

Project management expertise is critical when delivering complex time critical infrastructure projects.

North Melbourne Station is one of Melbourne's busiest rail interchanges. Approximately two million passengers travelling on trains from the northern, western and south western parts of the metropolitan and regional rail networks come through North Melbourne each year.

To ensure North Melbourne Station meets the demands of rapidly increasing commuter numbers, predicted to double in the next decade, the Victorian Government approved a \$34.9 million upgrade.

Project Profile

Citywide was contracted to undertake the extensive resurfacing of platforms. Contract specification required that resurfacing had to be of the highest standard - improving safety and amenity for commuters, especially those with disabilities, while ensuring limited disruption to services.



Project Highlights

- Total project cost: approx \$1 million
- Commencement: July 2008, Completion: September 2008
- Resetting of 209 metres of bluestone platform edging to new levels
- Reconstruction of all asphalt platforms: approx 3,750m² asphalt excavated and reconstructed
- Removal of 210 metres of timber platform edging and replacement with new steel edging
- 590 tonne of asphalt land laid
- Work carried out from 10:00pm Friday evenings until 4:00am Monday mornings for 8 weeks
- Skidsteer loaders running throughout shifts



Flexible approach to project delivery

Works could only be carried out by shutting one of the four platforms at a time to allow all major train services continued with little or no interruption. Citywide crews undertook work at nights, clearing and securing the station area before the morning services rolled in.

Another challenge was that all materials, including excavated material and new material (crushed rock and asphalt) had to be transported through the station via a single platform, while the other three platforms remained in operation for regular train services. Using Skidsteer loaders ('bobcats') around the clock, Citywide delivered on contract commitments making sure all material was transported in and out of the station prior to the first weekly service on each Monday morning.

Acknowledging a key concern of Council, and despite the fact that the station is in a community setting, the project was completed without a single resident complaint.