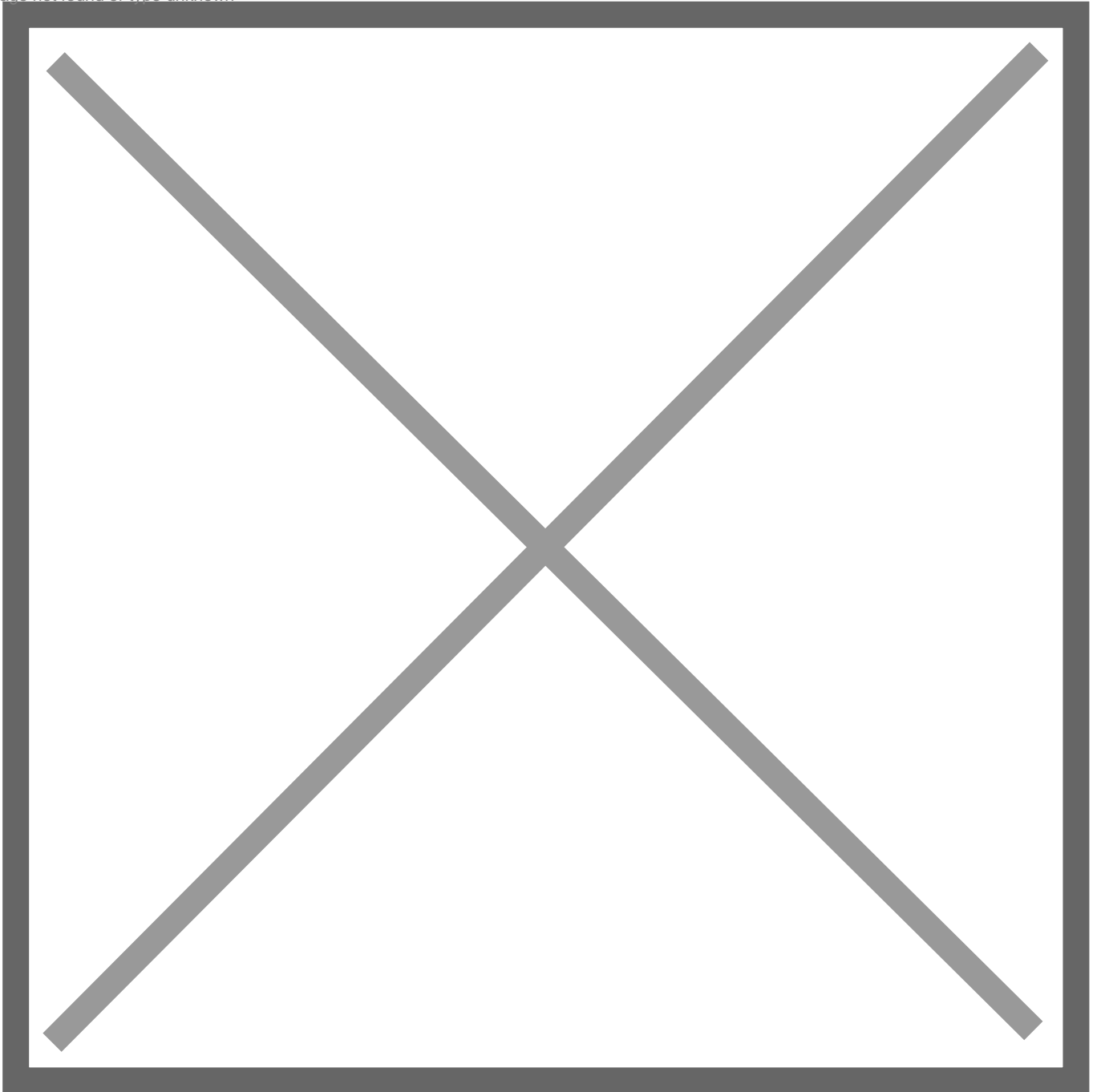


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**Pavilion A1 a Pavilion A2, Výstaviště Brno
[Hall A1 and Hall A2 of the Brno Exhibition
Center]**

Czech Republic

Výstaviště 405/1

: Brno-město [Brno-City District], Jihomoravský kraj [South Moravian Region] 603 00 Brno-střed [Brno-Center]

Commission

1927

Completion

1928

Original name

Palác průmyslu a obchodu, Výstaviště Brno [Palace of Industry and Trade of the Brno Exhibition Center]

Other denominations

BVV (Hall A1 and A2)

Original use

Exhibitions/pavilion

Current use

Exhibitions/pavilion

Architects

Emil Králík (winner competition), Josef Kalous (further development)

Engineers

Jaroslav Valenta

Concrete by reinforcement

Reinforced concrete

Construction method

Cast-in-place concrete, in-situ concrete

Architectural concrete

Colored concrete

Structural types

One-dimensional/diaphragmatic arches

Description

The Czech city of Brno, the country's second most populous city, has a long history of trade fairs, which have been held there regularly every year since 1821. This tradition was reinforced, throughout the 20th century, by a booming industrial economy. Today, the Brno Exhibition Center is still very important, and it is considered one of the most beautiful fairgrounds in Europe: the 65-hectare complex is located in the privileged natural enclave of the Pisárky valley, connected to the center of Brno through a system of streetcars.

In 1922, the land of Moravia acquired a plot of wetland near the river, partially occupied by a sugar factory. The aim was to give the exhibition a stable headquarters after decades of provisionally occupying different spaces in the city. The design for the first hall, dedicated to industry and commerce, was the result of a competition won by the Czech architects Emil Králík and Josef Kalous. The layout of the grounds, divided into two large arms forming a "V", is clearly inspired by

classical proportions, creating a theatrical setting that draws admiration from visitors: tree-lined perspectives, dotted with domes and towers as endpoints of the long sightlines. The resounding modernity of the architecture also caused a big stir: large, slender concrete parabolic arches serve as the skeleton for a bright and ethereal space, dominated by glass. Both professionals and the general public openly lauded this new architecture, which received more than 2.8 million visitors during the first year after its opening. Because the terrain was adjacent to the river, there were abundant aggregates available for use. This was an advantage that favored opting for construction using concrete, since it could be mixed on site at a reduced cost, minimizing the transport of materials.

Links

[PDF Brno Exhibition Centre / TIC BRNO](#)

[Brno Architecture Manual](#)

[BW Trade Fairs Brno](#)

[Archiweb](#)