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## **ALE COMPLETES BRIDGE LAUNCH IN SERBIA**



ALE has completed the launching of the Zezelj bridge, weighing 11,100t, in Novi Sad, Serbia, in October 2017.

The global heavylifting providers were contracted by Azvi to perform the bridge launch of the 474m-long bridge. The project started in June 2017 and involved jacking as well as launching two arches and installation of two span sections.

ALE deployed jacks, skidding system, three pontoons (coupled each other) combined with hydraulic winches, a ballast system, as well as a bespoke gantry designed especially for the project.

The first manoeuvre consisted of jacking-up the first bridge section, weighing 4,750t, using 16 jacks with 7,600t capacity. ALE adapted the height of the gantry for several river levels and used a modular steel structure with the combination of hydraulic jacks on top the main columns.

The second arch measured 220m long and weighed 6,400t, and was launched using the same methodology as the first arch.

Francisco Gómez, Project Engineer for ALE, said: “We had a team of bridge experts working on this and found a solution that allowed the client to install the bridge so the remaining building work of the railway infrastructure could continue.

“We are really proud of what we have achieved during this complex bridge launch. The team’s expertise was shown when we launched and skidded an arch 105m to the pile in just seven hours, before the water levels got too low. By providing beneficial solutions such as these, we can showcase our capability to perform safely and timely bridge installations.”

The operations took just five days over the four months.

**ENDS**

*Issued by the ALE Press Office. For more information or images, please contact Sarah Maia on (+44) 1782 977146 or email [s.maia@ale-heavylift.com](mailto:s.maia@ale-heavylift.com)*

**Images 1 and 2: Launching the final arch of Zezelj Bridge in Novi Sad, Serbia.**

**Notes to editors:**

ALE delivers a highly tailored, end-to-end service covering every aspect of the handling, transportation and installation of heavy, indivisible loads, including lifting, transporting, installing, ballasting, jacking and weighing.

ALE delivers strategic heavy-lift services to a wide range of sectors, including civil, oil and gas, energy, nuclear, offshore, renewables, petrochemical, ports, marine, minerals and metals and mining.

ALE has more than 30 offices across Europe, the Far East, Africa, America, South America, the Middle East and Australia. It is fully compliant with international standards of safety and excellence, including Quality standard ISO 9001:2015, Environmental standard ISO 14001:2015, and Health and Safety Standard OHSAS 18001:2007. Further information can be found on the ALE website at [www.ale-heavylift.com](http://www.ale-heavylift.com).