

NEW WEAR CROSSING BRIDGE



- **LOCATION**

Ghent - Belgium
Sunderland - United Kingdom

- **CLIENT**

Victor Buyck Steel
Construction

- **PROJECT SUMMARY**

The New Wear Crossing Bridge will span the river Wear, from Castletown to Pallion, its centerpiece is a soaring 105m-high pylon. Sarens transported the pylon from the Victor Buyck Steel Construction yard in Ghent, Belgium to Sunderland, UK. The transport of the pylon was challenging as Sarens had to maneuver along tight canals and under a series of low bridges while bearing the pylon on a barge. Sarens operators had only about 30cm of margin on all sides of the pylon to clear the bridges. When the pylon was brought successfully to its destination, the Sarens team carefully lifted and positioned it to its full height.



NEW WEAR CROSSING BRIDGE SUCCESS

• OBJECTIVE

Sarens was entrusted with transporting and installing the bridge's 1.600T A-frame pylon, an operation that requires very precise and detailed planning.

• SOLUTIONS

The first challenge was slowly maneuvering the pylon out of the fabrication yard. The pylon had to be jacked down onto Sarens' twin barges, "Jozef-Rosa" and "Karel-Victor", using a combination of Sarens' PJ250 jacking system and jack & pack with 52 SPMT axle lines. During the two-day loading process, the barges were moored with a variety of hydraulic winches. This was a slow process because the ballast of the barges had to be carefully adjusted throughout the operation. Once the pylon was secured, the team had to maneuver it along the canals. In the Port of Ghent, the pylon was then transferred to Sarens' larger sea-faring barge, "Louis". For this, the twin barges were first driven apart with SPMTs and once they were adequately separated, the barge Louis was inserted between them. The pylon was transferred using SPMTs and ballasting the barges. Once on board "Louis", the pylon was rotated by 90° and set down on its sea-fastening supports.

• RESULTS

Transporting the pylon was a technically challenging feat of engineering, ingenuity, and teamwork. Sarens engineers and field professionals handled it with coordination and expertise.

