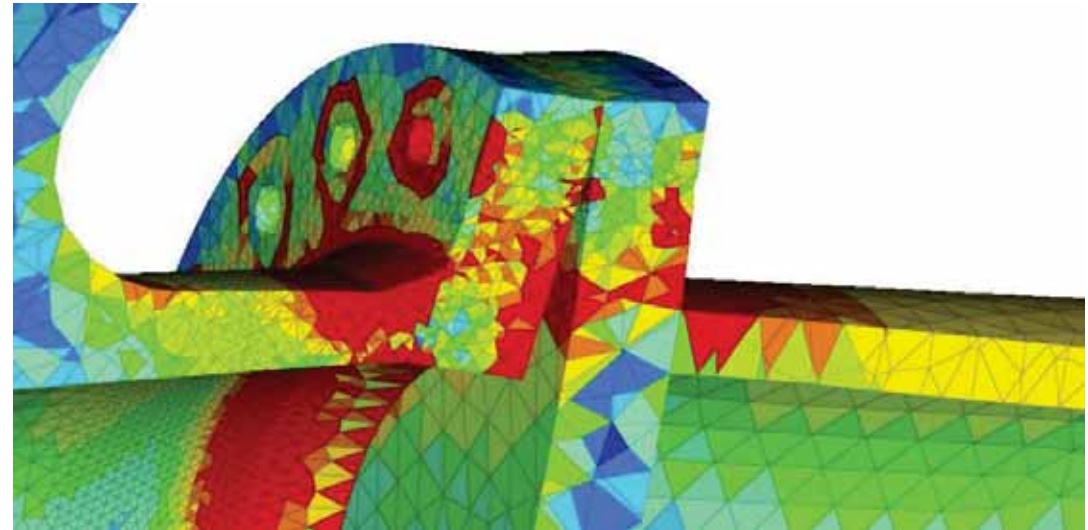
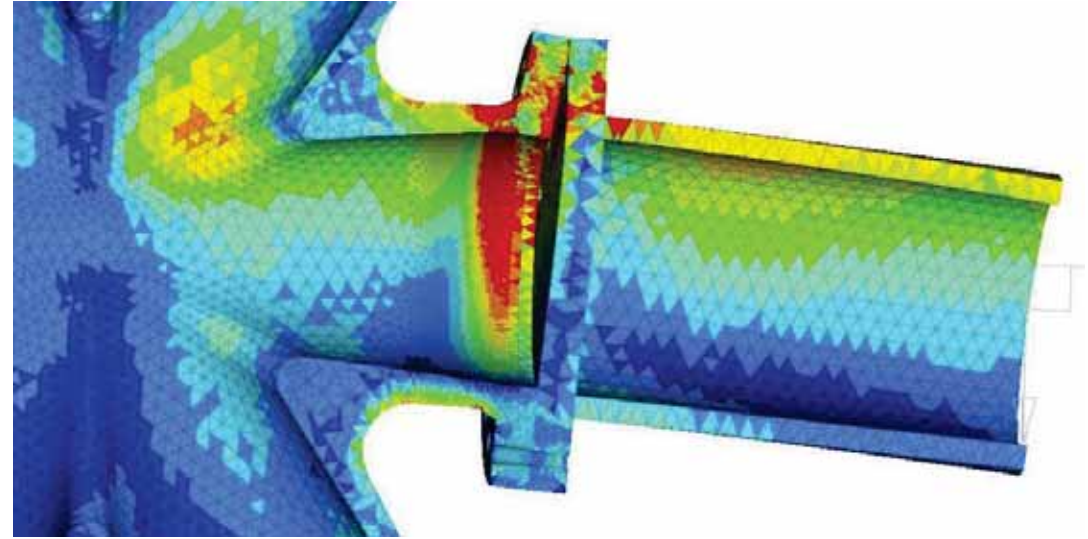
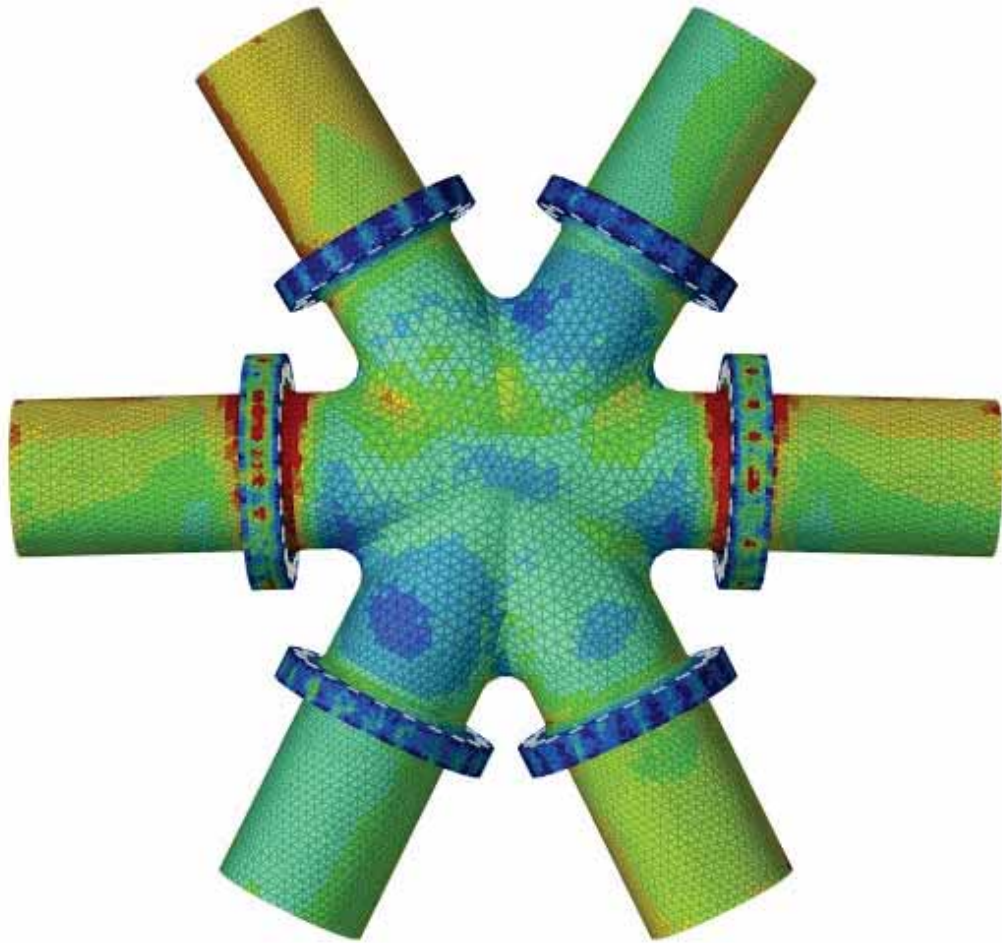


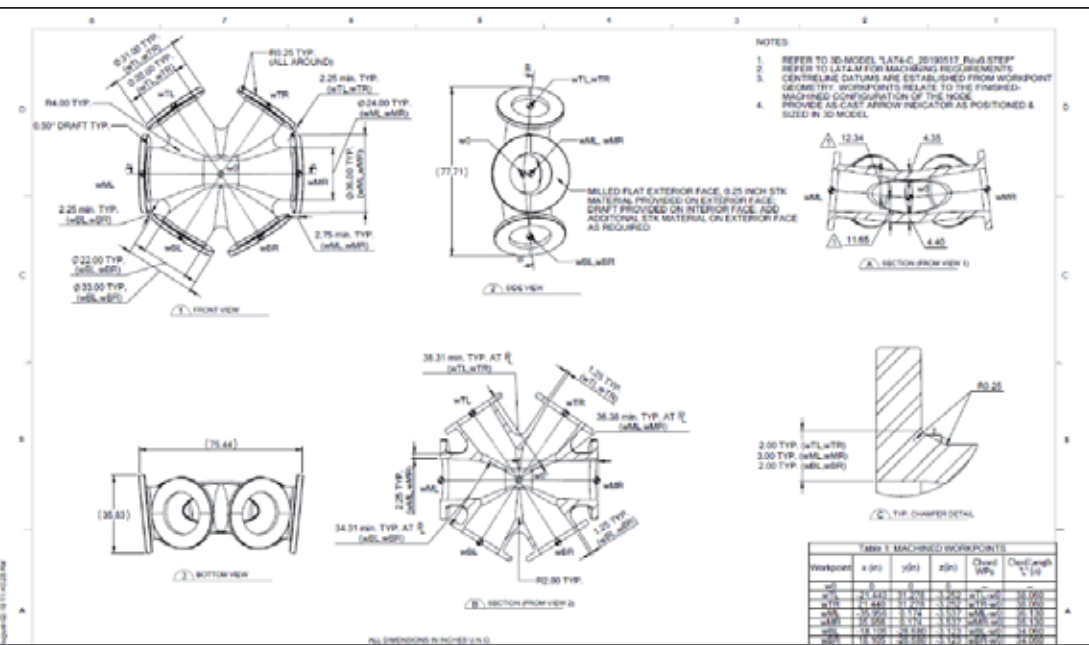
3. FEA Modelling



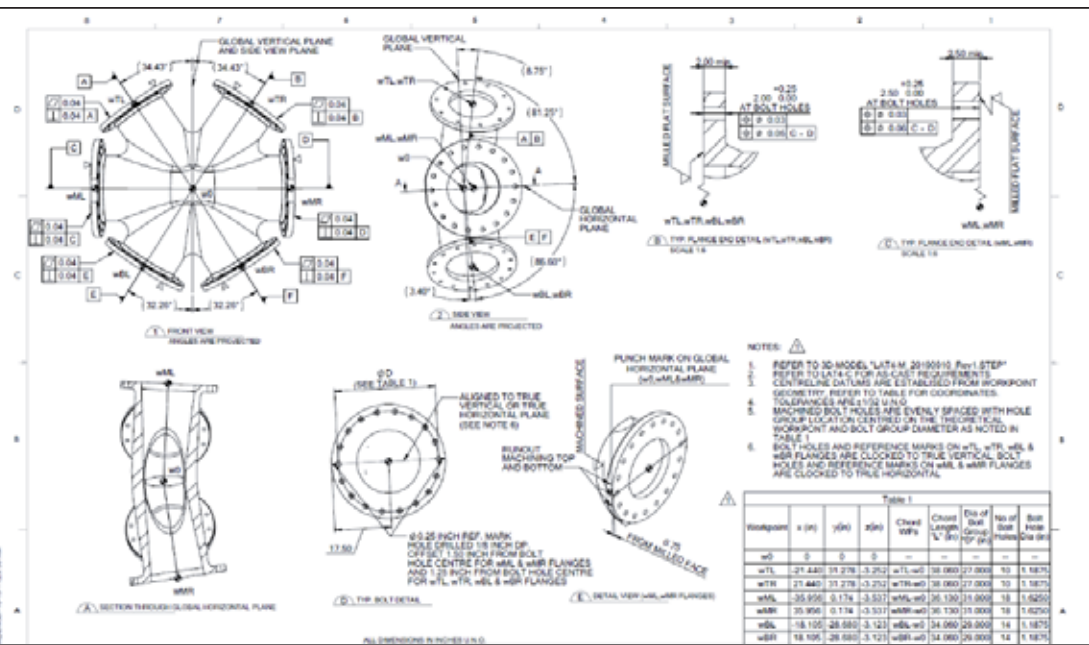
4. Post-Processing





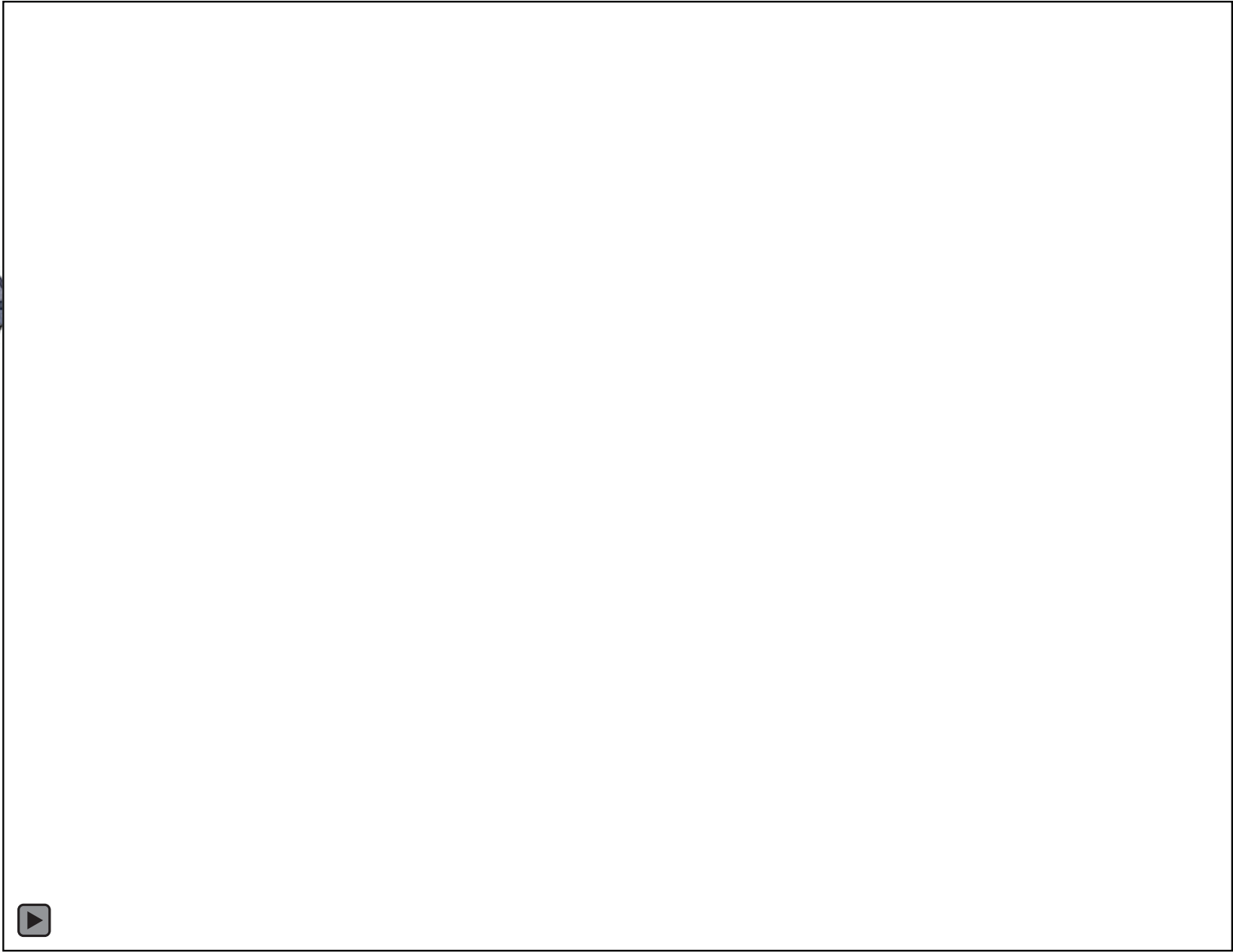


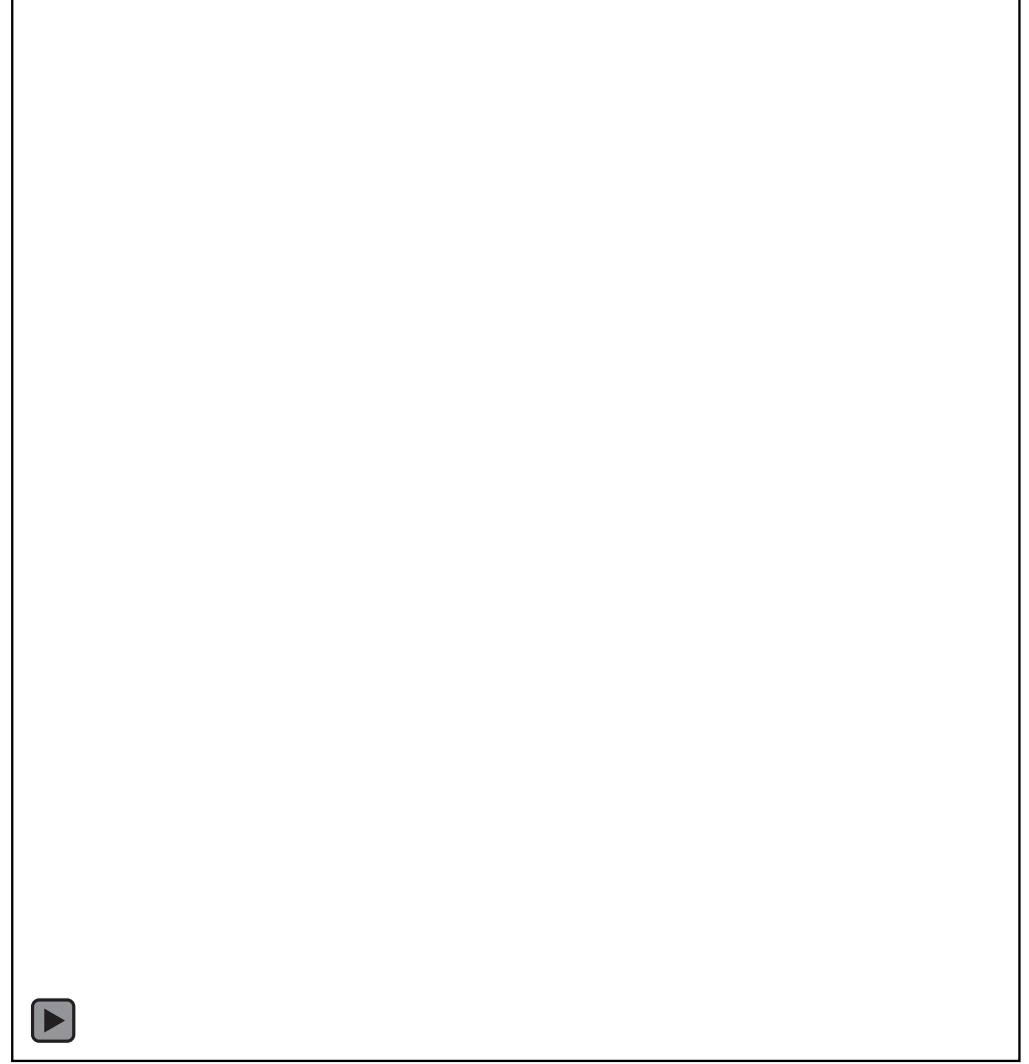
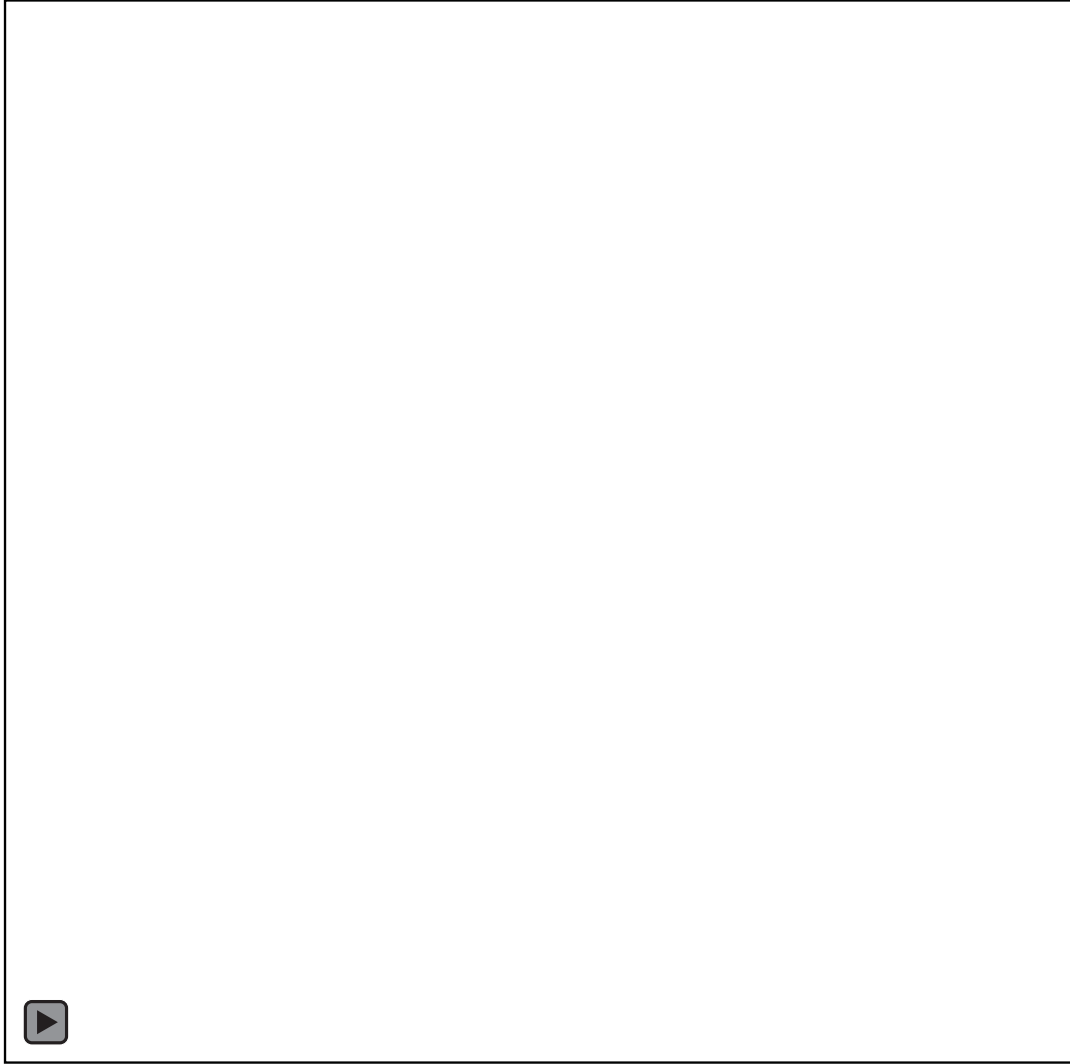
As-Cast shop drawing



Machining shop drawing













NON-DESTRUCTIVE EXAMINATION

- Radiographic Testing (RT)
- Ultrasonic Testing (UT)
- Magnetic Particle Inspection (MT)
- Visual Examination

- **Acceptance Criteria** are based on predefined “levels”, each of which correlates to allowable indication size and distribution, **which in turn correlates to the structural efficacy of the casting**

- **Areas of castings which have indications that exceed Acceptance Criteria undergo production welding** and are re-examined to confirm conformance to specification







STEEL-TIMBER HYBRID CASE
STUDIES



PERFORMANCE BENEFITS OF CAST STEEL NODES: *STEEL-TIMBER HYBRID CONSTRUCTIONS*

Freeform Geometry

Flexible solutions for new construction typology/material, material optimization

Aesthetic quality for exposed structure unmatched by conventional steel fabrication

Improved Structural Performance

Ductile and efficient LFRS for multi-story buildings

Simplification of Construction

Minimized coordination between trades in shop and field activities

Overall Saving in Material, Time and Carbon

Turn-key solutions, pre-engineered, modularized and available off the shelf.

Minimized site time with simple assemblies



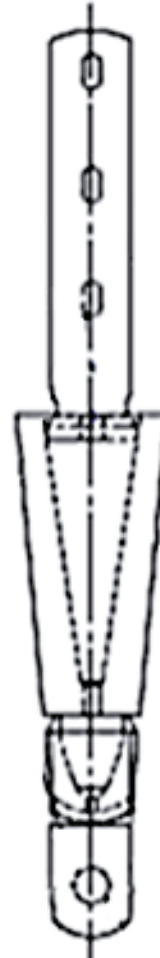
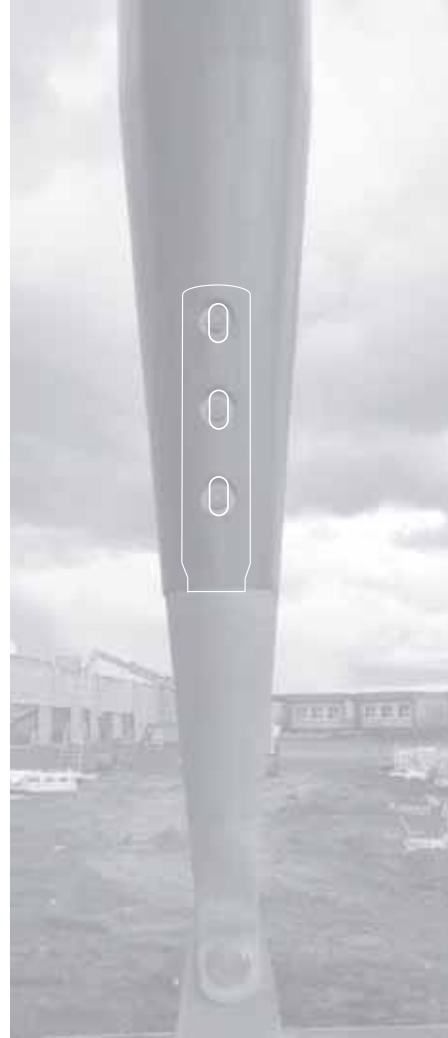
ROY BICKELL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Stantec
Western Archrib

Grand Prairie, Alberta, Canada







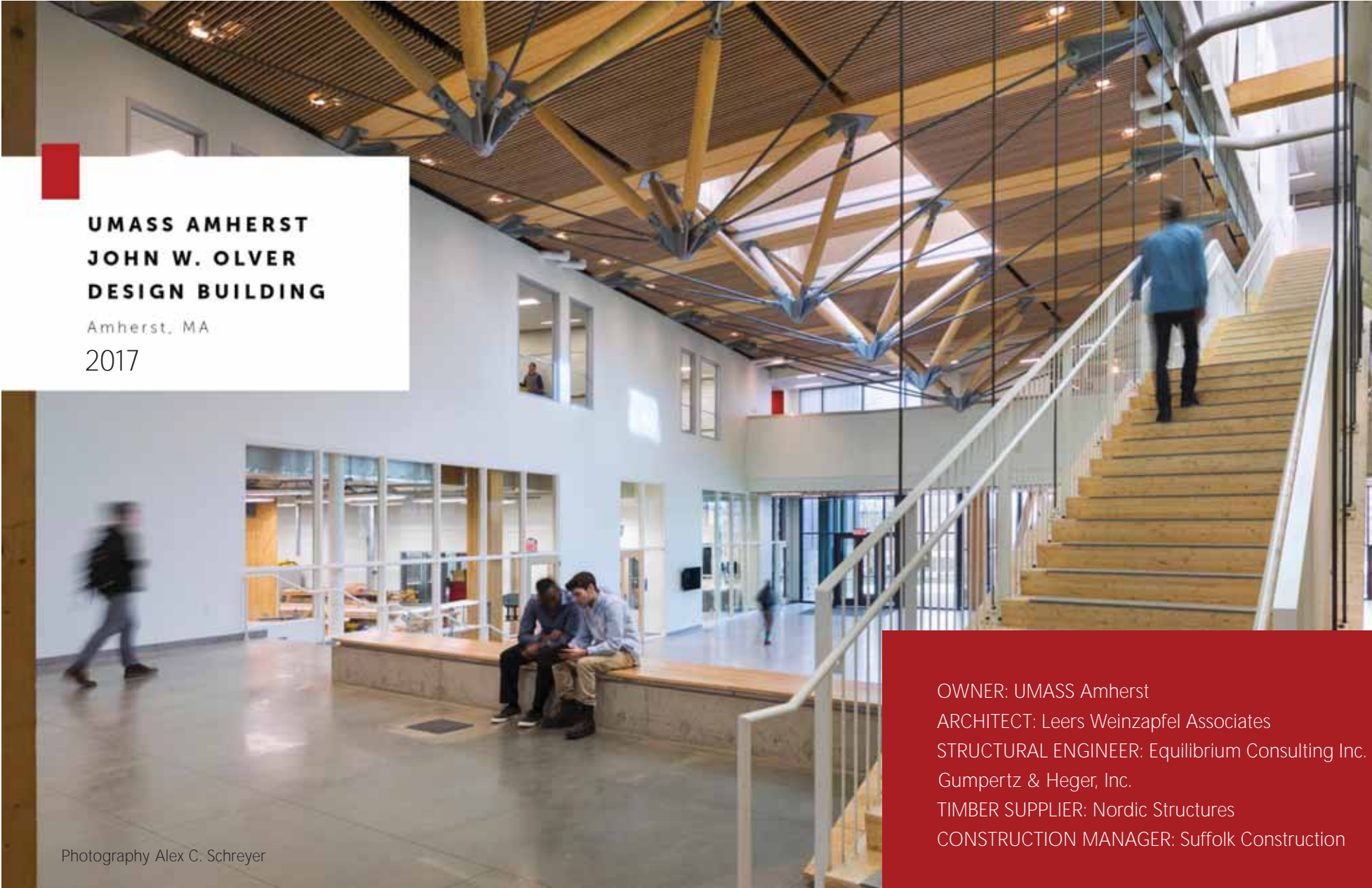
**KNIFE PLATE C/W SLOTTED HOLES
(WELDED TO CAP PLATE)**

CAP PLATE C/W DRAIN HOLES
(WELDED TO ART)

CAST CONNEX ARCHITECTURAL TAPER
(ART-168-MOD C/W DRILLED VENT HOLE &
RECESSED END TO ACCEPT CAP PLATE)

PJP WELD (AESS)

CAST CONNEX UNIVERSAL PIN CONNECTOR
(UPC-102L-MOD C/W WITH DRILLED VENT
HOLE)



**UMASS AMHERST
JOHN W. OLVER
DESIGN BUILDING**

Amherst, MA
2017

OWNER: UMASS Amherst
ARCHITECT: Leers Weinzapfel Associates
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: Equilibrium Consulting Inc. and Simpson
Gumpertz & Heger, Inc.
TIMBER SUPPLIER: Nordic Structures
CONSTRUCTION MANAGER: Suffolk Construction

Photography Alex C. Schreyer

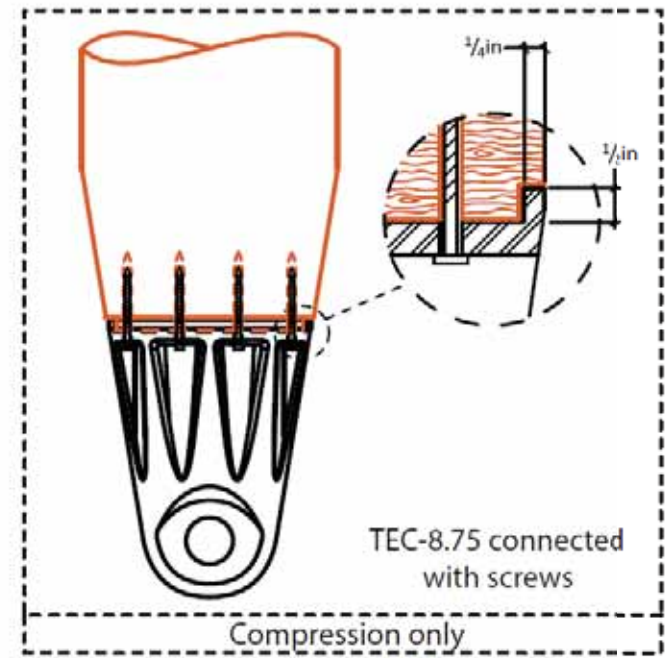
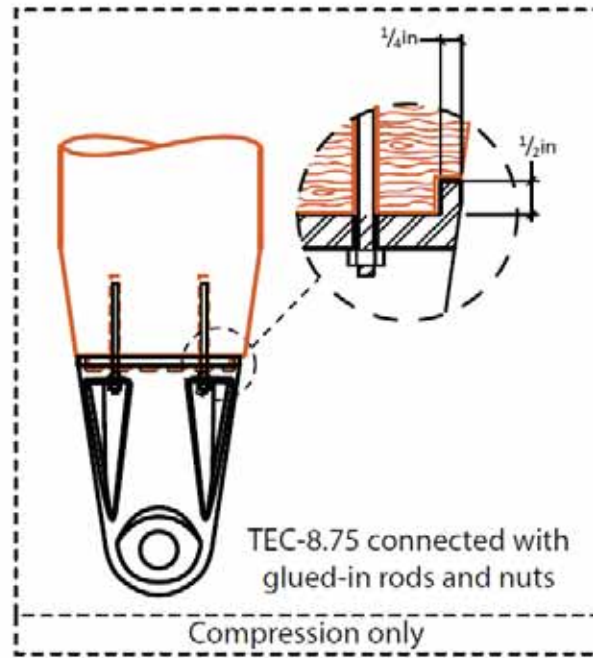
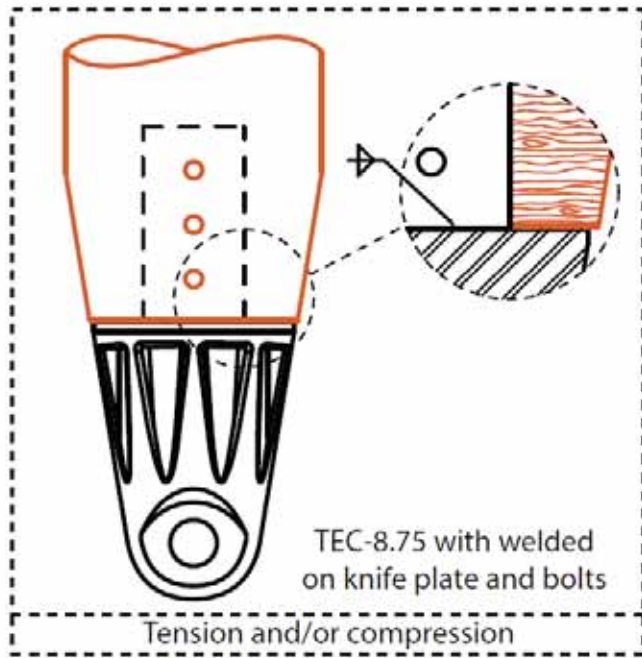


Photography Alex C. Schreyer



TIMBER END
CONNECTOR™





DETAIL 2: TEC TO TIMBER



**VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT (YVR)
PIER D EXPANSION**

Richmond, BC

2020

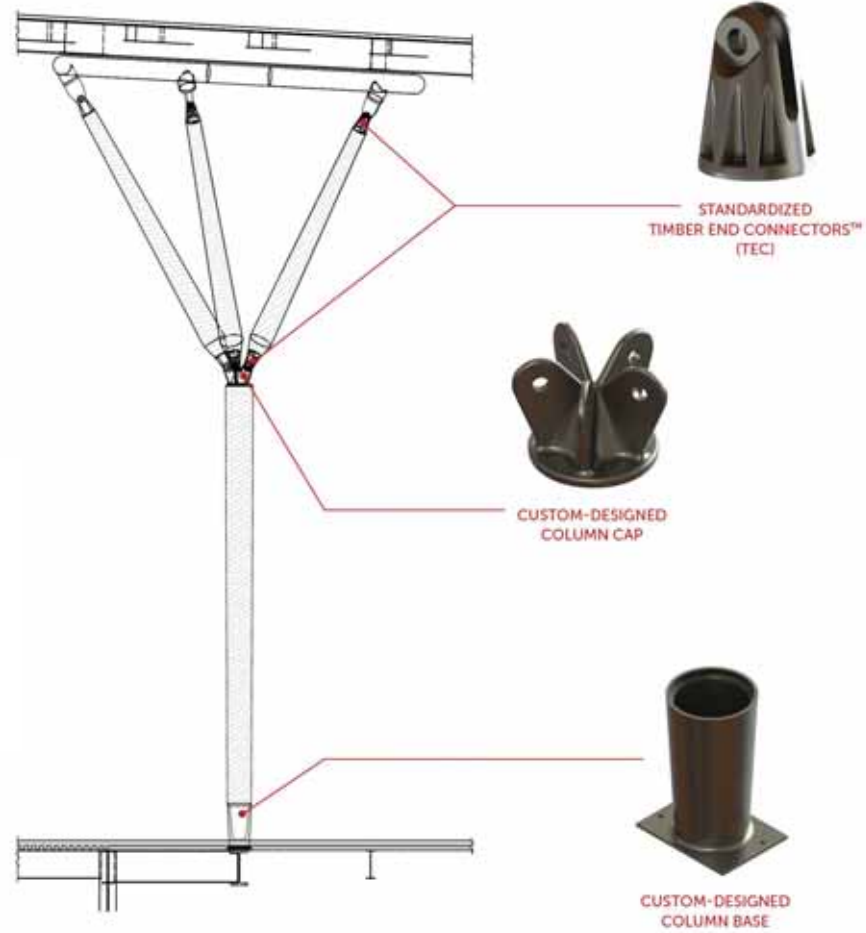
OWNER: YVR Airport Authority
ARCHITECT: Kasian Architecture
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: Bush, Bolman & Partners, LLP
STEEL FABRICATOR: Whitemud Ironworks Group
TIMBER SUPPLIER: FraserWood Industries
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: PCL Construction

Photography Courtesy of Vancouver International Airport and Andy Metten





TREE COLUMN



Typical structural tree elevation















UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA STUDENT RESIDENCES

Victoria, BC
2022 expected

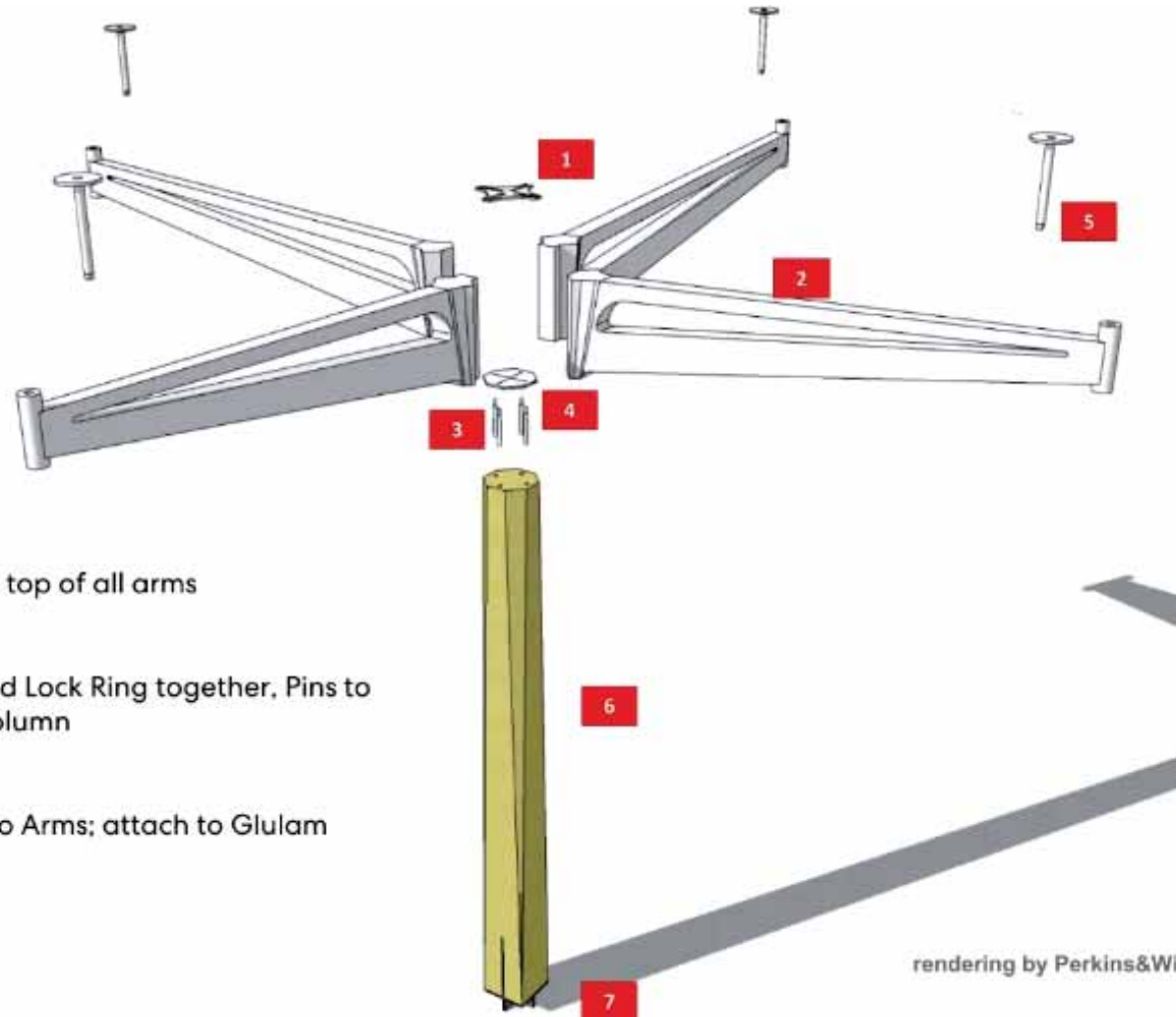


Rendering by Perkins + Will

OWNER: University of Victoria
ARCHITECT: Perkins + Will
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: Fast + Epp
STEEL FABRICATOR: George Third & Son Ltd.
TIMBER SUPPLIER: Seagate Mass Timber and Kalesnikoff
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: EllisDon Kinetic JV



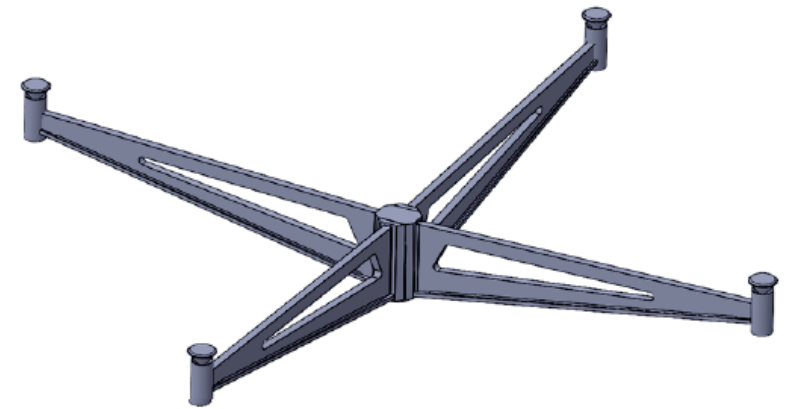
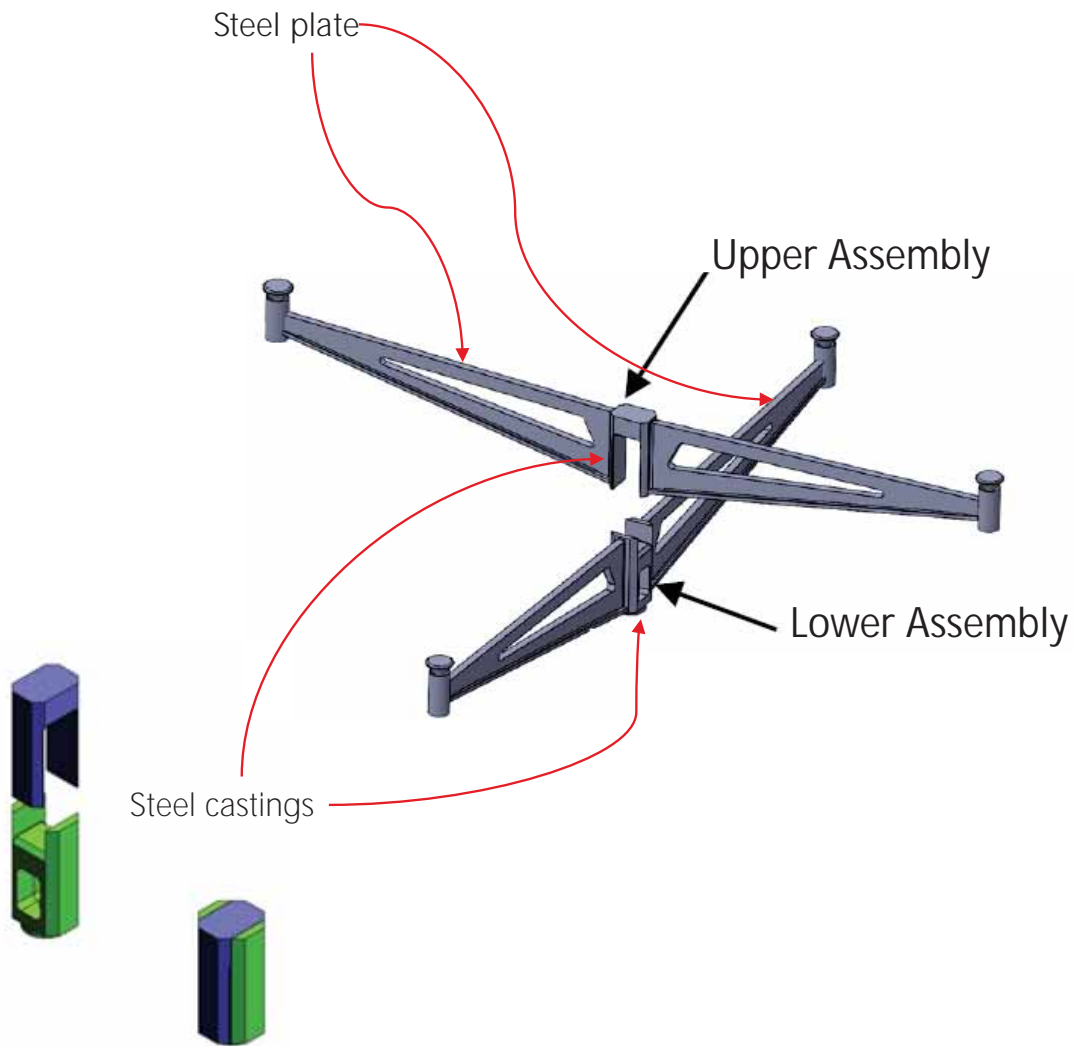
Tree Columns



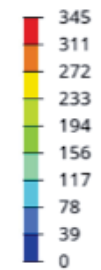
Exploded view

- 1 Crown Top Plate
To be welded to top of all arms
- 2 Arms
- 3 Crown pins
To hold arms and Lock Ring together, Pins to be glued into Column
- 4 Arm Lock Ring
- 5 Node
Threaded (?) into Arms; attach to Glulam Beams?
- 6 Column
- 7 Column Base

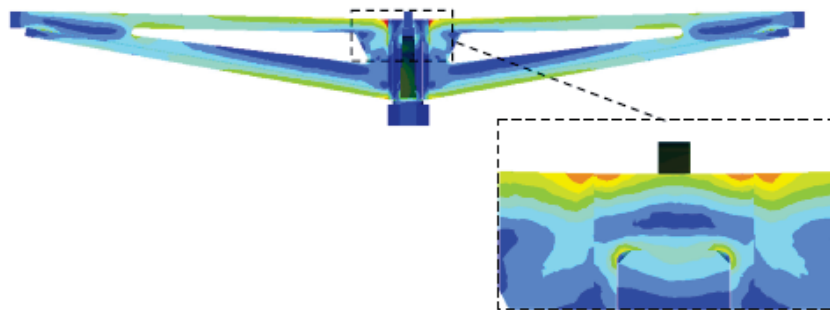
rendering by Perkins&Will



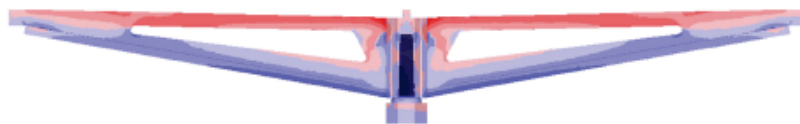
After shop welding castings to steel plate arms, Upper and Lower Assemblies are flat packed for transport to site. On site, Lower Assembly is bolted to glulam column before Upper Assembly is fit over top.



Upper Casting and Adjoining Cantilevers

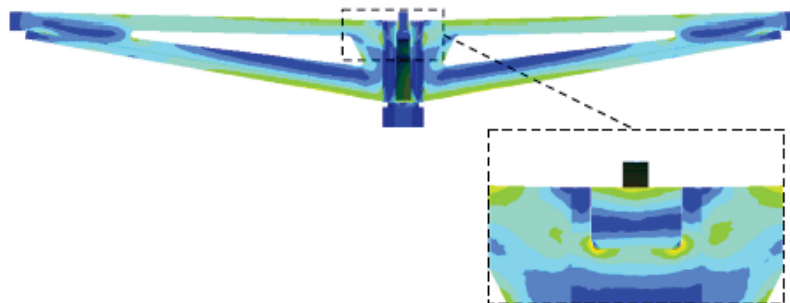


Signed Von Mises – showing locations of tension and compression



Lower Casting and Adjoining Cantilevers

Von Mises Stress Contour



Signed Von Mises – showing locations of tension and compression

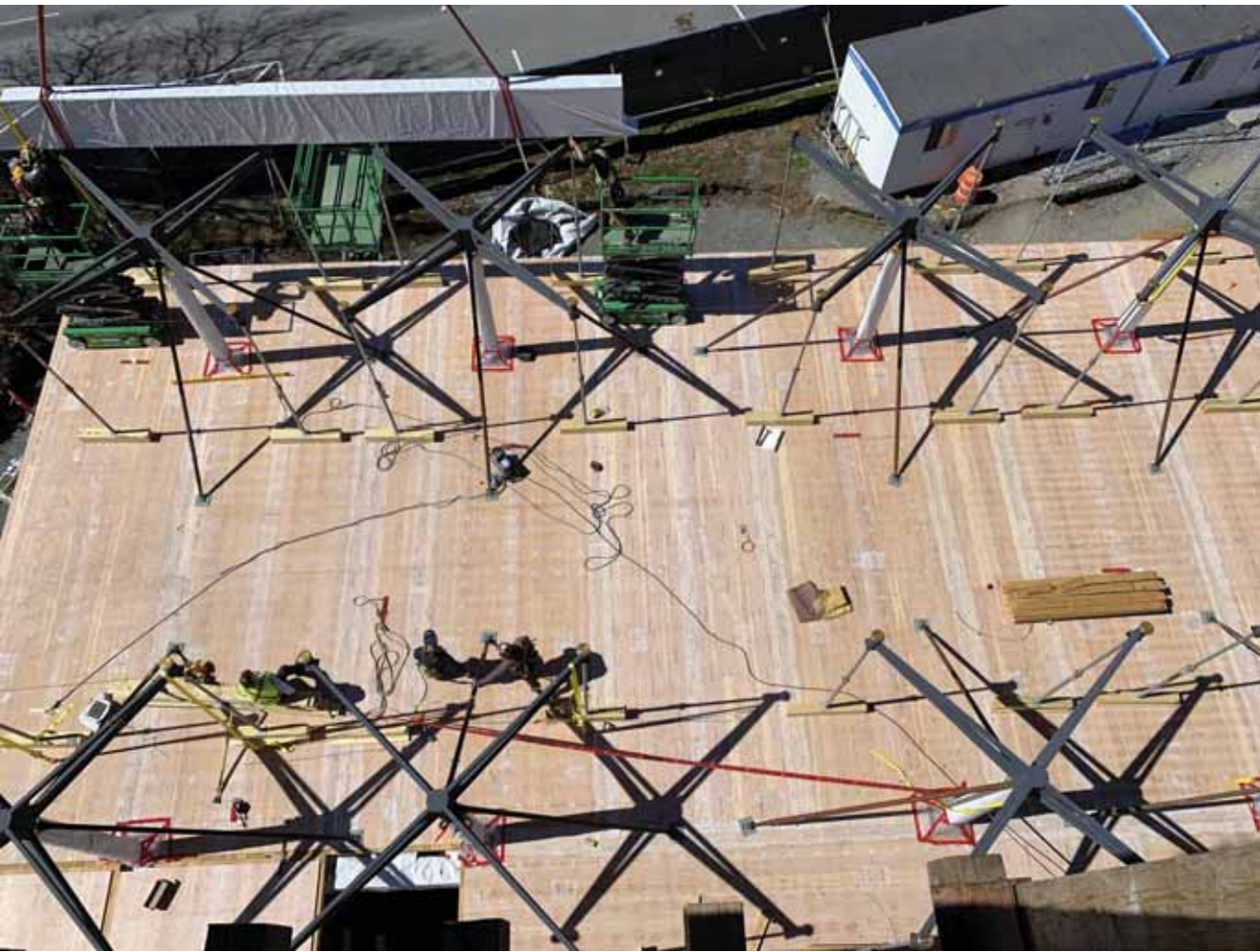


Figure 15: Cantilever Von Mises Stress Results











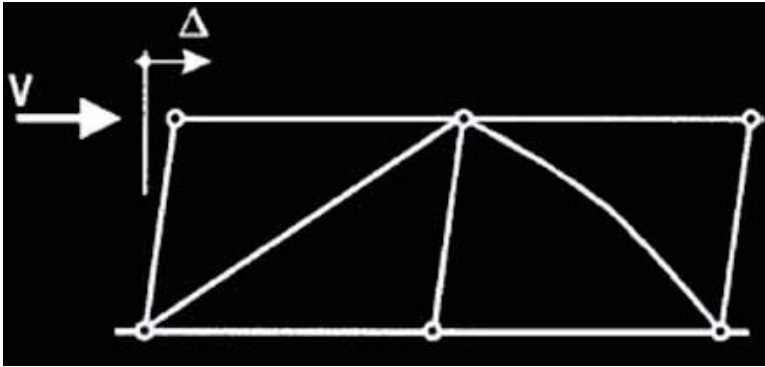
**843 N SPRING
STREET**

Los Angeles, CA

2022

OWNER: Redcar Properties
ARCHITECT: Lever Architecture
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: Glotman Simpson Consulting Engineers
STEEL FABRICATOR: Orange County Erectors, Inc
TIMBER SUPPLIER: Structurlam
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Shawmut

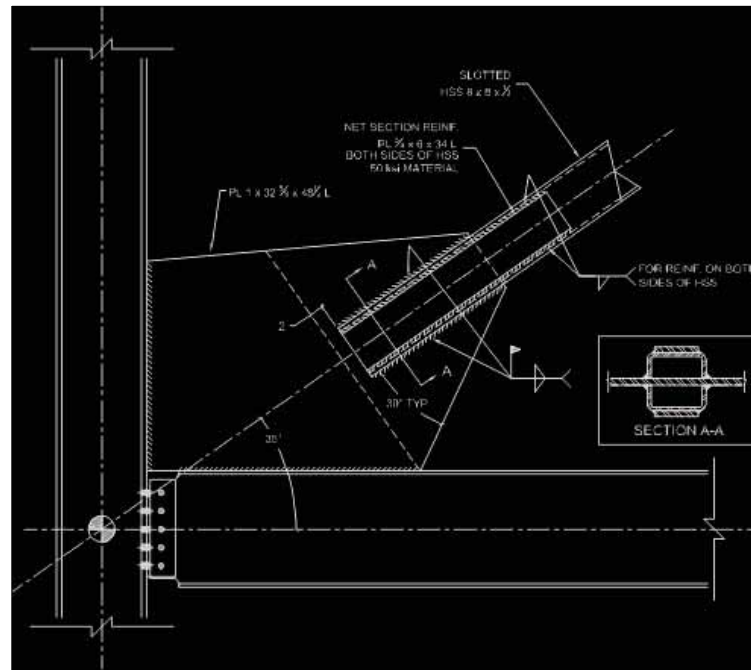




Special Concentric Braced Frame (SCBF) Basics

As a frame deforms beyond its elastic range, its brace members are intended to **yield in tension** and **buckle in compression**

Special detailing requirements of SCBF connections can be **time consuming to design**, and are **complex to fabricate and erect**, requiring **local reinforcement**, **extensive field welding** and consequent **special inspections**



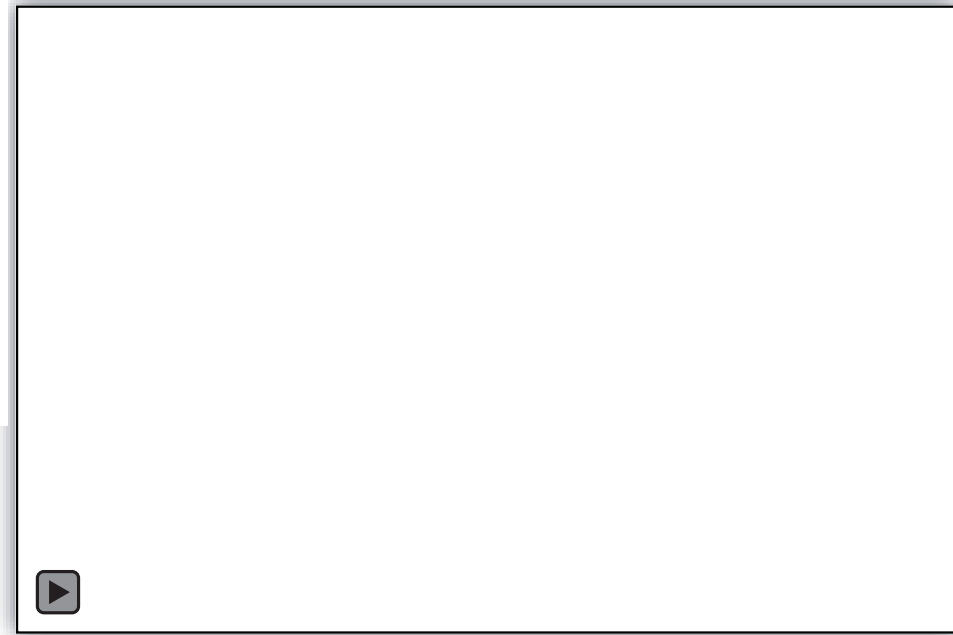
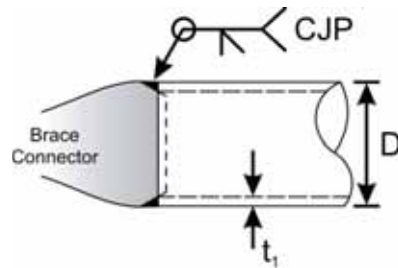
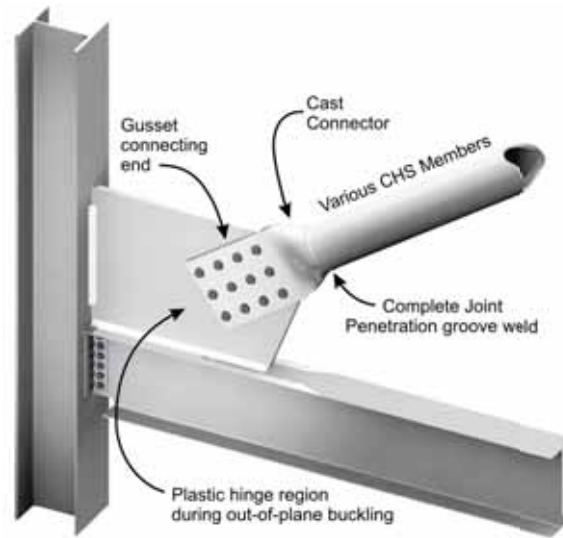
Field welded option



Field bolted option

HIGH STRENGTH CONNECTORS™

CAST CONNEX High Strength Connectors™ simplify and improve connections to round hollow structural section (HSS) brace members in seismic-resistant concentrically braced frames (SCBF, OCBF, MD-CBF or LD-CBF).









QUESTIONS?

CASTCONNEX[®]
innovative components for inspired designs

Jennifer Anna Pazdon, MSE, PE

Vice President, USA | Director, UK Division

j.pazdon@castconnex.com

www.castconnex.com



HIB



UPC
Universal Pin
Connector



CC
Custom
Casting



TEC
Timber End
Connector



Architectural
Taper
ART

ART + UPC



HSC
High Strength
Connector



DBS