



Southern Canopy Glazing Inspections

Frankham's Rail Infrastructure Engineering team were commissioned by Network Rail to undertake condition surveys and reporting of 28 station canopies across the Southern and Wessex regions as part of their periodic responsibility to safeguard the operation of the railway and public at large.

Client:

Network Rail

Services:

**Structural surveys
STE5 & STE2 competency**

Start and End Dates:

January 23 - March 23

Overview

Frankham were tasked with completing the tactile inspection of station canopies across Sussex and Wessex to ascertain their condition and provide recommendations on remedial repairs. The programme for completing the works was tight, and therefore required effective planning to ensure successful execution of the project.

Initially, we carried out reconnaissance visits of all the stations to assist in the planning, informing access requirements and restrictions. This enabled us to mitigate potential issues arising on site, and have several measures in place to ensure the works were completed.

By planning thoroughly, we were able to work in an agile and proficient way.





“The project was completed with minimal issues or fuss and hit the brief. Requirements were agreed ahead of delivery allowing for smoother delivery and report writeup. Regular progress updates were provided and any issues were raised to keep NR informed throughout.”

**Principal Engineer (Buildings)
Network Rail**



Innovation & Added Value

The project had numerous delivery challenges, which we successfully overcame through a combination of effective planning and the leverage of technology.

As part of the planning stage, we undertook reconnaissance visits to every station, capturing site information using **LiDAR scanning**. Use of LiDAR scanning surpassed the limitations of a 2D photograph, providing valuable data on the structure and wider rail environment, including the ability to measure vertical and horizontal clearances, highlighting obstructions and potential risks.

As a result of the proficient planning undertaken, we were able to complete all inspections first time around, without incurring any issues, and ultimately delivering to programme.

The project, which would have typically taken around 9 months to complete, was accomplished within a remarkable 3-month timeframe. This was enabled by our **digital transformation**, moving towards the development and utilisation of a form filler application to record data on inspections. This significant upgrade in our working practise has resulted in a three-fold reduction in report delivery time. By providing faster results to clients, we are empowering them to make critical and informed decisions expeditiously and to benefit from huge cost savings.

The strategic investment and leverage of technology by the Rail Infrastructure team has allowed them to optimise processes and improve their services, enabling them to deliver **exceptional added value** to all clients: asset owners, developers, and contractors.