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Margaret Court Arena  
Melbourne Park

Roof design

The project

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The project

To Melbourne CBD

Margaret Court Arena

Melbourne Park Masterplan

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The project

- AUD\$160m redevelopment.
- Enhances the facilities for the showcase Australian Open.
- Increased seating capacity by 1500 seats to over 7000 seats.
- Multi-purpose venue
  - Tennis, netball, basketball, concerts, etc
- Retractable roof – mainly for the Australian Open.


Business case

- Adjacent Rod Laver Arena, a well used multi-purpose venue.
- MCA currently used 2 weeks of the year with little shelter for people.
- Converted to an all year round venue that will cater for smaller, more intimate acts.
- Can operate simultaneously with RLA.

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### The team

**Owner:** Melbourne Olympic Park Trust  
**Project Manager:** Major Projects Victoria  
**Managing Contractor:** Lend Lease  
**Architect:** NH Architecture + Populous  
**Structural engineer:** Aurecon  
**Services engineer:** Aurecon



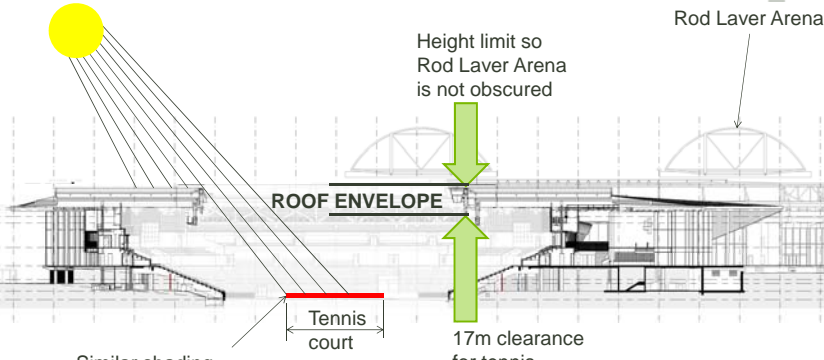
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### Fly through




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### Design constraints



Height limit so Rod Laver Arena is not obscured


17m clearance for tennis

Similar shading characteristics to RLA and Hisense Arena, as agreed with Tennis Australia




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### Wind tunnel test



- Pressure tap locations
- Façade pressures
- External roof pressures
  - Max/Min Design Pressures
  - Load Response Coefficient method (LRC) used for main structural elements
- Internal pressures
- 360° wind direction (at 5° increments)



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### Acoustics and roof build-up

- Total profile is just 1m deep from top of cladding to ceiling soffit

- ▽ Top of cladding
- Thermal insulation
- Structure (beams & braces) & drainage
- Acoustic insulation
- △ Ceiling soffit

**Sound containment**

- Mass
- Sound quality
- Prevent reverberation
- Wool (Tontine)

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### Acoustics and roof build-up

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### Fixed roof access

- Catwalks
- Sports lighting
- Camera platforms
- Hawk-eye

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### Operable roof

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### Operable Roof Design

- Spans 56m x 32m
- Total dead load of 186 tonnes each panel
- Required to support additional rigging load of 13 tonnes per panel for concerts
- Over 400 members per panel

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### Operable Roof Design

Structural framing

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### Operable Roof Design

- Butterfly trusses
- Lessons learnt

Slave bogie at each ridge on trailing edge

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### Operable roof

Resist horizontal loads via roof bracing

Lateral restraint bogie

Main (drive) bogies (x2)

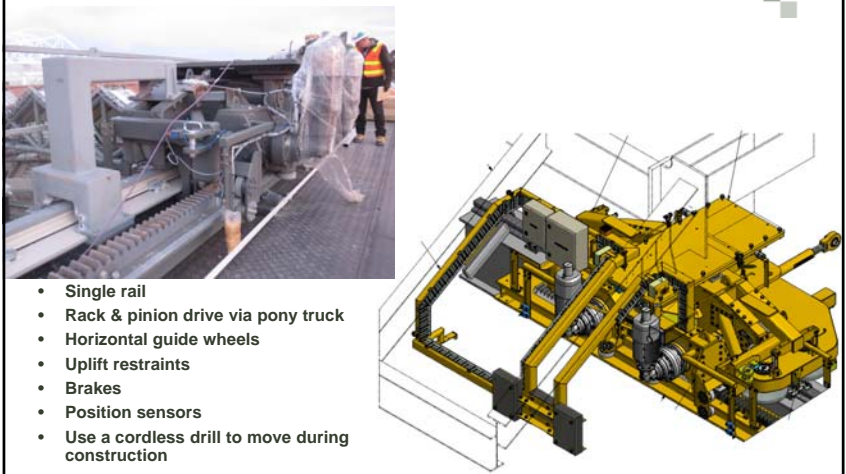
Trailing edge bogies (x7)

ROOF OPENING BELOW

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### Main drive bogies



- Single rail
- Rack & pinion drive via pony truck
- Horizontal guide wheels
- Uplift restraints
- Brakes
- Position sensors
- Use a cordless drill to move during construction

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### Trailing bogies

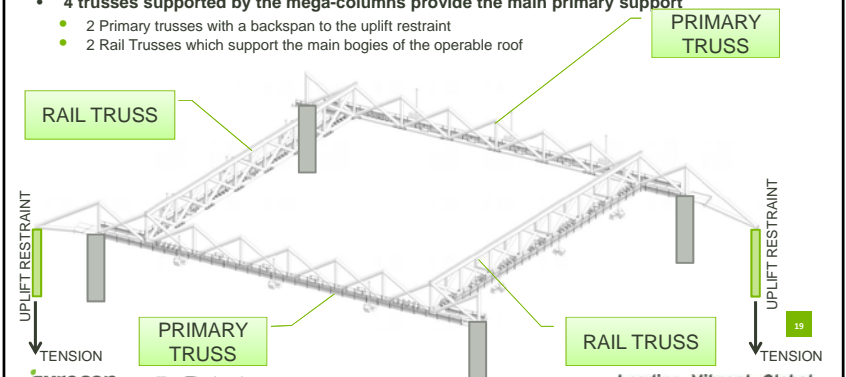


- Slave bogie
- Horizontal guide wheels
- Uplift restraint

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### Fixed Roof Design

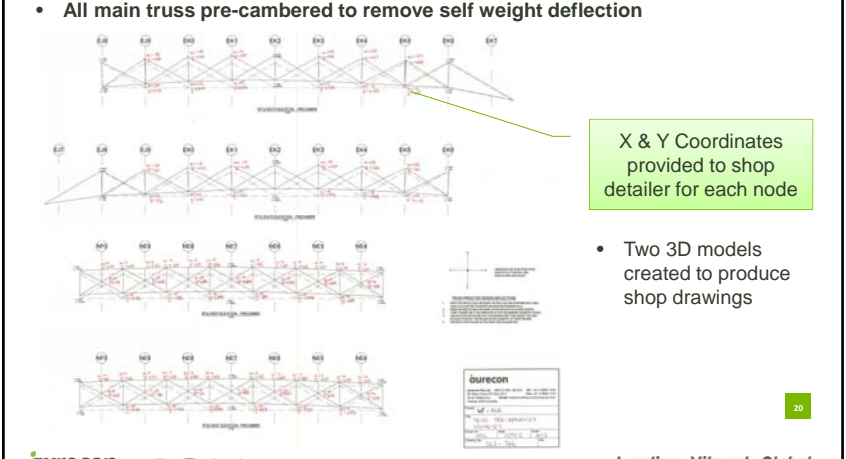
- Covers an area of 9300m<sup>2</sup>
- Supported on 4 concrete mega-columns and 76 steel column including 2 uplift restraints
- 4 trusses supported by the mega-columns provide the main primary support
  - 2 Primary trusses with a backspan to the uplift restraint
  - 2 Rail Trusses which support the main bogies of the operable roof



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### Fixed Roof Design

- All main truss pre-cambered to remove self weight deflection




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### Cladding installation

**Aim**

- Minimise working at heights
- Eliminate need for birdcage scaffolding
- Provide safe working environment
- Fast installation

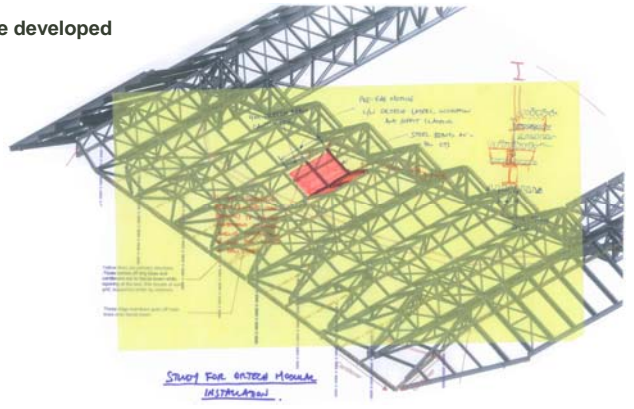


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### Cladding installation

**Scheme developed**



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### Cladding installation



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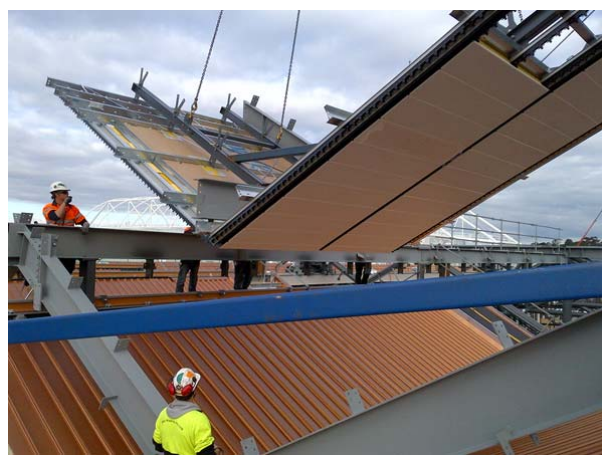
### Cladding installation



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Cladding installation



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Cladding installation

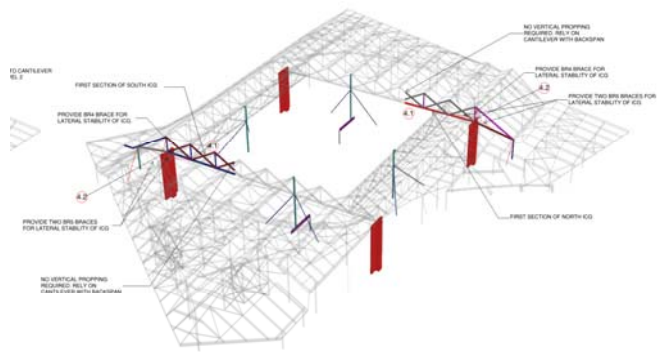


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Construction Sequence



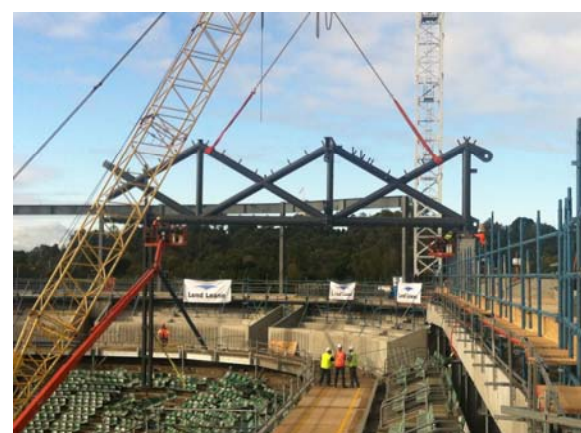
STAGE FOUR

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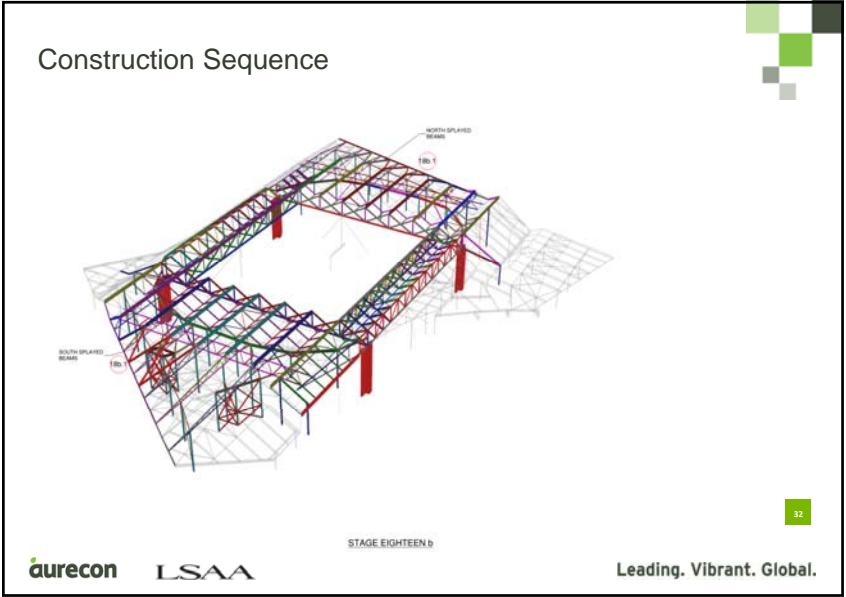
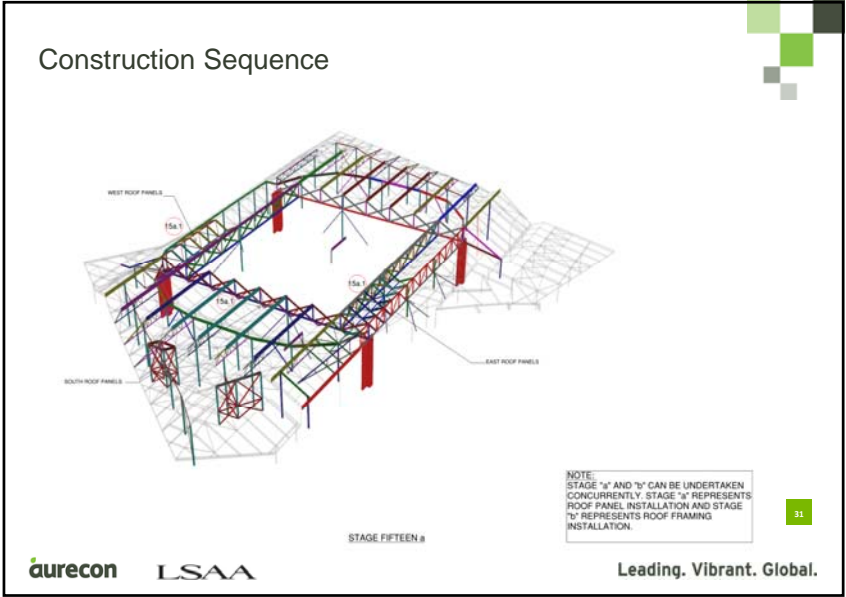
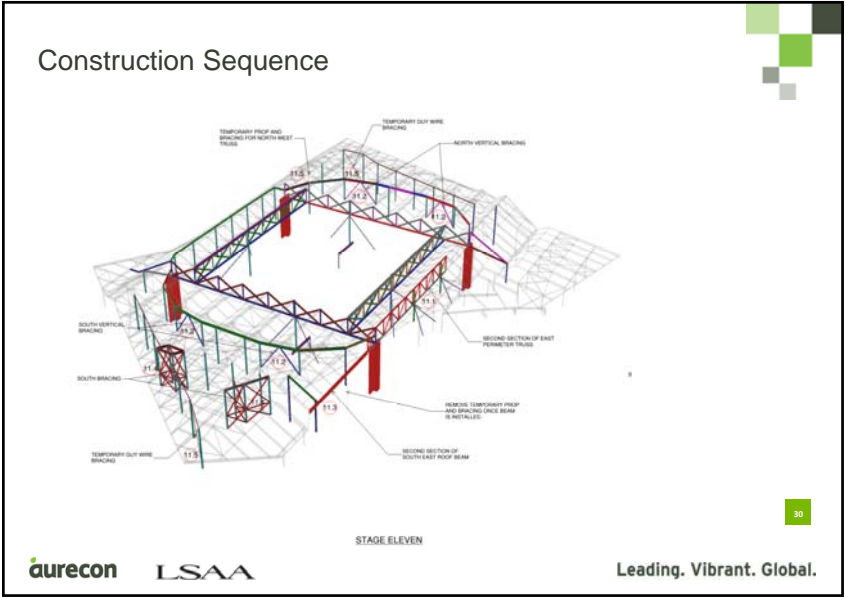
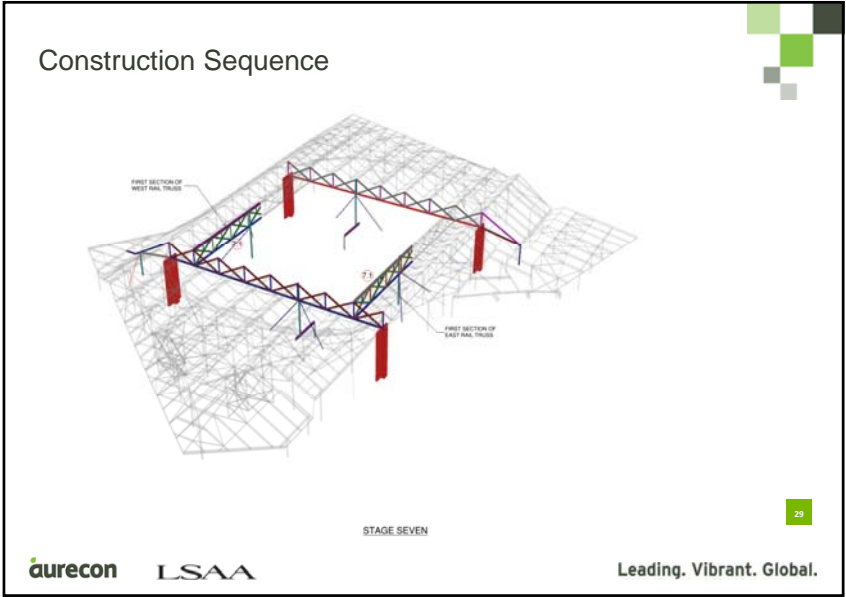
Construction Sequence



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Construction Sequence

STAGE TWENTY FIVE

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Construction Sequence  
Operable Roof

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Construction Sequence  
Operable Roof

STAGE THREE

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Construction Sequence  
Operable Roof

STAGE EIGHT

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