

HIGH STANDARDS FOR FLEMISH WATERWAYS



The load-out and installation of a 1,200t steel bridge in Antwerp, Belgium, has been carried out by specialist contractor ALE using its Mega Jack 800.

The Brug van den Azijn, or Vinegar Bridge, is located in the districts of Merksem and Deurne east of Antwerp and crosses the 63m-wide Albert Canal, the most important waterway in Flanders. The new 15.6m-wide bridge replaces an existing structure that carries the N130 road; it will have three lanes of traffic and separate lanes for cyclists and pedestrians. In addition to the canal, the bridge spans roads and towpaths on each side of the waterway.

The transport and lifting operation was carried out over two weeks for the Flemish Waterway Authority, De Vlaamse Waterweg.

The steel arch bridge was first transported by barge from steel fabricator Victor Buyck's workshop in Wondelgem, Ghent, to the assembly site in Antwerp. In order to clear the low bridges on route, the arch was transported in sections that rested on the bridge deck.

Once in Antwerp, the 124m-long bridge was fully assembled before being

transported by barge a further 2.5km to its final destination.

The Mega Jack 800 was used to raise the deck by 8m, and then to lower it 3m onto the abutments in December last year - an operation that took only three hours.

The Mega Jack 800 has a capacity of 800t per tower with a normal installation height of 2m and is often used on projects with restricted site space. According to ALE, the use of the Mega Jack 800 enabled operational time to be reduced for this part of the project.

More than 20 other nearby bridges on the Albert Canal are planned to be replaced with new structures with a clearance of 9.1m to enable larger vessels to navigate the Albert Canal. Eight of these bridges are currently being constructed.

The new bridges are part of the 2020 Antwerp Mobility Masterplan that began in 2003 and which consists of a variety of projects for pedestrians, cyclists, ships, cars and freight transport. The new bridge is scheduled to open in April 2018.

ALE Heavylift
www.ale-heavylift.com

NEW MBS RANGE LAUNCHES



Mobile scaffolding system specialist Berd has launched a new range of modular bridge solutions suitable for use for spans up to 120m long.

The launch marks a move into a new sector for the company, which is already known for its patented Organic Prestressing System which enables its MSS machines to make longer and lighter spans.

The new business will offer design, development, manufacturing and assembly of modular bridge solutions for sale or rent, and for civil or military applications around the world.

Berd's MBS is designed to be used for permanent, semi-permanent or temporary sites, for civil or military (MLC110W/80T) applications, for logistic support, or emergency response. The system can replace damaged bridges, act as overbridges for weak structures, or be used for disaster relief. Clear spans of up to 120m can be achieved, says Berd, and

its product comes in four different sizes, with three smaller span sizes of 45m, 60m and 90m.

The main attributes of the system are that it is a modular, engineered and factory-fabricated bridge system with standard interchangeable components. It is designed to be highly adaptable, fully reusable and capable of being relocated easily. It is transported in standard ISO containers and is quick and simple to assemble using unskilled labour. The steel is fully galvanised for long life and minimum maintenance.

Erection and launch times on site are minimised by the fact that much of it is assembled in the factory, reducing the resources needed on site. It is designed to optimise container storage, experiences low deflection, without load restrictions, and offers tailor made solutions for multiple applications.

MBS
www.mbs.berd.eu



APPROACHING MARGINS... CONNECTING THE WORLD!

L-MB120 | Clear spans up to 120 meters

NEW LIMITS | RHYTHM |
TAILOR-MADE SOLUTIONS |
STATE OF THE ART TECHNOLOGY



MB30



MB60



MB90