



Circuit of the Americas is driven to succeed.

The Circuit of the Americas is the 3.4-mile track outside of Austin that brought Formula 1 racing back to the US.

The 1,000-acre site located approximately two miles from Austin Bergstrom International Airport has a capacity for 150,000 fans and is designed for all classes of racing—from motorsports to human-powered sports.

While the track hosts Formula 1 and MotoGP, it isn't dependent on it. It is designed to operate 365 days a year and includes public spaces for private events, seminars, conventions with a live entertainment space, and retail center.

The project—which opened in 2012—cost approximately \$400 million and is expected to generate an economic impact of \$400 million to \$500 million annually.



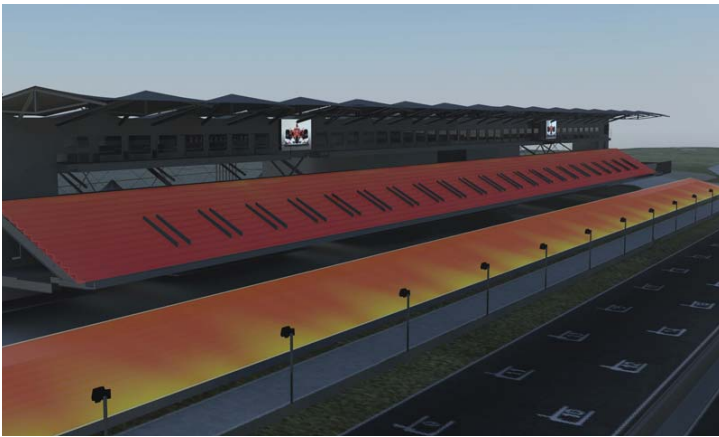
The Project



Creating the Experience

The vision for Circuit of the Americas was a venue that would be used 52 weeks of the year. Tilke Engineers & Architects designed the track, buildings and technology that are required for Formula 1 racing and MotoGP, but in addition to those elements, there were the multiuse features such as the large plaza, observation tower and amphitheater. HKS Architects and Miro Rivera Architects were brought on to ensure the entire project was complete in time for the first Formula 1 race.

With a variety of technologies bridging three different architects, Idibri was hired to work with Tilke Engineers & Architects and COTA Staff to coordinate the race electronics and technology. In addition, we designed parts of the audio, distributed video, and LED systems for the campus along with a campus data fiber ring to allow for temporary POS and temporary Wi-Fi for enhanced fan amenities. We also oversaw the mass notification systems so that the facility would adhere to NFPA2010 requirements



During design, speakers were modeled to show coverage throughout the facility. The red color shows full coverage by the sound energy in the grandstands. Audio systems were designed for entertainment and emergency communication. Acoustic Dimensions also used 3-D modeling to test visual coverage and sightlines to screens.



Current work with the track includes automation and dashboarding of systems to provide enhanced control and energy savings.



Main Grandstand

The Main Grandstand has a capacity of approximately 9,000 spectators. The seating is divided into four levels: lower stands (~4,500 seats), loge boxes (~800 seats), upper stands (~2,900 seats), and suites (~800 capacity). The majority of seating is covered by a tensile fabric canopy which protects spectators from the Texas sun. The primary structure is 65 feet high and 500 feet long, while the lower risers extend an additional 500 feet.

The grandstand contains fan amenities such as concessions, restrooms, offices, and two lounge spaces located at the second and third levels. The Velocity Lounge on the second level is approximately 6,500 square feet and contains the acrylic painting "Velocity" by Dallas-based artist Christopher Martin measuring 120 feet (37 m) in length.



The Grand Plaza

Bordered by the track on three sides, the 20-acre space has reflecting pool, lawn and landscape areas. Both the Grandstand and Plaza are combinations of permanent and temporary structures to give flexibility for a variety of events. Systems of banners and deep canopies expand for additional restrooms, seating or suites.



Austin360 Amphitheater

The open air amphitheater at the base of the observation tower is designed to accommodate 15,000 with 6,500 fixed seats and a grassy seating area to accommodate blankets and lawn chairs in general admission.



The Team

Vision and Oversight

- Prophet Capital

Owner's Representative

- MBC Consultants

Architects

- Tilke - Racetrack and Concept Design for Campus
- HKS - Architect of Record - Paddock
- Miro Rivera - Grandstands, Grand Plaza & Observation Tower

Technology Design

- Idibri - Audio, Video, Data Infrastructure, Mass Notification Systems
- AT&T - Technology Installation
- Ford Audio-Video - A/V Installation
- BGN - Race Control Electronics
- Daktronics - Leaderboard Displays
- TS Sports - Grandstand LED & Portable LED

Code Consulting

- Hughes Associates - Fire Alarm Systems



Observation Tower

This landmark for the venue consists of an elevator hoist-way surrounded by a double-helix staircase. The observation platform is 230 feet high and provides a 360-degree panorama of the circuit.

The platform can accommodate up to 100 visitors and features glass railings and a partial glass floor. The observation tower incorporates LED lighting along the spiral staircase. Acoustic Dimensions designed the remote lighting control user-interface creating a variety of looks for different events.