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Case Study

Building bridges for traffic and fauna to co-exist

ViaCon Sweden helps preserve the natural environment around motorway construction to help people and fauna to live together

THE CHALLENGE

The Swedish Transport Administration decided to add a fauna passage/crossing on the major motorway E45 in order to help traffic and fauna co-exist. The 15-metre-wide passage at Tösslanda would be designed so that motorway traffic would pass underneath two fauna tunnels. These tunnels would serve as a kind of roof of gravel roads lined with bushes, greenery and other flora.

Road construction and the traffic that follows can be destructive and disruptive to the surrounding environment, its flora and fauna. Posing both environmental and road safety hazards, which the Swedish Transport Administration wanted to avoid, a fauna passage was planned as a part of the E45 motorway.

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THE SOLUTION

ViaCon Sweden provided a solution in the form of two ready-made tunnels, reinforced on top with extra plates.

The resulting steel structure had the following measurements:

- Span: 13 m
- Rise: 3.2 m
- Bottom length: 35 m
- Top length: 24 m
- Steel grade: S315MC

THE ADVANTAGE

With quick and easy assembly, it's possible to make both time and cost gains. With more efficient construction, there was a lower cost of project implementation. At the same time, fauna passages help keep traffic moving without as great an impact on the surrounding environment. With ViaCon, the new ecological bridge delivered on its expected efficiency and environmental benefits, such as:

- Easier and faster to build, due to simpler structure
- Lower maintenance requirements
- Competitive costs, including less energy and fossil fuel consumption during construction
- Steel is 100% recyclable, contributing to the circular economy at end of life

STAKEHOLDERS

Investor: Trafikverket

Designer: Vectura

Product: ViaPlate 380

Contractor: NCC

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