



Location: Masonry Vaults, London Bridge Station

Client: London Transport

Substrate: Brick bound with a lime mortar - Portland cement blend.

Product Applied: **Centrecoat Moisture Blocker**

Summary:

London Bridge railway station opened in 1836 as the original London railway hub and one of the first of its kind in the world. During the intervening years the station has had a complex history, involving frequent rebuilding and changes of ownership. However, it remains both an iconic and essential cog in the National Rail network.

Millions of handmade bricks were used to build its vaulted arches. Originally bound using natural lime mortar, this mortar remained unchanged until the late 19th century, after which small additions of Portland cement proved advantageous.

A common issue with arch structures is water seepage, and with such structures estimated to be over 250,000 in the UK this is no small problem. In many instances, they offer the opportunity for prime retail facilities.

A potential conflict between preserving their heritage aesthetics and achieving suitably dry conditions needed careful consideration. Generally the traditional 'drying out' solutions involve intensive grout injection, which are expensive and not assured of delivering success, whilst an alternative installation of internal canopies and linings both collect and hide water had has seeped through.

Centrecoat Moisture Blocker was used to treat the internal face of the arch brick structures to prevent water seepage. The product was applied directly to the brick wall surface in 2 applications and within 24 hours the surface was visibly dry. This product is an intensive moisture blocker which delivers an alternative solution to water ingress control and eliminated the need for grout injection, whilst preserving the aesthetics of heritage masonry.

In addition to significant time and cost savings, an important advantage over the use of liners or canopies is that **Centrecoat Moisture Blocker** halts all destructive lime leaching. **Centrecoat Moisture Blocker** is a key product in the Centrecoat Range of products delivering protection to stone, brick and concrete surfaces where the aesthetics need to remain and the surfaces still need to 'breathe'.