



CENTRAL OLYMPIC STADIUM SOCHI, RUSSIA

The comfort and safety of the visitors to the Sochi stadium, in all modes of operation, is a vital factor in the success of the events held there, and of the stadium itself. A design sympathetic to visitor comfort during circulation is possible if all aspects of people movement are taken into consideration. Buro Happold's team of experts have been engaged on the project with this aim in mind.

The Sochi Stadium will be designed for three main modes of operation, namely

Olympics mode: the stadium will be used for the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2014 Olympic Winter Games, capacity 40,000 people.

FIFA World Cup mode: the stadium will be used as a venue for the 2018 FIFA football World Cup, capacity is 45,000 people.

Legacy mode: the stadium will be used at a reduced capacity as a domestic football stadium, capacity of approximately 25,000 people.

The study involved a detailed qualitative review of the architect's drawings with respect to circulation, simple desk study calculations and detailed flow simulations of the critical egress.

A key part of the project consisted was assisting the architects and clients with interpreting and assessing the impact of differences between Russian and international codes relating to crowd flows (e.g. acceptable density levels for enclosed sport venues).

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