



Park and Ride Bus Stations

Auckland, New Zealand

Park and Ride Bus Stations are a key part of a major new transport initiative to ease congestion on Auckland's busy Northern Motorway and Harbour Bridge. The stations offer commuters the convenience of free car-parking and large, comfortable bus shelters before they board one of the frequent express buses connecting the North Shore with downtown Auckland.

Structurflex worked with the architects for this project to design and manufacture the roof over the waiting area in the bus shelters. The brief was to create a space that retained a sense of daylight; despite the fact the area was completely enclosed.

Structurflex achieved this by designing a roof structure that played on a cloud theme, with a series of tension membrane 'bubbles' arching upward on the exterior of the shelter, and arching downward on the interior. The result is a very striking, playful effect that blends seamlessly with the outdoor environment, bathing passengers in natural diffused daylight while enabling them to remain sheltered from the outdoors.

The exterior membrane also features special self-cleaning properties when it rains, so the fabric will remain fresh and crisp-looking for decades.

At night the unique roof structure comes to life with special light fixtures contained within the double-skinned membrane producing a dramatic glowing effect. This is a very cost-effective solution as it involves a low power input for such a high quality light output.

