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SALOMA LINK FOOTBRIDGE – THE KUALA LUMPUR ICONIC FOOTBRIDGE

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The Saloma Link footbridge, also known as Pintasan Saloma, lies within the heart of Kuala Lumpur, which is the capital city of Malaysia. Spanning across the AKLEH highway, this 69m pedestrian footbridge was designed and constructed to create a direct path for pedestrians to travel to and from the traditional Malay village, Kampong Bharu, and the Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC).

Funded by the Malaysian government, the Saloma Link footbridge primary objective is to reconnect Kampong Bharu with KLCC areas which have been separated by the AKLEH expressway for many years. Saloma Link footbridge is important because it reduces the travel time for pedestrians and accelerates the development of Kampong Bharu, which is the placement of the Malays in Kuala Lumpur.

The primary structural system of the Saloma Link Bridge is a triangular 3D truss supported on top of four bearings. A mix of transparent and opaque glazing surrounds the bridge external skin which is formed using multiple steel circular hollow sections that are bent to the design shape, inspired by the “Sirih Junjung”. “Sirih Junjung” is a traditional Malay custom that is an important element in Malay weddings and royal installations which is made from an arrangement of betel nut leaves.

This paper will go through the inception of the Saloma Link footbridge idea by Kampong Bharu Development Corporation (PKB) and Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL), the implementation of the design and build contract by local contractor Ahmad Zaki Sdn. Bhd, the key design challenges faced and the motivation behind the construction of the Saloma Link footbridge as well as its impact as an integral part of the Kampong Bharu community.



Fig. 1. Aerial view of the Saloma Link footbridge

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