



Heinz Field

Pittsburgh, PA



Heinz Field- horseshoe-shaped and two-tiered- seats 64,440 Steelers fans with unobstructed sightlines. Its exposed structural steel framing is equally as impressive as its wide-open view of Pittsburgh's three rivers and the downtown skyline. The upper tier, cantilevering 46' over the suite and club levels, is supported by "quad-pod" column groupings consisting of four massive steel HSS placed at the midpoint alternating structural bays. These branch-like structures essentially halved the typical number of supports used in more traditional framing schemes. They funnel the structure's

loads into A-shaped frames carried down through the suite and club levels.

The use of cruciform columns and four-direction knee braces carried this system to the street level. Consisting of WT18s welded to W36 members

capped at the top with knee braces, these columns eliminated costly story bracing and its corresponding erection time. The exposed structural steel frame has become the signature feature of the facility.



JURORS' COMMENTS

A thoughtful use of steel and rational geometry to fulfill the pragmatics of a stadium structure. The clarity of this solution adds to its appeal and justifies its expression at the exterior of the complex. The upper deck structure is a dramatic solution. An incredible engineering tour de force.

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

Bliss and Nyitray, Inc., Miami, FL

ARCHITECT

HOK Sport + Venue + Event,
Kansas City, MO

STEEL FABRICATOR

Hirschfeld Steel Company
(AISC member), San Angelo, TX

STEEL ERECTOR

Century Steel Erectors, Inc.
(NEA member), Drowsburg, PA

STEEL DETAILER

Consteel Technical Services (AISC &
NISD members), Saltburn, England

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Hunt Construction Group with
Mascaro, Inc., Indianapolis, IN

DESIGN SOFTWARE

STAAD III, RAM Advanse,
RAM Structural System

DETAILING SOFTWARE

AutoCAD

