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CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

SUSPENDED SCAFFOLD IS PERFECT SOLUTION

Wilford Suspension Bridge,

NASC member: JFE Attridge Scaffolding Services
Main contractor: North Midland Construction/Stonbury

WITH ITS BRIDGE DECK having been condemned, Wilford Suspension Bridge, a main thoroughfare across the River Trent in Nottingham, was closed to the public and in need of a total refurbishment. However, the scaffolding requirements for the works, which included encapsulating the bridge to allow shot blasting, painting and repairs to take place, presented significant challenges: the additional load that the bridge could carry was minimal and the river had to remain navigable



during the course of the works.

Having reviewed the existing temporary works design, JFE Attridge proposed an alternative approach that met the technical requirements and helped reduce the cost of the overall work. Its solution involved strengthening the existing bridge deck beams and restricting the live loading

on the scaffold to allow a system designed to be suspended directly from the bridge. The company chose Haki system scaffold which was ideal for this job. Wind speed was monitored and in the event of constant wind over 35mph the sheeting on the scaffold was removed. JFE Attridge's alternative

design helped ensure the work was completed on time and in budget. "The feedback we received was exceptional," reports director James Attridge. "As a result of the success of the project, the bridge was reopened to the public and all the contractors involved took part in the re-launch."

TRADING CONTINUES AS WORKS PROCEED

Market Hall, Derby

NASC member: MPT Scaffolding Ltd
Main contractor: Ashe Construction Ltd

OPENED IN 1866, Derby Market Hall is still home to a busy, vibrant market. MPT Scaffolding has provided scaffolding to allow maintenance to take place to extend the lifespan of the building and improve its visual appearance while retaining the original Victorian features.

The brief for the project specified that the day-to-day running of the market should not be affected. To meet this requirement, MPT worked 12-hour shifts over a five week

period and constructed the scaffolding in a way that ensured the market remained safe for the public for the entire duration.

The initial proposal had been for a fully caged scaffold with working lifts to the underside of the copper domed roof. However, because this added time and cost, MPT decided to adopt a fresh approach. This involved constructing a deck over the market stalls to allow mobile towers to access the 18m- high level-roof areas. This gave the contractor unlimited access to the entire area and freedom to carry out the works during normal working hours. Rumours of uncharted underground vaults located within the existing building meant a ground-penetrating radar survey was required to ensure that the main column supports were placed on firm ground.

A smoke 'chute' was also



constructed in the centre of the structure to maintain the existing building's current fire/smoke controls. The deck was also sealed with polythene to stop any

dust and dirt falling below onto the public and market stalls. In addition, an external scaffold was constructed to allow sections of the domed roof to be replaced.