

Stockholm Public Library

Open International Competition
Stockholm, Sweden

Client - City of Stockholm
Design team - Studio ST & Z-A
Structural Engineer - Buro Happold
Area- 25,000 sq.m.
Date - October 2006

According to the same programmatic distribution assumed for the project of the Prague National Library, this building aims to serve three types of occupants - books, public and the library staff. Each of these occupant groups has a unique spatial typology and functional needs.

Following the library program each department is located on one horizontal floor allowing easy access from the offices and workspace to the relevant book collection storage. The different departments share a vertical circulation core interconnecting the staffed areas as well as the various collections. The offices are located on a 9 Meter band along the building perimeter, giving these spaces access to air, light and exterior views as well as easy access to the adjacent collections.

The public reading halls are inserted large span spaces within the mass of book stack areas and are structurally suspended within the books column grid, allowing the public to experience the vast amount of data collected in the Public Library even though most of the collection is not physically accessible to the public.

The structural typology, based on a high density column grid allows us to minimize the column size creating a delicate lattice of supporting structure throughout the building.

The columns along the east, west and south facades are "stretched" out in order to create the medium span spaces for the offices and workrooms.



aerial view

section
view of office
view of reading hall

