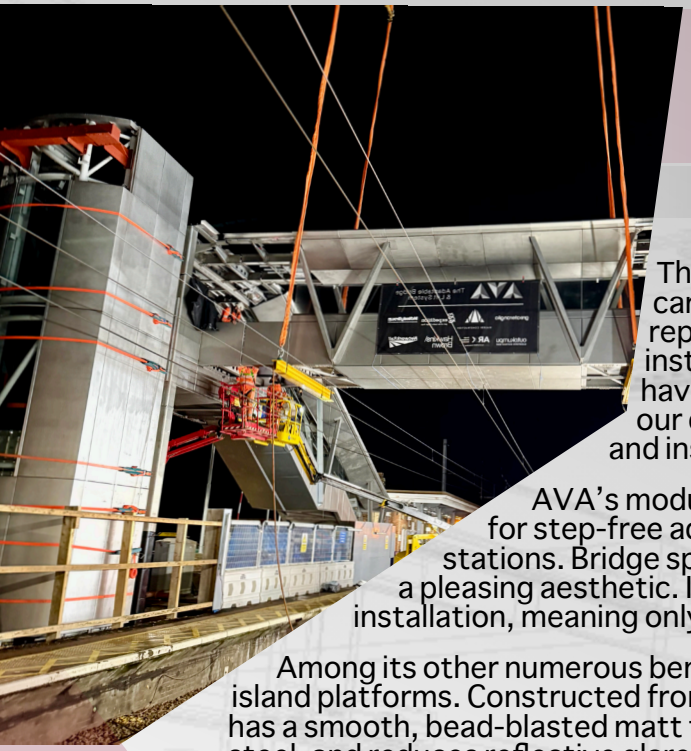
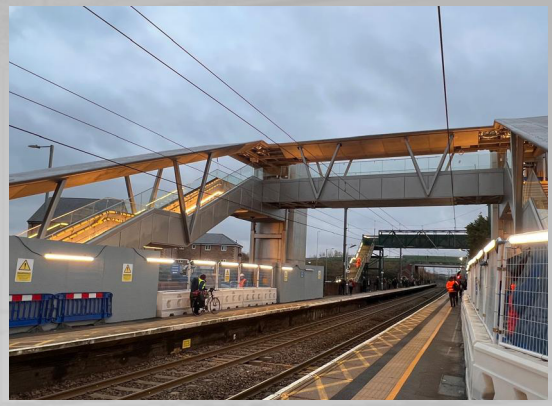


AVA Bridge Stowmarket Station

Client: Walker Construction Value: £1.7M Programme: September 2023 - November 2025



The AVA Bridge is ground-breaking in development innovation, with a carbon footprint-reducing 120 year lifespan and vastly reduced need for repairs, painting and maintenance. The UK'S first AVA bridge is now installed at Stowmarket Station, and McNealy Brown are delighted to have been part of the consortium bringing the first bridge to life - with our complex brief encompassing key areas - from drawing to fabrication and installation.

AVA's modular design is distinctive. Designed for easy installation, it includes lifts for step-free access. The configurable design means AVA can fit the majority of stations. Bridge span and height are flexible, and specialist bolts add both strength and a pleasing aesthetic. Internal cladding and glazing are all fitted before the bridge leaves for installation, meaning only a single possession is required.

Among its other numerous benefits, including customisable options including lifts and roof, AVA is suitable for stations with single spans or island platforms. Constructed from Lean Duplex stainless steel, which has exceptional tensile strength as well as corrosion resistance, it also has a smooth, bead-blasted matt finish. Effective on several levels, this finish enhances the anti-corrosive properties of Lean Duplex stainless steel, and reduces reflective glare for approaching train drivers. Exposed bead-blasted stainless-steel finishes and integrated lighting render it more than functional; it's a quality architectural statement, with longevity, flexibility, and time and money-saving efficiency.



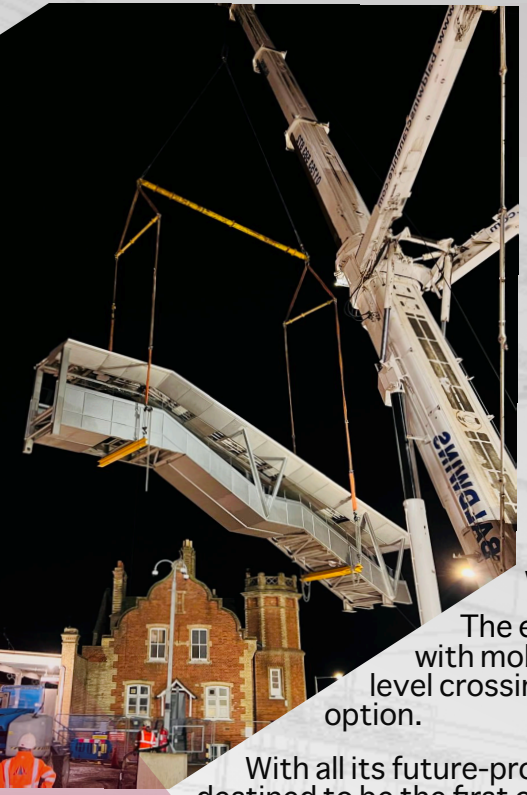




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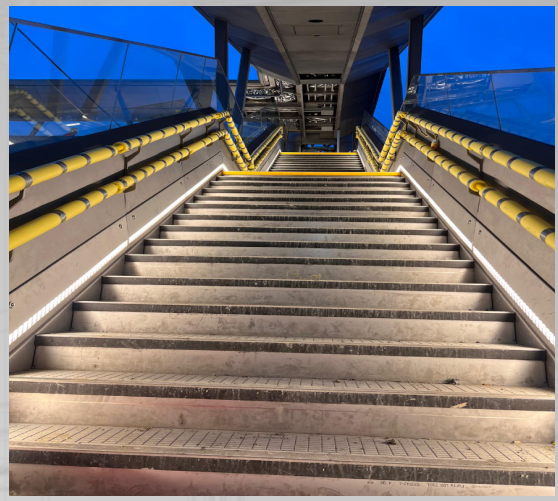
AVA Bridge Stowmarket Station

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The main installation of bridge and lifts was completed within 24 hours using a 500-tonne mobile crane and lorry loader, allowing safe passage of trains in a shorter possession window. Five major movements were required, including positioning the 29-tonne staircase section. The bridge is due to open during the first quarter of 2026, after testing and project works are completed.



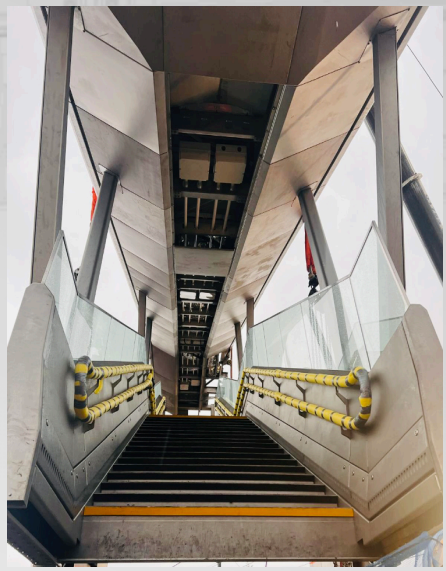


The end result is life-changing for those with mobility issues, replacing the current level crossing which is the only step-free option.

With all its future-proofing benefits and innovative, ground-breaking design., we're confident that Stowmarket's inaugural AVA bridge is destined to be the first of many across the UK.







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