

MODERN ARCHITECTURE IN THAILAND

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01

Modern Architecture in Thailand 01
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Suvarnabhumi International Airport

Location : Bang Phli, Samut Prakan
Client : Airport of Thailand
Area : 563,000 sq.m.
Year : 1994-2006

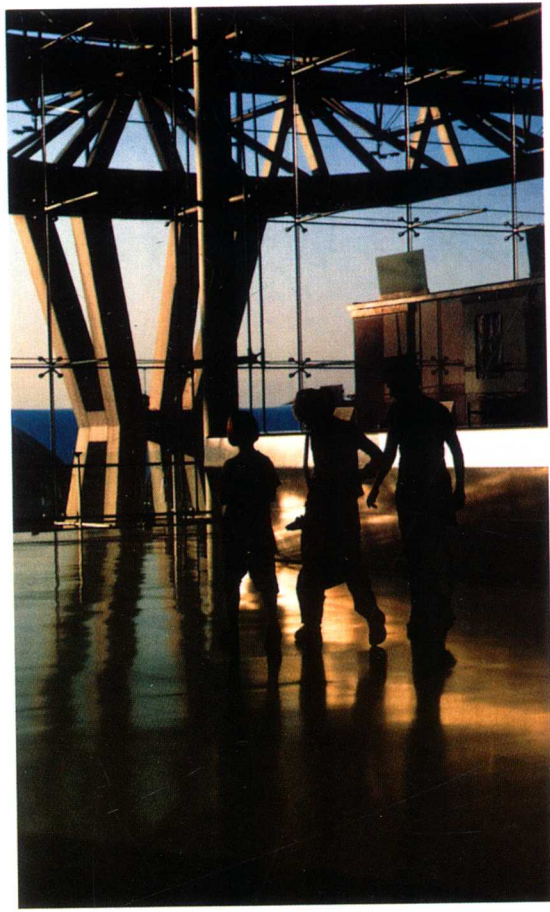
The primary objective is to build a 21st century airport for the people of Thailand. It should be clearly unique to Bangkok, inspiring and symbolic of Thailand in the next century.

A large roof trellis structure placed over the complex of functionally separate buildings unifies the site and provides an overriding consistent architectural image.

The buildings under the trellis take their architectural form from the function that they serve. At the intersection of the tubular concourses are cylindrical rotundas sky-lit roof structures. The concourses are tubular in shape deriving their architecture from their structure, a three hinged cable stayed arch.

The fundamental design concept for the terminal building and the concourses makes optimal use of the massing orientation and configuration to provide environmental comfort with minimal energy consumption. This is achieved by maximizing the impact of various architectural elements to create bright and airy spaces, while minimizing the use of artificial illumination and mechanical cooling systems.

Given the locale and its position to the equator, the linear orientation of the building with predominant north and south facades allows for the extensive use of natural versus artificial illumination, while screening out the thermal impact of the sun through use of fixed architectural elements. The roof design allows huge amounts of daylight to penetrate the space, creating a bright environment that minimizes the need for artificial illumination.

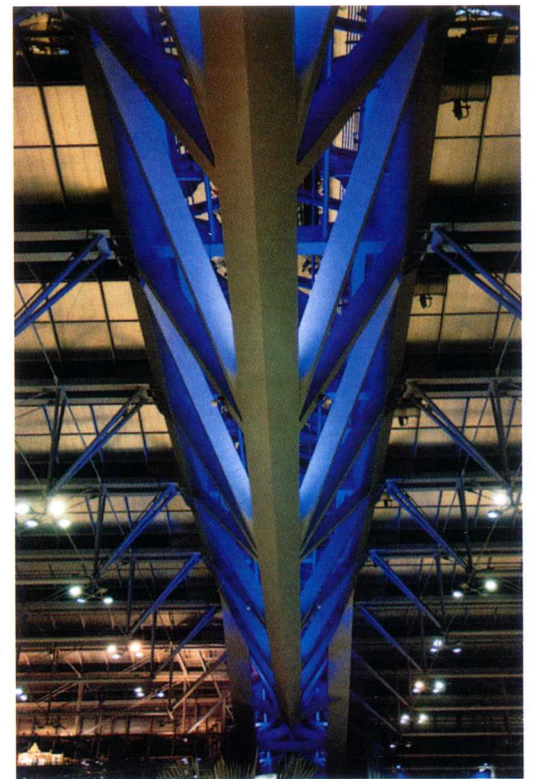
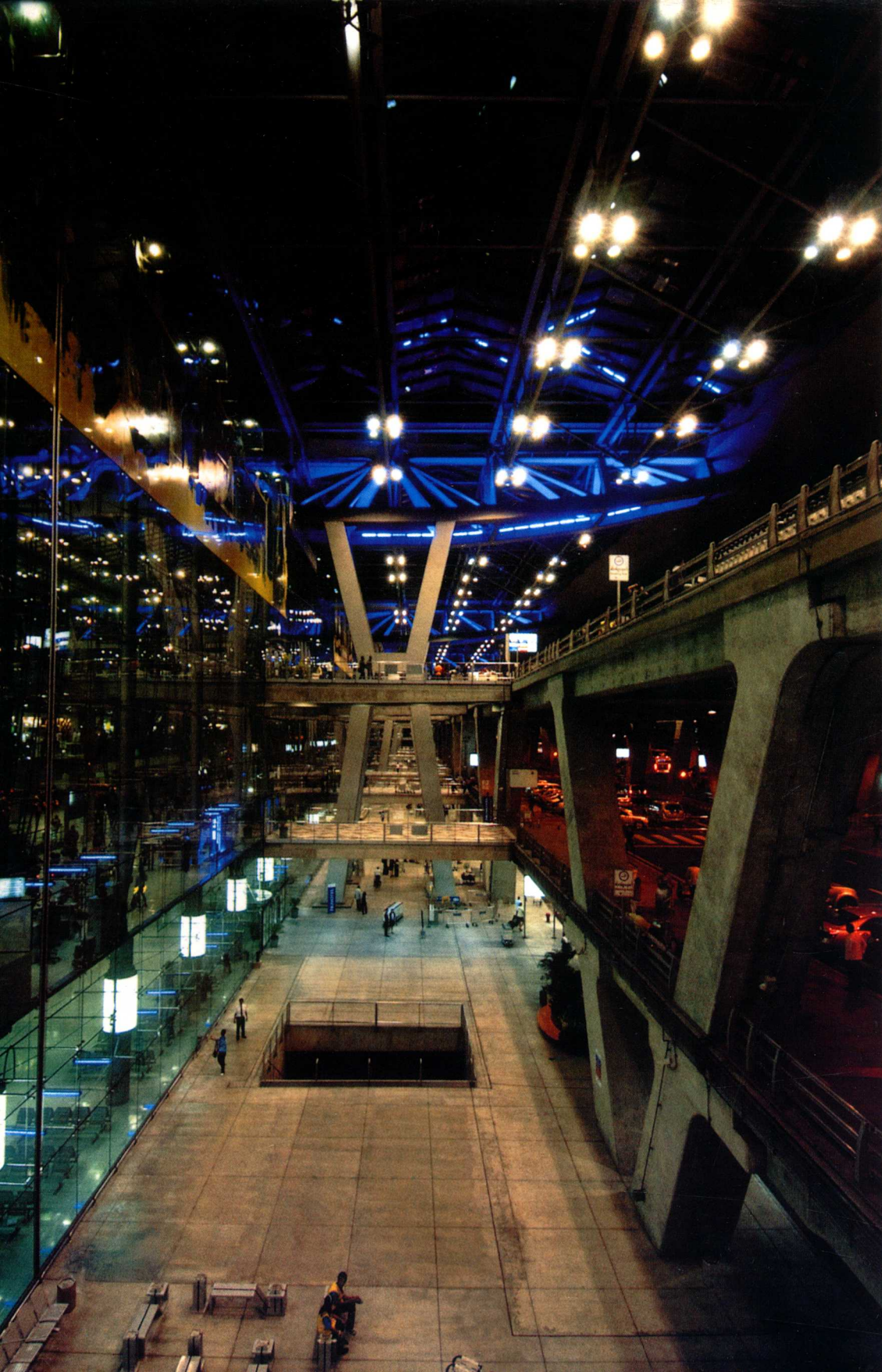






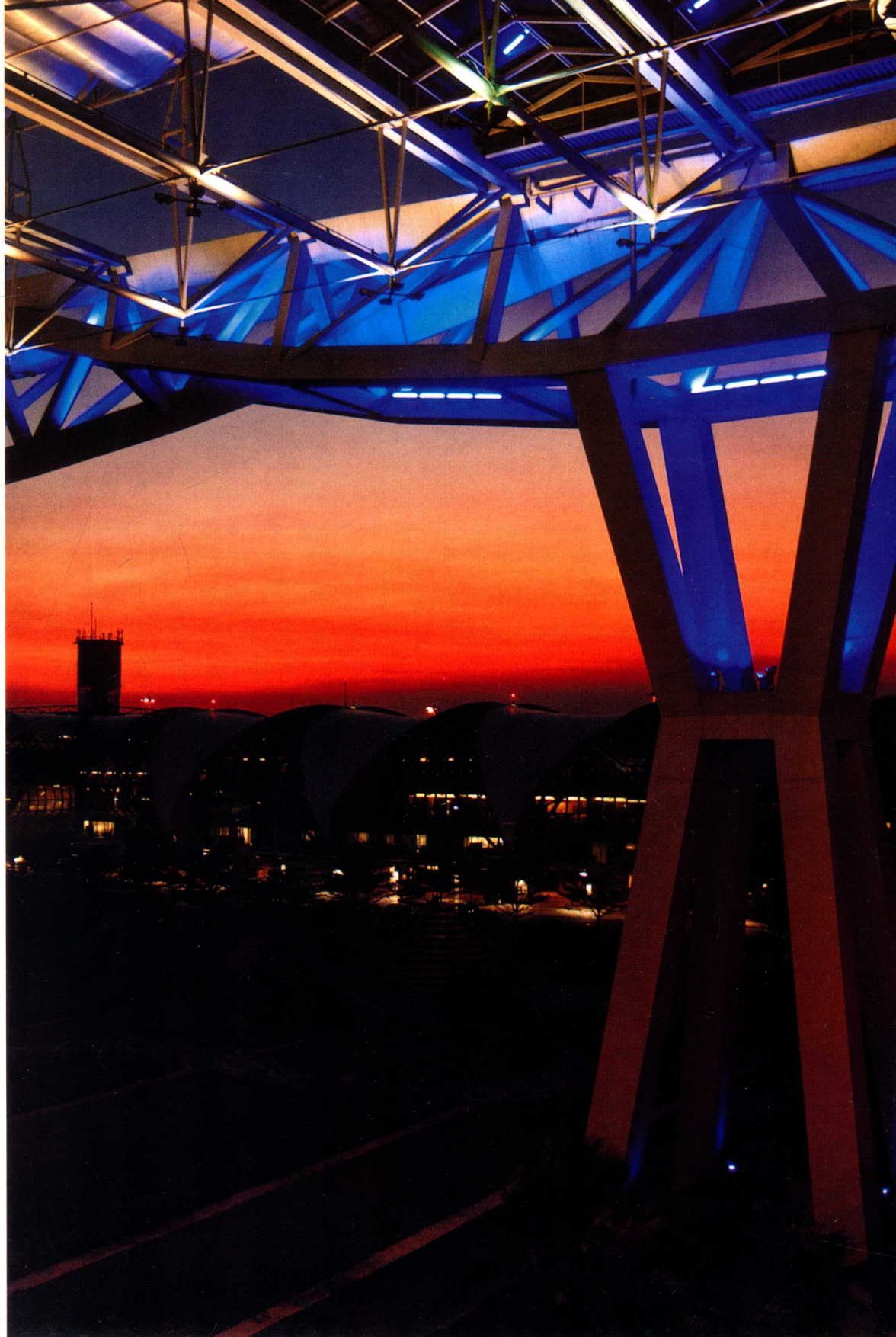
Adapting traditional architectural forms and recognizing
high technology aspects of air travel.

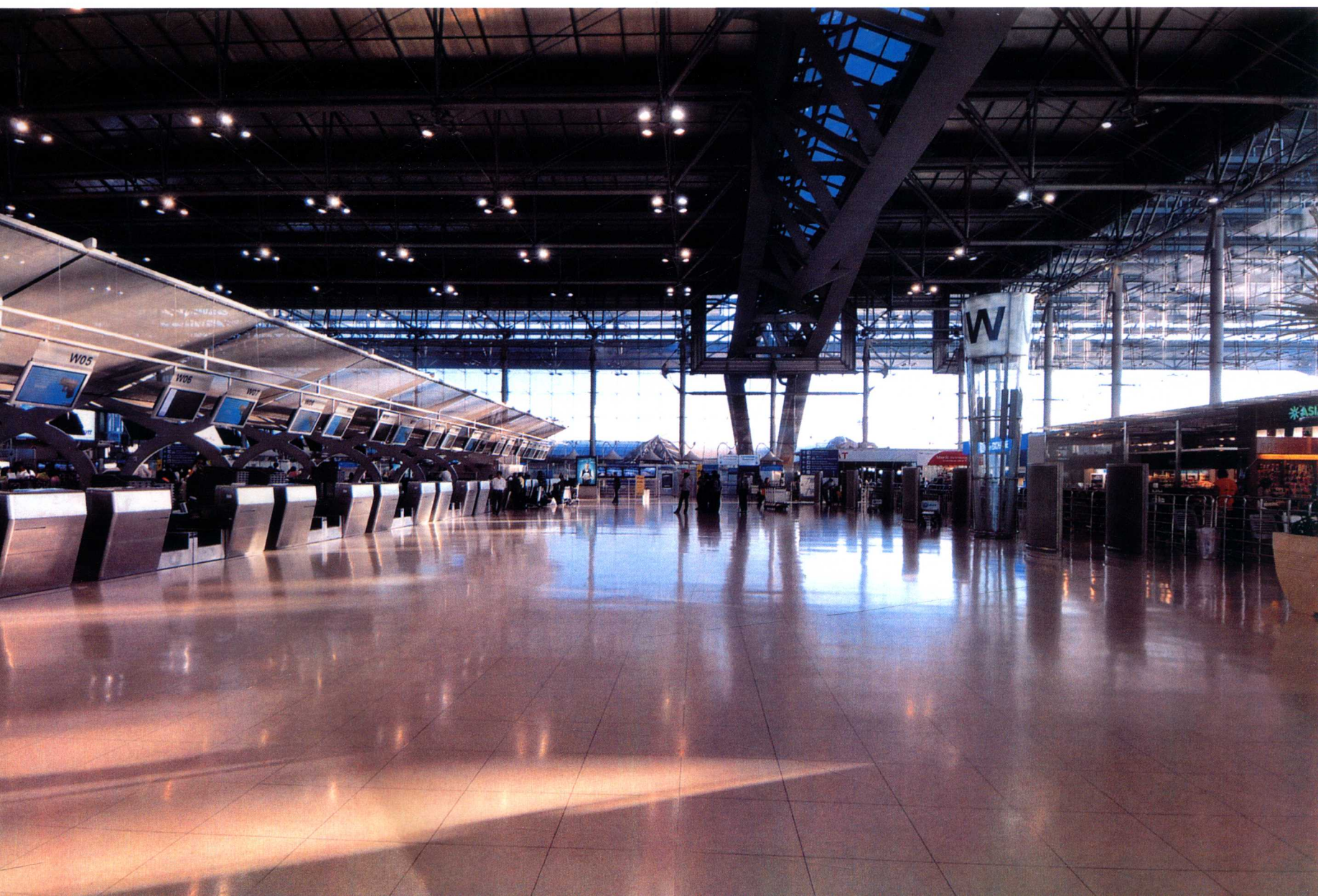


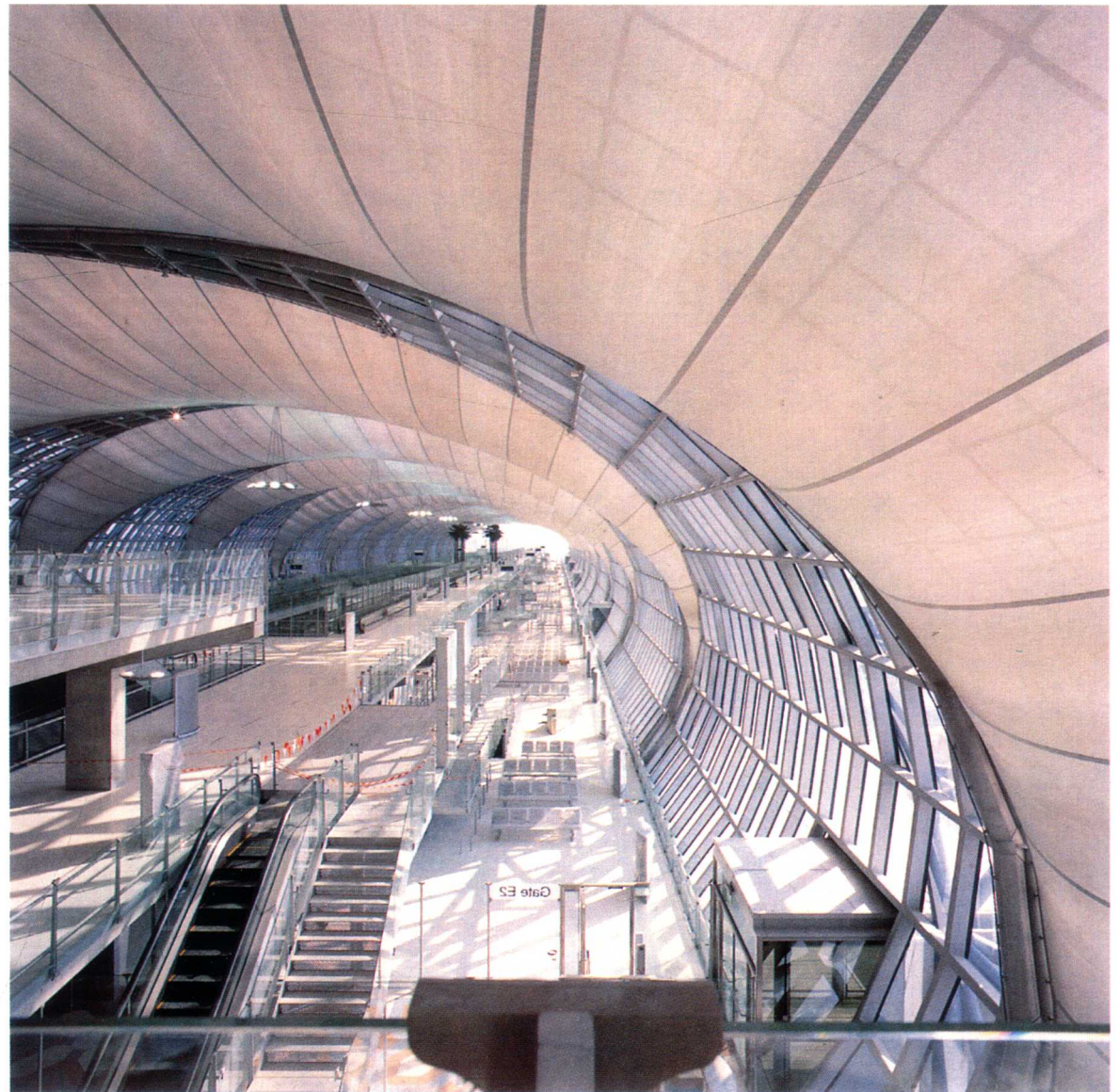
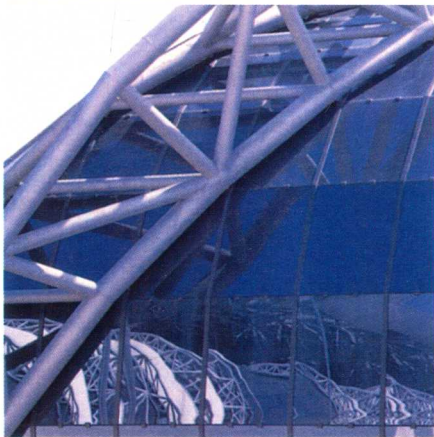
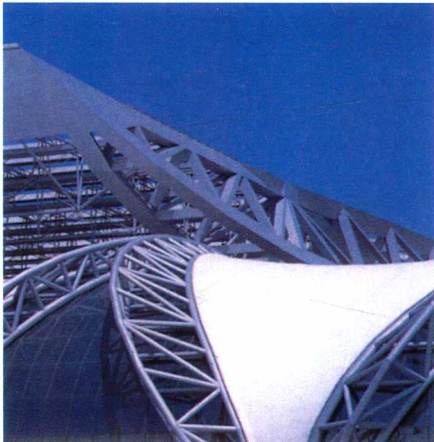




Outdoor spaces between the building are shaded by roof trellis.







Cylindrical rotundas and tubular concourses with the skylit roof structure.

Suvarnabhumi Airport Rail Link and City Air Terminal

Design Concept

Location : East Line Railway, Bangkok
Client : The State Railway of Thailand
Year : 2004-2009

The Suvarnabhumi Airport Rail Link and City Air Terminal (SARL) project supports and maximizes the new airport's service level. The SARL project is Thailand's first stand-alone, high-speed electric double-tracked railway system. The railway line is built parallel to the existing east line linking the inner city with the Suvarnabhumi Airport (SA). There are 8 stations, the Bangkok City Air Terminal (BCAT) and the maintenance depot and workshops. The main train operations and supporting services are comprised of three elements:

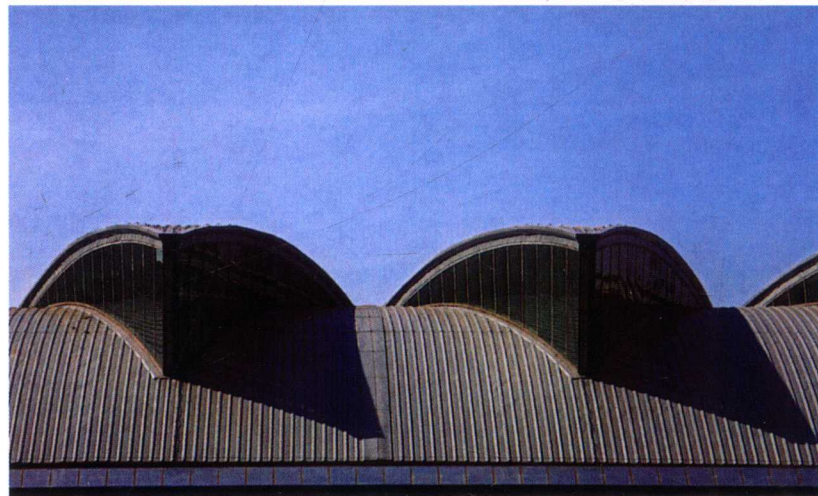
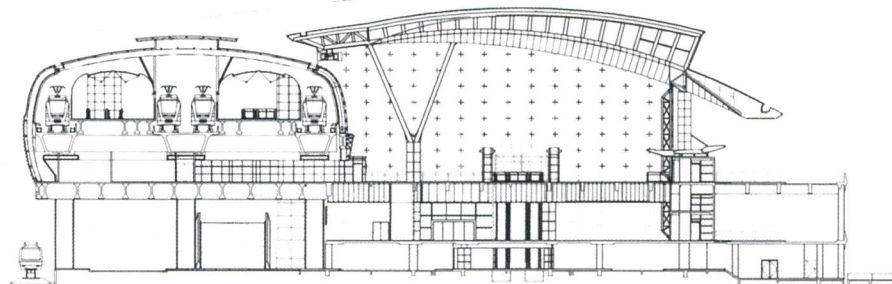
SA Express (Suvarnabhumi Airport Express): The rapid non-stop transit train system.

SA City Line (Suvarnabhumi Airport City Line): The commuter train.

Bangkok City Air Terminal (BCAT): Air passengers receive in-town ticketing and baggage check-in before traveling to the airport.

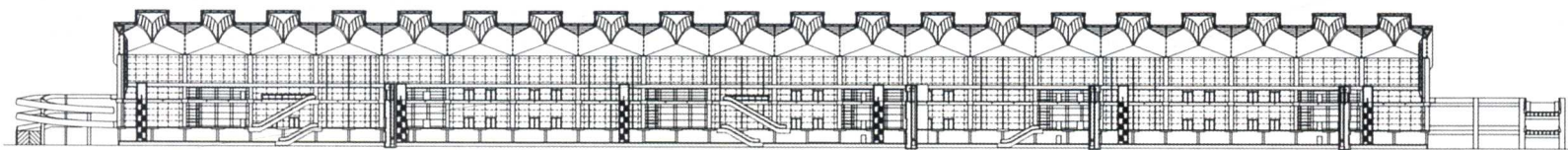
The main architectural features were designed to relate to the airport. The repeated use of triangular and curved shapes and the natural material color scheme were integrated into the edifice. Building sustainability heavily influenced the structural plans. Planners carefully selected materials and MEP systems based on environmental friendliness and low energy consumption. Natural lighting and ventilation were included in the project where possible.

The design concept and use of materials and color was intended to create a modern public transportation building with unique architecture that is surrounded by elevated roads and high rise buildings.



Clerestories stories above the terminal's roof.





Bangkok City Air Terminal 86,500 sq m.

