Abstract

Designed by Diller Scofidio + Renfro, in collaboration with the Rockwell Group, The Shed (Figure 1) is an innovative project that creates a unique and unrivalled space in New York City. Comprising a museum, theater/performance space, rehearsal area and artists’ lab, the project is founded on the principle of flexibility of use. This key objective is also the driver behind one of The Shed’s most iconic features – an entire building deployed on rails in order to double the footprint of the project and create an unprecedented space dedicated to the arts. Thornton Tomasetti provided structural engineering, kinetic consulting, façade design and daylighting analysis for the iconic structure. We will discuss some of the challenges and our approach to delivering this masterwork.

The Shed required innovation and creativity from all parties. Thornton Tomasetti will present the use of high-performance materials and structural systems, architecturally exposed steelwork, close attention to detail and the integration of kinetic and façade systems. The presentation will also discuss the design process and engineering analysis before outlining the procurement strategy and design-assist phase, which was essential to the success of the project.