Case study 621 Sykes assist Thames bridge project

When construction is necessary over rivers or other bodies of water, a cofferdam is temporarily created to allow an enclosed area to be pumped before plans can proceed. This creates a dry environment generally comprised of welded steel structures which are typically dismantled once building works have been completed.

The erection of a new foot and cycle bridge over the Thames in the Berkshire area meant there was a short-term requirement for a cofferdam to be assembled. A continuously-operating pumping solution imperative due to the high water table, with units sourced quickly to ensure the assignment commenced on schedule.

We first received an enquiry prior to the build-up to Christmas, with a solitary 4" Super Wispaset provisionally recommended to get the project off the ground. The site manager then contacted us again in the new year, seeking an additional pump to work alongside the one already there. A quote was dispatched and accepted later that day and the extra unit was delivered and installed the following morning – to the delight of our customer.

Silenced units were specifically proposed due to the potential for noise complaints by members of the public, while float controls were also provided to reduce fuel costs. The Borough Council were keen to have the bridge open as quickly as possible and our swift action facilitated the construction of concrete supports needed for sustaining the overpass. In total, our equipment remained on hire for approximately six months and has served to fast-track an important safety-driven scheme.







Performance Max head: 38m, Max flow: 90 l/s, Max solid: 52mm Weight 1990kg with fuel, 1800kg without fuel Dimensions (mm) 2310 x 1250 x Noise level @7m = 65 dBA

Fuel tank capacity 175 litres Pipe connections Suction: 6" table D, Discharge: 6" table D, Bauer couplings

Fuel consumption Full load @ 1800

rpm: 9.8 litres/hour





