
News Release



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New Haven-Hartford-Springfield Rail Program Recognized with 2019 ACEC/CT Engineering Excellence Grand Award

GLASTONBURY, CT (February 5, 2019) –The New Haven-Hartford-Springfield (NHHS) Rail Program was honored by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC/CT) of Connecticut with the 2019 Engineering Excellence Grand Award. The award was presented at the annual ACEC/CT Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet, held at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington.

As program manager, WSP USA, a leading engineering and professional services consultancy, helped secure funding and managed the design, construction, and *CTrail* Hartford Line service planning for the eight-year, \$769 million program. STV, a national firm that provides a broad range of design and construction management services for transportation systems, infrastructure and facilities throughout North America, worked as a subconsultant to WSP on this vital rail corridor in New England.

“The launch of the *CTrail* Hartford Line, the first new rail passenger service in Connecticut in almost 30 years, represented a tremendous accomplishment for WSP and for our client, the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT),” said Anthony Moretti, WSP USA Vice President and Connecticut Area Manager.

“This was a transformational program that designed and constructed the largest service increase of any high-speed rail program completed in the United States. The team not only built a transportation lifeline for the region, but also created a new chapter for Connecticut’s rail history, one that is geared towards revitalizing communities throughout Connecticut and driving economic development to areas near transit. I am honored to have led this highly-skilled and dedicated team,” said Robert Yirigian, Assistant Vice President and Project Manager for WSP USA.

“This was a very complex project in terms of its scope, the number of stakeholders, and its technical challenges,” said Timothy Casey, P.E., STV’s senior project manager. “Introducing a viable rail transit alternative along this corridor has been a major transportation priority for the state for years. It’s gratifying to see this project

come to fruition.”

WSP’s oversight of the NHHS Rail Program included the design and construction of 21 miles of double track from North Haven to Windsor, 30 miles of new or realigned track, 27 drainage culverts, 21 bridges, 2.4 miles of retaining walls, 15 grade crossings to improve safety, signal system improvements, and five rail interlockings.

New state-of-the-art train stations in Berlin, Meriden, and Wallingford were designed and constructed, along with new high-level platforms at Hartford Union Station and State Street Station in New Haven. Achieving reliable and safe operations for the new *CTrail* Hartford Line service was paramount. The program management team worked closely with CTDOT to support procurement of a service provider for the new service, as well as Ticket Vending Machines, and to develop schedules, a website, and a robust public outreach and marketing campaign.

Transit-oriented development is expected to increase along the corridor, supported by the fact that even before the opening of the Hartford Line, approximately \$400 million of development had begun or was completed in towns such as New Haven, Berlin, Meriden, Windsor and Windsor Locks. The service on the line is provided by Amtrak as well as the new *CTrail* Hartford Line service provider, the joint venture team of TransitAmerica Services/Alternate Concepts Inc. The combined service is triple the pre-launch capacity with a total of 17 weekday trains between New Haven and Hartford, and 12 trains continuing from Hartford to Springfield. Trains will operate approximately every 45 minutes during the morning and evening peak commuting hours.

About WSP USA

WSP USA is the U.S. operating company of one of the world's leading engineering and professional services firms—WSP. Dedicated to serving local communities, we are engineers, planners, technical experts, strategic advisors and construction management professionals. WSP USA designs lasting solutions in the buildings, transportation, energy, water and environment sectors. With more than 7,000 people in 100 offices across the U.S., we partner with our clients to help communities prosper. wsp.com

About STV

Founded more than 100 years ago, STV is a leader in providing architectural, engineering, planning, environmental, and construction management services for transportation systems, infrastructure, buildings, energy, and other facilities. Ranked 7th in the mass transit and rail category of Engineering News-Record’s survey of the Top 500 Design Firms, STV’s experienced team provides expertise in improving mobility for transportation systems and transit agencies throughout the United States and Canada. STV is 100 percent employee-owned. For more information, visit our website at stvinc.com or follow @STVGroup on Twitter or download the STV Pages app from [Apple’s App Store](https://www.apple.com/app-store) or [Google Play](https://www.google.com/googleplay).