

News Release

071-515 3000

6 April 1990

London Docklands
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550 TONNE BASCULE BRIDGE LIFTED INTO POSITION

10.30am, Sunday, 8 April 1990

at the King George V Dock

Woolwich Manor Way, North Woolwich, E16

A new 550 tonne bascule bridge is to be lifted into position over the refurbished King George V Lock, at the eastern end of the Royal Docks in London Docklands, by a 50 metre high heavy-lift floating crane.

The road bridge is scheduled to leave the manufacturers in Holland on Friday 6 April 1990 and be towed across the North Sea on a pontoon 60 metres long and 15 metres wide. The bridge is scheduled to come through the King George V lock gates on the high tide at midnight on Saturday 7 April 1990, with the lift scheduled to take place the following morning, Sunday 8 April 1990.

The new twin leaf bascule bridge, part of a £3.1 million reconstruction scheme, replaces a bascule bridge constructed at the end of World War 1 and now at the end of its economic life.

The bridge carries the A117 (Woolwich Manor Way) over the King George V Lock, newly refurbished by the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) at a cost of £8 million. The old bridge had a road width of only 5.3 metres, whereas the new bridge has a road width of 7.3 metres. The main contractor is Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd and the Consulting Engineers are Robert West and Partners.

If you are interested in covering this spectacular lifting operation, please contact:

LDDC Press Office

Tel: 01-515 3000

We will then arrange for you to have access to the site.

NB - If there are adverse weather conditions in the North Sea, the operation may be delayed. Therefore, please phone 01-488 2439 on Sunday morning, between 8.00 am and 9.30 am, to double check that the lift is taking place as scheduled.

Replacement Bascule Bridge

Client:	London Docklands Development Corporation
Consulting Engineers:	Robert West and Partners
Quantity Surveyors:	George Corderoy & Co Ltd
Main Contractor:	Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd
Bridge Fabrication Sub-Contractor:	Ravestein B V
Heavy Lift Crane Sub-Contractor:	Smit Tak B V
Operating Machinery and Control System Sub-Contractor	MacScott Bond Ltd