

Paul Janssen (1959)

Paul Janssen is the managing director of the consultancy company Ponton Bouwconsultancy. Graduated as a Master of Science in Civil Engineering, Paul started his career in several constructing companies, where his interests in tunnelling grew. He worked on the immersed Wijkertunnel.

He left as a CEO of a company specialized in infrastructural works. After starting his own firm, Paul Janssen worked as a project director on behalf of governmental clients of complex civil works, mostly tunnels.

In the early years of this new career, he was project director of the Pannerdensch Kanaaltunnel, part of the Betuwe Line, and the Hubertus Tunnel in The Hague. The first is a railroad tunnel, used for cargo. The second one was the first project where a tunnel has been bored under houses and other buildings. Both projects were completed within budget and on schedule without contractual issues.

After that, Paul Janssen was responsible for the underground part of the North/South Line in Amsterdam. In this project two metro tubes were bored under the historic city of Amsterdam. After difficult and large negotiations, he managed to close a contract which was beneficial for both the client and the contractor. Despite the delay of the overall project, the underground part was executed in an exemplary way.

In 2011 he became the project director of the Victory Boogie Woogietunnel in The Hague. This roadtunnel is as present known as the most sustainable tunnel in Europe. The project was completed in 2021, again on time and within budget and with no contractual issues.

After these tunnelprojects Paul was asked to become the interim program director for the renovation of the Parliament buildings in the Hague. He introduced a new contractual standard (Cost +, based on NEC IV) to overcome all the discussions common with this type of work.

In 2024 he was asked to perform an evaluation on the unsuccessful tender of the renovation of Van Brienoord bridge. This is the largest steel bridge in the Netherlands and part of the most busy transport route of the Rotterdam harbour. His conclusions and recommendations were accepted by the Government and are the base of the new tender approach for this kind of projects.

Education:

MSc, Civil Engineering, Delft University of Technology, 1985
BBa, Foundation of courses in Business Administration, 1990
Several courses in Project Management, Negotiation and legal affairs

Memberships:

Royal Institute of Engineers, division Tunnel Works
Centre for Underground Construction
Centre of excellence for dispute-free construction
Dispute Resolution Board Foundation

Relevant Experience

Consultancy:

Risk Review on the immersed Fehrmanbelt Tunnel
2nd opinion on the Time Schedule of the Blankenburg Tunnel
2nd opinion on the tender documents of the Corbulotunnel
Citytunnel Westpleintunnel Utrecht
Member of several Audit Committees for large infrastructural projects in the Rotterdam Harbour

Advisory boards:

Member technical Advisory Board Canal Crossing Sluiskil
Chairman Advisory Board Renovation of Piet Heintunnel
Chairman Advisory Board roadtunnels Amsterdam
Member Advisory Board Zuidastunnels Amsterdam
Member Advisory Board Pallas Nuclear Reactor Petten

Mediation and Arbitration:

Construction of a Metro-station in Rotterdam
Construction of a Theatre complex in The Hague
Zuidas-Project in Amsterdam
Corbulotunnel in Leiden
Member of several Dispute Boards

Lectures:

Guest lectures on Technical University Delft
Guest lectures on Technical University Twente
Lecturer of the course dispute free construction at the ISS
(Institute for Cooperation in Construction)