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The glowing coloured terminal roof is a striking centrepoint to the scheme, gradually morphing from red to yellow along the length of the building.

CLIENT
Beijing Capital International Airport

ARCHITECT
Foster + Partners

PHOTOGRAPHER
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PROJECT TEAM
Mark Major, Philip Rose

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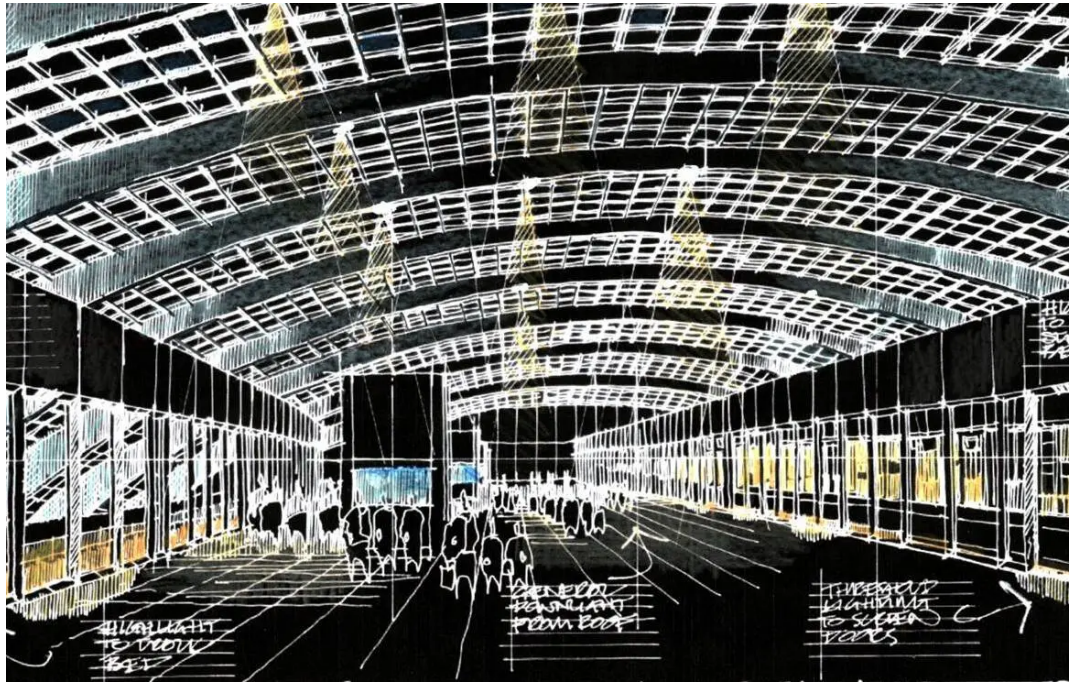

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At the time of construction, Beijing's new international terminal was the world's largest and most advanced airport.

We had just three months to develop a lighting concept with sufficient detail to brief local engineers. Our previous experience of handling large airport projects (Terminal 5, Heathrow and Barajas Airport, Madrid) paid dividends: we quickly disseminated the brief, asked the right questions and agreed an approach in record time.

Our design consists of three lighting components: a general lighting system, which provides functional lighting; common circulation lighting, which helps route passengers; and fit-out lighting which brings accent and drama.

For the general lighting we devised a high-level system that is integrated above the slatted roof and mounted on gantries providing easy access for maintenance. This illuminates the principle volumes and provides feature lighting to the roof and structure.

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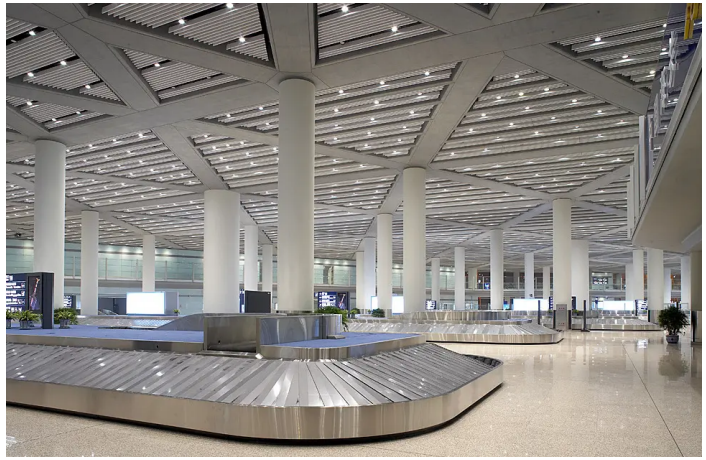

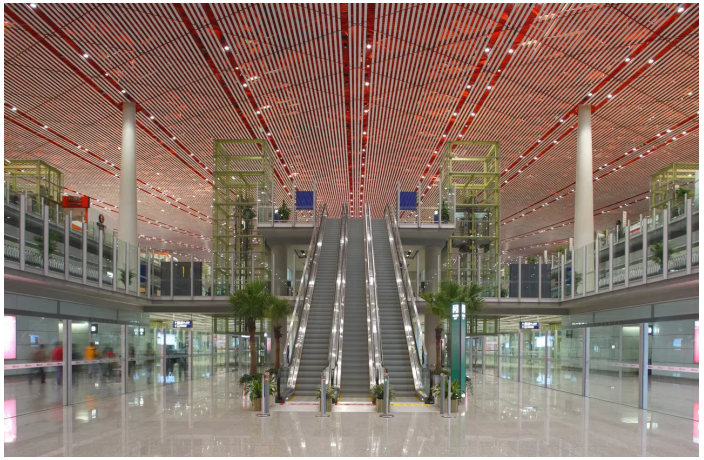

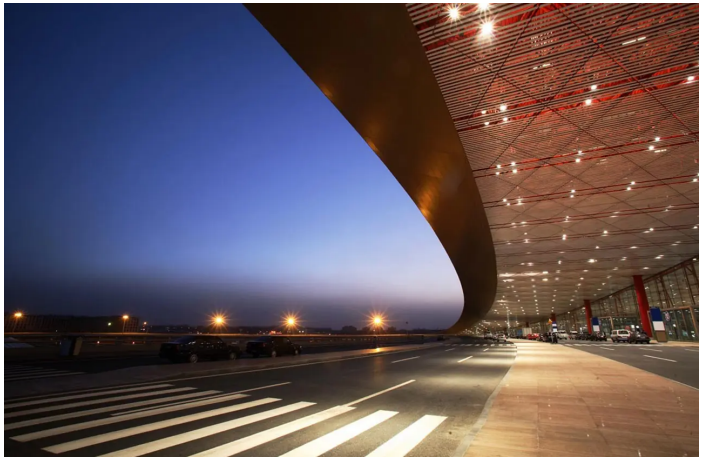

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