



ASCOT RACECOURSE REDEVELOPMENT BERKSHIRE, UK

Ascot is arguably the world's most famous race venue with Royal patronage dating back to 1711. It hosts a number of premier events including the famous Royal Ascot meeting in June. The Ascot Authority's aspiration to redevelop Ascot as 'the finest racecourse in the world', will provide spectators and visitors with world class racing and viewing facilities. The project entailed a thorough reorganisation and rebuilding of the facilities at Ascot.

The project comprised two main components: the enlargement of the current site and the construction of a new grandstand. The enlarged site was created by relocating the existing 'Straight Mile' track 42m to the north. Two major road underpasses provide the track with permanent crossings to an existing road, as well as serving as access routes to prevent traffic congestion on race days.

Circulation inside the 80,000 capacity grandstand was a key aspect of the design. Using SMART Move, our in-house dynamic network based crowd flow simulation

software, Buro Happold used to optimise the placement and sizing of stairs, escalators and walkways for the building. The work also involved assessment of crowd movement at the entrance, betting areas, parade ring and cafes.

CLIENT
Ascot Authority (Holdings) Ltd

ARCHITECT
HOK SVE

SERVICES PROVIDED BY
BUROHAPPOLD
Structural engineering, building services engineering, crowd circulation modelling, contamination consultancy, geotechnical engineering, civil engineering, transport planning, fire engineering and crowd flow consultancy