



- ▶ Cork, Ireland
- ▶ Sept-Nov 2021
- ▶ 10 weeks

CORK AIRPORT RUNWAY RECONSTRUCTION

Colas were appointed to the Cork Airport contract valued at 21.7m euros, encompassing the reconstruction of the main runway, pits, ducts, and electrical systems. Our team worked closely with the client, colleagues from across the Colas Group, the designers and our local suppliers to complete the construction on time, following a 10 week full airport closure.

THE NEED

The pre-existing runway, pits, ducts, and electrical systems were initially installed between 20-30 years ago and to allow Cork Airport to continue to meet and exceed national and international regulations, it was necessary for the works to be carried out to allow the airport to continue connecting the South of Ireland with the rest of the world.

The time-sensitive works involved the reconstruction of the runway with 3,000 truckloads of asphalt, the installation of 500 maintenance holes, 140km of electrical cable and 60km of cable duct and drains installed, replacing the existing ducts, pits and electrical systems.



OUR APPROACH

EFFICIENCY

The daa's decision to close Cork Airport stemmed from low passenger numbers following the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore creating a unique opportunity to close the runway and complete the works as quickly and efficiently as possible. This then set a challenging timescale to complete the fastest, largest-scale construction project the state has seen in years.

The project, from funding approval to completion took 12 months, including mobilisation and preparatory works carried out overnight during the summer months, avoiding impact to the summer flight schedule. This was followed by an off-peak closure from September 10th to November 22nd to complete the main construction, with works being carried out on a 24/7 basis.



- ▶ Cork, Ireland
- ▶ Dublin Airport Authority
- ▶ 10 week closure to complete reconstruction
- ▶ Value €21.7m
- ▶ New runway, pits, ducts and electrical system
- ▶ Completed within budget and on schedule
- ▶ Over 400 people employed, including 250 construction and supply jobs
- ▶ Over €40m is being invested in Cork Airport between 2020 - 2022 to upgrade the critical infrastructure at the Airport
- ▶ Extensive recycling

ASSOCIATED BENEFITS

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS:

A total of 98.8% of the waste taken away and was able to be recycled due to segregated waste streams on the site. Additionally, 12,000 tonnes of planings were reused on site and 71,000 metres of primary cables were able to be recycled.

The extensive recycling by the team reduced the need for new materials and reduced air emissions due to minimal vehicles attending the site. The electrical upgrade also reduced the runways electrical carbon footprint by 70%.

COLLABORATION WAS KEY:

Over 400 people were employed for the duration of the project, including 250 construction and supply jobs. With large numbers of people involved on site every day, and a time critical works plan, a collaborative approach led by Colas was key to achieving the project on time.

This will be the single-biggest investment by any Government at Cork Airport and when complete, it will serve as a key strategic asset for Cork and the entire region over the next 20 years.

Minister Hildegarde Naughton, Minister of State at the Department of Transport

Colas were proud to secure this contract with the daa. The daa and Cork Airport deserve great credit for taking the courageous decision to close the airport in order to deliver this major project. The ability of Colas to draw on skills and experience from around the Colas Group has been a key part of delivering within the condensed and challenging timescale.

Gearoid Lohan, CEO of Colas Ireland