

Mexican National Railways Museum, Station Benches

PROJECT TEAM: Cesar Vergara, Chief Designer, N de M, Mexico (1988-1989)
N de M, Engineering and Workshops, San Luis Potosí, Mexico

CLIENT: Ferrocarriles Nacionales de México (N de M)
(National Railways of Mexico)

COMPLETION DATE: 1989

The National Railways of Mexico (N de M) by Presidential decree was directed to create a National Railways Museum in Puebla, Mexico. As N de M Chief Designer, CESAR VERGARA, was directed to utilize local resources and manpower within the 140,000-employee railway and saw the museum project as an opportunity to design, craft and install furnishings made entirely with recovered metal. He turned to the N de M shops in San Luis Potosí with their highly skilled casting, forging and metal workshops.

A series of benches were designed with two simple matching castings, square wooden dowels that form the seat and longitudinal structures of the bench. This makes the bench flexible in its fabrication of lengths from six to nine feet. Highly ergonomic and low maintenance, the attractive seating system has been in place for nearly 25 years at the museum's historic 1856 station building and continues to be a favorite with museum visitors.

