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ALE DEMONSTRATES INNOVATION USING FLOATOVER JACKS TO INSTALL ONE OF THE WORLD'S LONGEST LINKSPAN BRIDGES



ALE has installed one of the world's longest linkspan bridges using the innovative hydraulic floatover jacks in Gujarat, India.

Measuring 100m long and weighing 950t, the linkspan bridge needed to be installed onto the Dahej -Gogha Ro-Pax ferry using jacking, mooring and ballasting techniques.

In January, ALE deployed its specialist ALE-Offshore Services division to perform the necessary calculations, engineering designs and testing, and offshore operations, including mooring and ballasting. ALE used one of its latest pieces of technology, the 3m stroke floatover jacks, to install the bridge.

This is the inaugural job for the hydraulic floatover jacks and were ideally suited to perform quick floatovers that can counterbalance the fast currents and the high tidal range of over 10m – within some of the highest variations in the world.

The quay side part of the link span had to be positioned onto a fixed support, with the opposite end of the support fixed to a floating pontoon. As the weight of the link span was gradually taken by the floating pontoon, the buoyancy constantly changed and the jacks were used to incline and lower the link span into place.

“This part of India witnesses massive tidal variations; in fact, some of the highest tidal variation in the world. Therefore, the operation required a timely and synchronised solution with little room for error,” explained Matthew Hodgson, Engineering Manager for ALE-Offshore Services.

Dan Kempin, Business Development Manager for ALE-Offshore Services, said: “We needed to navigate the bureaucratic complexities and drew on our group resources as the foundation of our expertise. Unlike other installation methods that would have required up to 11m of dredging, we only needed 2m, which was the ideal solution as it saved time and money for the client. This is a great milestone for the client and ALE – Offshore Services and shows the jack’s unique capabilities for projects like this.”

This new Ro-Ro bridge will reduce travel time to 1 hour 30 minutes compared to 7 hours travelling by road around the Gulf of Cambay, as sea transport connections are opened from Dahej and Gogha via ferry.

ENDS

Image 1: ALE-Offshore Services using the new hydraulic floatover jacks to install the linkspan.

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

NOTES FOR EDITORS:

ABOUT ALE:

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 provides 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

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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.

