

2007 EUROPEAN CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

VENUE LOCATION	OPENING DATE COST IN MILLIONS	CAPACITY OWNER/OPERATOR	ARCHITECT CONTRACTOR
WEMBLEY STADIUM Brent, U.K.	March 2007 \$693	60,000 Wembley National Stadiums Ltd.	World Stadium Team (Foster and Partners, and HOK) Construction by Multiplex
<i>FEATURES: Replacing the original Wembley Stadium, accessible only by public transport, non-smoking venue, iconic 436-foot-tall arch, sliding roof.</i>			
MAGDEBURG STADION Germany	March 2007 \$56	25,000 Regional government/FC Magdeburg	FCSE Design —
<i>FEATURES: Frost-glass enclosed suite section, rectangle shape, overhead exterior lighting platform with remote controlled multi-swivel pivoting.</i>			
LOTTO ARENA Antwerp, Belgium	March 2007 \$16	7,500 Public-private partnership	— —
<i>FEATURES: Detachable floor offers 3,500-capacity standing room.</i>			
ARTEVELDESTADION Ghent, Belgium	March 2007 \$29	20,000 Municipality	Optima Bontinck AniMotionS —
<i>FEATURES: Will have 20 skyboxes, home to KAA Ghent, replaces current stadium.</i>			
AEL ARENA Lemesos, Greece	March 2007 \$55	15,000 NA	— —
<i>FEATURES: Home of AELarissa, replaces current stadium.</i>			
THE O2 Greenwich, U.K.	July 2007 NA	23,000 Anschutz Entertainment Group/ ICON (AEG and Romani Group)	HOK S+V+E —
<i>FEATURES: Rehab of Millennium Dome, multi-use, roof can hold 49 tons of rigging adjacent mixed-use entertainment district planned (including 2,000-capacity music venue).</i>			
DENBIGH STADIUM Milton Keynes, U.K.	August 2007 \$86	22,000 InterMK consortium	HOK S+V+E Buckingham Group Contracting
<i>FEATURES: Eventual build-out to 30,000 seats, will include retail and a concert venue, home of MK Dons soccer.</i>			
DNIPRO STADION Cherkasy, Ukraine	August 2007 \$53	31,000 Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk	Hochtief —
<i>FEATURES: Home of FC Dnipro, grass surface.</i>			
NEW LETZIGRUND STADIUM Zurich, Switzerland	September 2007 \$89	25,000-50,000 Swiss Football Association	Eraldo Consolascio Zschokke
<i>FEATURES: Upgrade of old stadium, home of FC Zurich, will hold UEFA Euro 2008.</i>			
GIPUZKOARENA San Sebastian, Spain	2007 —	42,500 Real Sociedad soccer club	— —
<i>FEATURES: The largest facility of its kind in the Basque region of Northern Spain, multi-use.</i>			
LIVERPOOL ARENA & CONVENTION CENTER England	January 2008 \$275	10,000 Northwest Regional Dev. Agency/ Liverpool City Council/ Merseyside Objective One Programme	Wilkinson Eyre Architects EDAW
<i>FEATURES: Part of Kings Waterfront development, which includes a 1,350-capacity auditorium and 75,000-square-foot exhibition space.</i>			
STADION SHAKHTAR Donetsk, Ukraine	May 2008 \$250	50,000 FC Shakhtar Donetsk	ArupSport ENKA
<i>FEATURES: Home of FC Shakhtar, built to UEFA standards (first in Eastern Europe), environmentally friendly, iconic sloping bowl shape, 167 feet high, glass façade, natural playing surface.</i>			
AFG ARENA St. Gallen, Switzerland	Summer 2008 \$280	18,117 —	— —
<i>FEATURES: Home of FC St. Gallen, attached retail includes Ikea furniture store.</i>			
CUCKOO FARM STADIUM Colchester, U.K.	Fall 2008 —	NA Colchester Borough Council/Colchester United Com. Sports Trust/Colchester2020	DLA Architecture; Drivers Jonas; Barr Ltd. —
<i>FEATURES: Home of Colchester United Football Club, replaces Layer Road facility.</i>			
NYA GAMLA ULLEVI Gothenburg, Sweden	Fall 2008 \$40	18,000 Arkitektbyrån	— —
<i>FEATURES: Home of IFK Göteborg, Örgryte IS & GAIS, open roof with covered stands, two tiers.</i>			
THOMOND PARK Limerick, Ireland	Fall 2008 \$53	26,000 Munster Rugby	Murray O Laoire Architects Stadia Architects AFL
<i>FEATURES: Redevelopment of rugby stadium; 15,000 seats and 11,000 terrace capacity.</i>			
O2 WORLD Berlin, Germany	September 2008 \$190	17,000 AEG/O2 Germany	HOK S+V+E
<i>FEATURES: Expecting 150 events per year, multi-use, 59 suites, façade will have a 20,000-square-foot LED screen, construction expected to take two years.</i>			

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CARDIFF CITY STADIUM Wales	December 2008 \$57	30,000 Cardiff City Stadium Ltd.	PMG Developments Cowlin
<i>FEATURES: New home of Cardiff City FC, retail development part of plan.</i>			
ZENIT STADIUM St. Petersburg, Russia	December 2008 —	62,000 City	— —
<i>FEATURES: Home of FC Zenit St. Petersburg, roof inflated with hot air for snow melting, removable playing field, beverages will be piped in from off-site.</i>			
STADE NUNGESSER II Valenciennes, France	2008 —	25,000 Valenciennes-Metropole	— —
<i>FEATURES: Replaces Stade Nungesser, home of Valenciennes FC, distinctive reflective rooftop scales.</i>			
STADION EDEN Prague, Czech Republic	2008 —	21,000 SPV Company E Side Property Ltd.	Martin Kotík, Daniel Dvoák, Leo Zeman HOCHTIEF CZ
<i>FEATURES: 40 VIP boxes, restaurants, sports café, fan shop.</i>			
NYA KALMAR ARENA Kalmar, Sweden	2008 —	10,000 —	Arkoteknik —
<i>FEATURES: Multi-use stadium, home of Kalmar FF soccer.</i>			
ESTÁDIO DO MARÍTIMO Funchal, Portugal	2008-2009 —	10,000 —	— —
<i>FEATURES: Multi-use, home of C.S. Marítimo.</i>			
LIA MANOLIU STADIUM Bucharest, Romania	Spring 2009 —	53,000 City	Out to bid Out to bid
<i>FEATURES: Upgrade to 1953-era, multi-use stadium, construction to begin April 2007.</i>			
NYA MALMO STADION Sweden	May 2009 \$83	21,000 Peab AB, Pålsson Teknik & Fastighets AB, Malmö FF	Berg Fojab Arkitekter
<i>FEATURES: Multi-purpose stadium replaces old Malmo FF stadium, can be converted to 18,000 seats and 6,000 standing, height of 79 feet.</i>			
PARTIZAN STADIUM Belgrade, Serbia	2009 \$400	32,710 —	— Marazzi General Contractors
<i>FEATURES: Groundbreaking set for August 2007, 30 rows of seats, will comprise a business and entertainment center, height of 69 feet.</i>			
NATIONAL INDOOR SPORTS ARENA Glasgow, Scotland	2009 \$47	5,000 Glasgow City Council/ Sportscotland/Scottish Enterprise	— —
<i>FEATURES: Part of Clyde Waterfront Regeneration, multi-purpose, 5 outdoor fields.</i>			
LANSDOWNE ROAD Dublin, Ireland	2009 \$486	50,000 Irish Rugby Football Union	HOK S+V+E, Buro Happold —
<i>FEATURES: Renovation of 1872-era Lansdowne Road stadium, redesigned to meet FIFA rules, exterior of reflective glass to minimize interior light intrusion on neighbors, SRO areas converted to seating, January 2007 groundbreaking delayed.</i>			
NEW ANFIELD STADIUM Liverpool, U.K.	2009 \$422	61,000 Liverpool FC/ Anfield Sport and Com. Centre Ltd.	HKS —
<i>FEATURES: 999-year lease from the city, construction set to begin April 2 was temporarily suspended to review plans for higher capacity.</i>			
NOU MESTALLA Valencia, Spain	2009 \$333	75,000 City	Arup —
<i>FEATURES: New home of Valencia CF, multi-purpose, futuristic aluminum exterior, business plan and program designed by Amsterdam ArenA Advisory.</i>			
STADION SPARTAK Moscow, Russia	2009 —	35,000 Private shareholders	Mosproyekt Mosproekt —
<i>FEATURES: Home of FC Spartak Moskva, broke ground March 2007, will match colors of team, will include team museum.</i>			
STADION LECHA Poznan, Poland	2010 \$52	46,500 Polish Government	Modern Construction Systems Sp. z o —
<i>FEATURES: Home of KKS Lech Poznań.</i>			
BALTIC ARENA Gdansk, Poland	2010 \$107	40,000 City (possibly private partnership)	— —
<i>FEATURES: Shaped like nodule of amber, use for soccer and other events such as conferences, to be located near rail line, to break ground late 2007 or early 2008.</i>			
OLYMPIQUE LYONNAIS STADIUM Decines, France	2010 \$330	60,000 Private investors	— —
<i>FEATURES: Includes retail and two hotels, home of Olympique Lyonnais soccer.</i>			

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NEW RASUNDA STADION Solna, Sweden	2011 \$326	50,000 Swedish Football Assoc., Solna City Council, Fabega	— —
<i>FEATURES: New stadium near old site will add capacity and a roof, expected to host soccer and concerts.</i>			
SKOCZNIA MALINKA Wisla, Poland	2011 \$88	28,000 KS Wisla/Greater Polish Sports Assoc.	— —
<i>FEATURES: Will include convertible turf field and hydraulic-controlled ceiling climate control system for winter activity.</i>			
VELOPARK East London, U.K.	Summer 2011 —	— City	— Out to bid
<i>FEATURES: One of the "Big 5" permanent venues to be built in the London Olympic Park to be used for bicycle racing, a BMX bicycle racing portion will be included during the games then moved after the games.</i>			
AQUATICS CENTER East London, U.K.	2012 —	20,000 City	Zaha Hadid, S&P, Arup —
<i>FEATURES: One of Olympic Park venues, sweeping design meant to represent water, construction slated to begin in late 2008.</i>			
ETON MANOR East London, U.K.	2012 —	— City	— —
<i>FEATURES: Will host Paralympic tennis and archery and will be training area for Olympics, replaces derelict sports facility, construction to begin in late 2009.</i>			
LONDON OLYMPIC STADIUM East London, U.K.	2012 —	80,000 City	HOK S+V+E, Buro Happold, McAlpine —
<i>FEATURES: Main stadium of 5-acre Olympic Park, roof designed to look like muscled arm supporting venue.</i>			
ALKAZAR STADIUM Neapoli, Greece	— \$55	20,000 A.E.Larissa FC/local government	Polynios Zerbacus —
<i>FEATURES: Original plan was downsized, 4 covered stands, 31 VIP boxes, a restaurant, 2 electronic scoreboards, construction estimated at 18 months.</i>			
NUEVA ROMAREDA Zaragoza, Spain	On hold \$182	43,000 City/Real Zaragoza soccer club	— —
<i>FEATURES: Upgrade; political fighting over the project has stopped construction.</i>			
NOUVEAU STADE DU RAY Nice, France	On hold \$76	32,600 OGC Nice Football Club	Michelle Viallatte —
<i>FEATURES: Groundbreaking took place July 2006, but the project was halted due to public policy violations and is now under investigation.</i>			
SOURCE: Venues Today Research			

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possibilities. There has been talk of an Olympic bid by Prague. "It's starting to happen, but it's not going to happen fast and vigorously," Lischer said.

Hungary and Romania are trying to qualify for the World Cup. "This is one of the triggers to [build] new stadia," said Henk Markerink, director of the cutting-edge Amsterdam Arena, which offers advisory services to venues throughout Europe.

Eastern Europe has been developing venues "but there are still a lot of economic problems," Lischer said. Public-private partnerships in financing are starting to be seen, but not extensively, he said.

UEFA Requirements

Another factor affecting the European building scene is the enforcement of anti-hooliganism measures across Italy in the wake of the death of a policeman early this year. [See Venues Today March 2007 cover story.]

"With the UEFA's new guidelines on stadium safety, if you want to host the big finals championship, five-star or elite status is required," Markerink said. "That means higher levels of press facilities, VIP facilities, safety and security measures, comfort for spectators and, in certain cases, capacity plays a role."

And upgrade initiatives are being undertaken by soccer teams simply to increase business. "The stadia are quite old, so not many have VIP facilities like sky boxes and business seats and restaurants and things like that. They have to invest in the stadium just to increase their business. This is mainly in southern countries where the stadia are quite old," Markerink said.

England, Holland, France and Germany are up to standards, while stadiums in Spain, Italy, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Poland, the Ukraine and Russia are at "a very poor level," Markerink said.

"Often these are initiatives taken by government. In certain places, like Russia or the Ukraine, you see rich people coming in, owning a club and paying for a new stadium or other facilities. In other cases, you still see the government playing quite a big role in it."

Building Professionalism

Amsterdam Arena has formed a partnership to exchange information with 11 other large venues throughout Europe. "We just want to professionalize the stadia in Europe. They are not managed in a very professional way. They are very backward and a lot has to be done in building organization," Markerink said.

The U.S.-based International Association of Assembly Managers (IAAM) held its inaugural European conference in Vienna in April last year. Markerink is a board member.

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