

## PRESS RELEASE

### London Bridge Station design team celebrates opening of street level concourse and through platforms

Tuesday 30th August, 2016

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The design team working on London Bridge Station – Arcadis, WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff JV and architect Grimshaw, working for main contractor Costain - are celebrating the successful delivery of the second stage of the programme today, with two thirds of the street level concourse and three new through track platforms opened.

One of the most complex and ambitious rail station redevelopments in the UK to date, the transformation of London Bridge Station - part of Network Rail's Thameslink Programme - requires the team to design a safe change from six through and nine terminus platforms to nine through and six terminus, without causing major disruption to passengers.

The development also requires a considered design that will accommodate a significant increase in passenger numbers, and acknowledges the station's iconic status as a key transport hub, both in scale and within its unique heritage location.

Having opened on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August, the new 9,200 sq m concourse will help to ease passenger flow and includes clear visual and spatial connections to platforms and surrounding routes. The latest changes involve opening three through platforms and a significant proportion of the street level concourse with train services from Charing Cross now stopping at the station again and Canon Street services running through non-stop.

The station concourse provides a new civic space for London, connecting previously disparate areas in the north and south. The space improves access through the station and links with the newly created entrance on St Thomas Street, creating a unified station connected to neighbouring sites such as the Shard and other new developments.

The success of the ambitious redevelopment programme, which is running to schedule, is down to a complex staging process. This involves demolishing the old platforms and the arches below and then progressively reconfiguring the tracks to construct the new station in nine stages, each stage of which must come into service before the next stage can commence. Through pre-fabrication and a modular approach to construction, the design team has ensured the station remains fully operational while works take place.

Adrian Tooth, Design Director at WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff explains: "The last few months have seen a number of significant milestones for the design and construction teams. The move of station staff to their new accommodation in mid-May along with transfer of the full operation of the station to the new Integrated Station Control Room, opening of the Service Yard at the beginning of August and finally culminating in the opening of the new through platforms and a large proportion of the new street level concourse. This now gives the travelling public a

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real feel for the significant improvements to the station we have been working on over the last 4 years. I am very proud of the achievements of our team.”

James Dessain, Project Leader at Arcadis said: “This project offers a prime example of what can be achieved through collaboration. It was let on a collaborative basis and this ethos has continued throughout a complex design phase. This has meant that, despite a number of changes, the construction is still following the base line programme, enabling us to deliver the second stage as planned. This would not have been possible without all parties working as one, with a successful project outcome the number one priority.”

Mark Middleton, Partner at Grimshaw has said, “London Bridge Station is an iconic site both within the city’s urban fabric and its busy transport network. It’s great to see passengers using the new concourse and platforms for the first time, being guided through a station that is becoming more unified and easy to navigate with each passing milestone. The team’s vision for the redevelopment is transforming the surrounding quarter, connecting communities in the north and south, and keeping London moving. We are now looking to the finish line ahead of the official opening of the station in 2018.”

The next major stage opening will be the completion of the station in January 2018, cementing its status as a vital node in the capital’s busy transport network and continuing to be a catalyst in the regeneration of the London Bridge Quarter.

**ENDS**

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High resolution photos can be downloaded via ftp:

<https://grimshaw.ftpstream.com/17902/116f77ae49b713a1dc0226f4e9348ea3/High%2bRes.zip>

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#### About Grimshaw

Grimshaw operates worldwide with offices in New York, London, Melbourne, Sydney and Doha employing 325 staff. The practice’s international portfolio covers all major sectors, and has been honoured with over 150 international design awards including the prestigious Lubetkin Prize. Grimshaw is dedicated to the deepest level of involvement in the design of their buildings in order to deliver projects which meet the highest possible standards of excellence. The company’s work is characterised by strong conceptual legibility, innovation and a rigorous approach to detailing, all underpinned by the principles of humane, enduring and sustainable design.

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#### About WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff

WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff is now one of the world's leading engineering professional services consulting firms. We bring together our 34,000 staff, based in more than 500 offices, across 40 countries to provide engineering and multidisciplinary services in a vast array of industry sectors, with a focus on technical excellence and client service.

In the UK, 5,200 people provide consultancy services to all aspects of the built and natural environment working across both the public and private sectors, with local and national governments, local authorities, developers, contractors and co-professionals. The combined business has been involved in many high profile UK projects including the Shard, Crossrail, Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, the Bullring shopping centre in Birmingham, the re-development of London Bridge Station, Manchester Metrolink and the London Olympic & Paralympic Route Network.

[www.wsp-pb.co.uk](http://www.wsp-pb.co.uk)

#### About Arcadis

Arcadis is the leading global Design & Consultancy firm for natural and built assets. Applying our deep market sector insights and collective design, consultancy, engineering, project and management services we work in partnership with our clients to deliver exceptional and sustainable outcomes throughout the lifecycle of their natural and built assets. We are 27,000 people active in over 70 countries that generate €3.4 billion in revenues. We support UN-Habitat with knowledge and expertise to improve the quality of life in rapidly growing cities around the world. Arcadis. Improving quality of life.