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Building a lifting platform

Amid high winds and with little room to manoeuvre inside a steelworks pit, Eve Trakway carried out an intricate installation of a platform capable of supporting a 70 tonne crane at the Corus Steelworks in Scunthorpe. Commissioned by Crane Services which was contracted to slab-casters Danieli Davy Distington, the project was initially delayed by six hours due to treacherous winds but was completed after a two-phase installation.

Phase one outside of the pit, involved the placing of 60 box panels to allow a 400 tonne crane to move in close enough to be able to first of all lift the materials into the 25 metre deep steelworks pit, to build up the platform, followed by the 70 tonne crane. Phase two, the building of the

platform in the pit, involved 800 timber railway sleepers, 75 half-sleepers and 300 sandbags to build a sleeper cribbage. This was then fully decked with a further 70 box panels to create the final panel platform for the crane to operate from.

Mark Barratt, senior project manager at Eve Trakway, said: 'This was an extremely difficult procedure made all the more tricky by the conditions we faced. In the end it was a combination of superb teamwork and experience that ensured the project was completed successfully.'



Packaging cranes and access

Platform Sales and Hire of Leighton Buzzard recently supplied both crane and access solutions to BAE Systems at Warton. The company required new equipment for their aircraft test facility. The original enquiry was for access staging but it became clear that a small lifting device was also required. After various demonstrations a three tonne Valla-30E battery powered compact crane was selected. The Valla is able to get in close to the fighter aircraft in order to remove heavy ejector seats and other aircraft components.



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