



**Innovative design and operation of new or upgraded
efficient urban transport interchanges [Theme: SST.2012.3.1-2.]**

City-HUB Project



**City-HUB Fact Sheet N° 8.4:
Gare Lille Flandres-Europe, Lille, France**

Role of interchange

The French case study is composed of two main interchanges in the Lille Metropolis; Lille Flandres and Lille Europe. Effectively, they are located near each other at about 500 metres in the “railway stations triangle” and offer possibilities to transfer from urban public transports (metro, tramway, buses, self-service bikes, car-sharing) to rail services at mainly regional level (Lille Flandres) and mainly at national and international level (Lille Europe). A big shopping mall named Euralille is located between the two stations.

In 2008, a first refurbishment was made for the Lille Flandres metro and tram stations. The Lille Flandres railway station is under refurbishment since 2013 for a better train supply and from 2014 until 2015 to provide new concourse, new joint Public Transport and rail ticket office (purchase of rail or PT tickets, joint information, network maps, etc.). These works will also provide a wider access to public transports linking the ground floor level to underground levels. The two first floors of the station will be converted into a new 1,300 m² business centre with commercial and offices spaces.



Figure 1: Lille Frandres station

Lille Europe is the new high speed train TGV and Eurostar, Thalys and TER-GV station. The Lille Europe Railway station is a very modern railway station constructed to host the Northern TGV trains on the high speed railway network. It opened in 1994 with the opening of the Channel tunnel and the northern TGV network. It has a daily traffic of 8,500 passengers



Figure 2: Lille Europe station

Location

Lille Flandres is the regional TER trains and TGV towards Paris railway station. The Lille Flandres Railway Station is an old construction structure station inside the city of Lille very close to the main square of Lille, and near the old part of Lille. This station opened in the 19th century in 1848. Its façade is the previous “Gare du Nord” from Paris that has been reconstructed in Lille in 1867.

Modes of transport

Lille Flandres counts 17 platforms for more than 500 trains per day and has a traffic of 20 million passengers per year (2012) and 110,000 daily users of which 70,000 take the train and 40,000 are only crossing, using services or going into its shops.

The Lille Flandres railway station serves the regional towns with regional trains named TER (Express Regional Trains). It also links in one hour Lille to Paris with direct TGV trains. Lille Flandres has a lot of connexions with the urban transport network with the Metro VAL line 1 and line 2 (located underground), two tramway lines towards Roubaix and Tourcoing (at intermediate level). It is close to regular bus routes and one specific bus route Citadine that deserve the two railway stations and a circle route inside Lille. It also recently offers self-service bikes in free access stations named V'Lille and a watch out bike garage, which is free for public transport passengers and train users.

Lille Europe counts 4 platforms with a central 2 railway lines for passing through Eurostar trains coming from Paris and going directly to London. It connects Lille to Paris by TGV (1 hour), and to Brussels (38 minutes) and London (1 hour 20 minutes) with the Eurostar trains. It also serves the

other French region by TGV trains that go directly to the South East (Lyon, Marseille, Nice), or the East (Strasbourg). It also connects the Western parts of France (Brittany to Nantes, Rennes, and South West to Bordeaux) by means of trains that go around Paris and after westwards. All the TGVs stop at the international airport of Roissy Charles De Gaulle when going to the South.

The Lille Europe passengers mainly come by car or metro. Since 2014 works are undertaken on the departure concourse for the cross-Channel trains (Eurostar): they will provide new control desks, an increase of the boarding area. It also offers new projects: Wi-bike (biking plugs), piano, children area, etc.

The Lille Europe railway station is also well connected to urban public transport with the VAL metro line 2 by means of a metro station next to the main concourse, the tramway lines 1 and 2 by a tramway station close to the railway station, and regular urban buses. These two railway stations offer paying parking facilities.