

# Congress Centre

Rome, Italy

**The project brings the public domain deep into the heart of the Congress Centre via a great inclined piazza.**

Kenneth Powell



**Location**  
Rome, Italy

**Cost Consultant**  
Hanscomb Limited

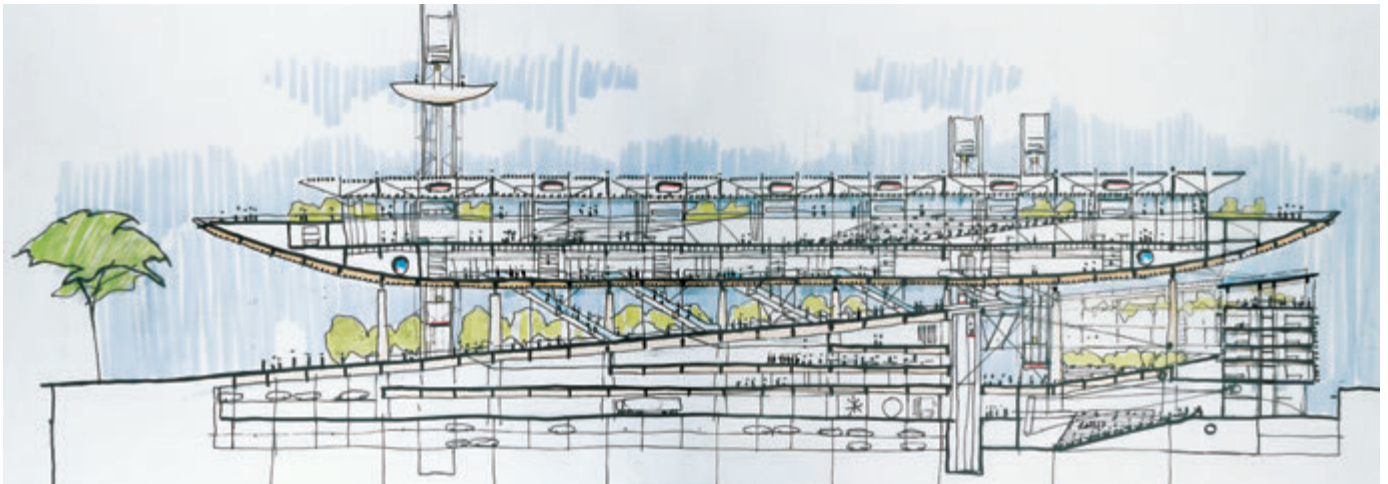
**Date**  
2000

**Traffic Consultant**  
Arup Transportation

**Client**  
Centro Congressi Italia

**Structural Engineer**  
Arup

**Services Engineer**  
Arup



#### **Awards**

**2003**  
AR/MIPI Future Project Award High Commendation

**2001**  
Royal Academy Summer Exhibition Gold Medal AJ / Bovis Award

This competition scheme was designed for a site in the EUR district of Rome, an area planned in the 1930s as a demonstration of the monumental formalism that characterised fascist urbanism.

The scheme set the main congress and exhibition areas in a cantilevered roof space, supported by central columns and surrounded by service towers. A wide public terrace ran around the edge of the roof to optimise views across the Rome skyline.

Beneath the great over-sailing, timber-clad roof was a second building for offices, ticketing, restaurants, parking, shops and a hotel, its roof forming a wedge-shaped ramp of public space.

The public nature of the building was emphasised by the provision of a partially enclosed 2,000-seat amphitheatre within the lower building, alongside which ran a new pedestrian route, linking the Enrico Termini station with the existing Palazzo dei Congressi. Further shops were placed alongside this route, and around the edge of the building, to ensure an open relationship with the public domain.