



The proposed Messina Strait Bridge will have a world record span of 3.3km and a width of 60m crossing the Strait of Messina between Messina, Sicily and Calabria on the Italian mainland.

This enormous bridge has been designed to carry two lanes of traffic each way, including an emergency lane on each side, two tracks carrying trains and one service lane each way. The design has been developed over many years and is already well advanced.

Flint and Neill was appointed by Stretto di Messina SpA in 2002 to advise on the suspension bridge design, construction and maintenance, to provide assistance with preparation of technical specifications and to review the fundamental bridge design criteria. This included developing loading criteria for the continued heavy railway and highway loading and analysing the bridge to verify satisfactory performance, particularly from the point of view of railway “runnability” and structural movement.

Although the Design and Build contract was awarded in 2005, a change in government put the project on hold. In 2010 the project was restarted and Flint & Neill undertook detailed design of the suspension system and provided assistance on the Structural Health Monitoring System and Operation and Maintenance procedures for parent company COWI.

Client:
Stretto di Messina SpA / COWI

Location:
Messina Strait, Italy

Service Dates:
2002-2006, 2010 to present

Services:
Specialist advice during tender process
Detailed design

