

A NEW, SUSTAINABLE BRIDGE FORM: THE MARGARETENGÜRTEL BRIDGE, VIENNA

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Summary

Facing the threats of a changing climate, increasing strain upon fossil fuels and the resulting economic pressure, it is essential for today's building industry to shift paradigm towards the ideas of ecological sensitivity. Sustainability becomes the key factor demanded not only by continuously updated building codes but also by clients who realise the long-term financial benefits of green design. The trend to minimise energy consumption, emissions and waste that is generated throughout the life cycle of a structure can be seen as an opportunity to re-invent the normal construction processes and to utilise the inherent potentials of increased durability, reduced maintenance costs and even the building costs themselves. This brings with it an opportunity to explore new forms and to develop a new aesthetic expression.

Keywords: footbridge; Vienna; Margaretengürtel; laminated timber; carbon footprint; grey energy; monolithic; urban renewal; maintenance.



Fig. 1 Margaretengürtel Bridge – south view