

# railwatch

AN INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR RAIL USERS

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Pictures: SNCB-HOLDING



## High speed highlights

Europe's high-speed rail network took a major step forward when the Belgians completed the line from Brussels via Liege to Aachen and Koln in Germany.

To complement the new high-speed services, the futuristic new station shown here was opened at Liege Guillemins.

Designed by Santiago Calatrava, it is now used by trains from Koln to both Amsterdam and Paris.

Thousands of people turned out to see the firework display to launch the station, above, in November. The dramatic sweep of the overall roof can be clearly seen in the picture shown left.

High-speed Europe is leaving road-dominated Britain further behind. There are now 3,500 miles of high-speed line in mainland Europe compared to our 68 miles.