Needham Market Station
Needham Market, Suffolk, IP6 8AS

In Brief:

Needham Market is a railway station situated in the East of England, operated by Abellio Greater Anglia.

In spring of 2015, the previous concrete platform at Platform 2 was replaced with a new composite fibreglass platform solution known as Dura Platform. The radical award-winning Dura Platform design is a precision engineered FRP product manufactured by pultrusion process which complies with National Rail specifications and offers significant improvements over traditional alternatives - including a dramatic reduction in possession time and sizeable overall project cost savings.

For more information about Dura Platform or Dura Composites' other ground-breaking rail solutions visit our website at: www.duracomposites.com/rail
CASE STUDY
Dura Platform

Why Dura Platform?

After over a century of heavy use, many of the UK’s concrete train station platforms now require replacement as they reach the end of their service life. Even those that don’t require complete replacement need regular maintenance which can drain resources and cause passenger disruption.

Traditionally concrete has been used, but works can require long possessions and Road Rail Vehicles are normally required for the transportation of materials. Even when concrete is used, there is still no easy solution to fixing the problem of stepping distances between the train and the platform when subsidence means they have become out of gauge.

Dura Platform is a breakthrough composite product which solves all of these challenges and more in record time. The solution has a host of revolutionary features and allows contractors to replace or overlay onto damaged or subsided platforms a low maintenance, modular, lightweight, height adjustable structure that enhances safety with anti-slip surface options, in-built water management, integral lines, optional integral lighting and snow melting capability, all with similar or lower overall project costs than concrete.

Commenting on the installation of Dura Platform at Needham Market, which took just 36 hours, Simone Bailey, Asset Management Director at Abellio Greater Anglia said:

“We are always looking to improve stations for the customers and communities we serve. This innovative approach delivers a better platform for passengers, which is durable, more cost effective and quicker and easier to install”.

The solution was developed following an in depth consultation and planning process with key stakeholders Abellio Greater Anglia (AGA) and Network Rail, to ensure that both the financial considerations of the operators, the logistics of carrying out works and the needs of passengers were fully taken into account.