The Foster-Happold Joint Venture (FHJV) was appointed for the design of four new stations, and delivered the completed tender within a 15 month programme. The Haramain High-Speed Rail allowed us to play a leading role in the development of a major infrastructure project linking the holy cities of Mecca and Medina with a new high-speed rail link. Through stations are located in central Jeddah and in the new city of King Abdullah Economic City (KAEC).

The design of the stations were based on a modular approach, bringing efficiency in terms of programme, delivery and value as well as a coherent architectural language and passenger experience across the railway.

BuroHappold Engineering and the team challenged the previous proposed concepts and dramatically transformed proposals to enhance passenger experience, improving people flow efficiency and optimising the spaces available. This reduced capital cost, minimised operational complexity and showed significant reductions in energy use and operational expenditure, whilst promoting clear opportunities for revenue improvement through retail and future expansion.

Key elements of the architecture and environment incorporate varying degrees of reference to both traditional Islamic architecture and modern finishes and construction techniques to create a project that truly reflects the future of leading-edge transport infrastructure.

Our integrated team, was responsible for the development of passenger safety and comfort process, developed by of security consultants, passenger flow experts, fire engineers, acousticians and systems engineers to ensure that all aspects of the passenger experience was coordinated and placed at the forefront of the design throughout the process.