



## The railway station at Ashgabat – A building out of 1001 Nights



**Project:** Renovation of the railway station  
Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

**Client:** Zet Yapi Ürünleri Insaat Ve Tic A. S.

**Location:** Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

**Market segment:** Construction

**Product:** Makrolon® multi UV 4/10-6 blue 1545

**Architect:** Debu Mimarlik

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Ashgabat - the sound conjures up a city from the tales of 1001 Nights. It is actually the capital of Turkmenistan, located in an oasis in the Karakum desert at the foot of the Kopet-Dag Mountains near the border with Iran. The railway station in Ashgabat is an important stopping point for the Transcaspian railway, built by the Russian Empire in the 19th century and connecting Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan with the Caspian Sea. From the beginning of 2009 blue Makrolon® multi wall sheets have given the renovated station a new aesthetic look.

## Renovation work completed in only 40 days

The main building of the railway station was covered with a metal construction and required renovating as simply and quickly as possible. Ultimately a train station is like a gate into a town, with people entering and leaving through it each day, a place which cannot simply be closed for renovation. In addition the pedestrian level crossings were to be roofed over to protect passengers against the weather. Makrolon® multi UV 4/10-6 multi wall sheets were selected primarily because they are easy to use. They are ideal for cold bent barrel vaults and can be installed directly on site, saving time and money. This made it possible to complete renovation work on the roofs and the pedestrian level crossings in just 40 days.

## The innovative Y structure guarantees cost effectiveness and a great deal of light

The special Y structure and the narrow rib distance of only 6 mm gives Makrolon® multi UV 4/10-6 sheets high rigidity. This means the distance between supports can be increased and construction costs reduced. Another gratifying effect is the greater incidence of light in the station building and at the level crossings. The high resistance of our Makrolon® multi wall sheets to wind loads in combination with particularly good thermal insulation properties was another important criterion for the architect. It is a well known fact that it is always windy in stations and on platforms!

## The colour blue creates a special aesthetic effect

Blue is associated with sky, distance, sea and wide expanses and perhaps this is precisely why it is such a suitable colour component for a train station, a symbol of journeys afar. Blue is also a popular colour in Turkmenistan and so the architect selected Makrolon® multi UV 4/10-6 sheets in the colour blue 1545. A total of 6,000m<sup>2</sup> of the blue polycarbonate sheets were used for the 427 m long station building and the roofing for the level crossings. The white building with its green and yellow ornamentation is now covered by a blue roof, giving the train station a special touch.



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