

Dover Sea Wall Hybrid FRP Footbridge Replacement



Overview

A replacement FRP footbridge in Dover, Kent, designed and manufactured by Pipex px®.

Details

Location	Dover Sea Wall Hybrid FRP Footbridge Replacement
Description	A FRP replacement for a condemed railway footbridge.
Client	Network Rail
Date of project	2017
Where FRP composites are used and why	By using FRPs the lightweight bridge structure, which is typically a third of the weight of its metallic equivalent, was able to be pre-fabricated offsite to enable fast track installation. Having low conductivity, FRPs are also compliant with Network Rail's standards for footbridges over live railway tracks. Additionally, FRPs are highly corrosion resistant, have a design life expectancy of 120 years, fire retardant, and virtually maintenance free which are particularly important for a structure over a busy
	railway line.
Specific design details	The hybrid footbridge was manufactured from a combination of pultruded and resin-infused components. The bespoke bridge decks, top cords and anti-slip phenolic wear plates were resin infused; the truss members, stairwells, landings and parapet panels are manufactured from FRP pultruded sections and plate.
	Each footbridge – two were placed together with connecting staircases & landings to span the railway tracks – weighs just 4.5 tonnes, typically 1/3rd the weight of metallic equivalents. The footbridge structure is approximately 31 metres long x 2.4m wide x 3.4m high.
	The structure is sprayed Moss Green (BS 14C40) as per the clients requirements.
Project partners	Designer/Manufacturer – Pipex px® Contractor - Costain End User - Network Rail