

## **GRAHAM bridges the gap with milestone at major new port construction in Tilbury**

A 360-tonne bridge has been lifted into place as part of construction of a new port for the South East, Tilbury2.

The steel bridge was towed 135 nautical miles from Rotterdam to the Tilbury2 site – a process which took 24 hours – before it was lifted into place.

The approach bridge is the first of three components to be installed over the next few months to create a Roll On – Roll Off facility into the new terminal currently under construction by GRAHAM.

Peter Ward, Commercial Director at The Port of Tilbury, said: "This is another important milestone in the creation of our new port Tilbury2.

"GRAHAM's team successfully completed the link span fixed bridge installation and we look forward to seeing the bridge opened early next year."

The steel bridge, measuring 54m x 15m x 5m was chosen for its strength and durability in the marine environment.

It was transported by the HAPO pontoon H-332 and supporting tug.

The Port of London (PLA) pilots were on board when entering the Thames Estuary and remained with GRAHAM throughout the lifting operations.

Following closely behind in convoy was the MATADOR 3 seagoing floating sheerleg crane with a lifting capacity of 1,800 tonnes, again with a supporting tug.

Paul Scott, Contracts Director for GRAHAM, said: "We have hit another milestone on this major project with the arrival and installation of the approach bridge.

"It was a real team effort from the loading out at Ravestein's BV yard through to the installation.

"The approach bridge is positioned from abutments on both the landside of the flood defence and on the foreshore."

The Tilbury2 project consists of the construction of a new port terminal and associated facilities on land at the former Tilbury Power Station on the north bank of the River Thames at Tilbury.

When operational in Spring 2020, Tilbury2 will be the UK's largest unaccompanied freight ferry port, the country's biggest construction processing hub and will see the creation of a new significantly larger rail head which can accommodate the longest freight trains of 775m.

The project is central to the Port of Tilbury's £1 billion investment programme during 2012-20, which has seen it double the size of its business in the past 10 years and is projected to double the volume of cargo across the quay (from 16 million to 32 million tonnes) and increase direct employment (from 3,500 to 12,000 jobs) over the next 10-15 years.

-ENDS-

## Notes to editors

### About GRAHAM

GRAHAM is a privately-owned company that specialises in the delivery of award-winning building, civil engineering, interior fit-out, facilities management and investment projects.

A truly national business, with an annual turnover of £735m (2019), it operates from a network of 23 regional offices throughout the UK and Ireland and employs over 2,200 colleagues.

Proudly “delivering lasting impact” since 1778, it is currently completing over 100 live projects across a range of key sectors including education, healthcare, commercial, retail, highways and rail.

Winner of the Major Contractor of the Year at the 2017 Building Awards, GRAHAM was the first contractor in the UK to achieve Investors in People (IIP) Platinum and IIP Wellbeing accreditations.

It was also the first UK wide company to achieve the British Standards Institute (BSI) Kitemark™ certification for both BIM Design and Construction (PAS 1192-2) and Asset Management (PAS 1192-3).

With an exceptionally strong £1.2bn pipeline, GRAHAM was ranked 95th in the annual Sunday Times HSBC Top Track 100 – a league table which ranks Britain's top 100 private companies with the biggest sales.

For more information, visit the website: [www.graham.co.uk](http://www.graham.co.uk) For more information on Tilbury2, please go to [www.tilbury2.co.uk](http://www.tilbury2.co.uk)

### About The Port of Tilbury / Tilbury2

1. Forth Ports Ltd owns and operates Tilbury, alongside seven other commercial ports on the Firth of Forth and the Firth of Tay: Grangemouth, Dundee, Leith, Rosyth, Methil, Burntisland and Kirkcaldy. In October 2018, PSP Investments became majority shareholder in Forth Ports Limited, to along with other minority co-investors, GLIL Infrastructure, First State Super, Construction and Building Unions Superannuation. 2. The Port of Tilbury is the number one UK port for forestry products, construction materials, paper, grain, recyclables and warehousing space. The port has a strong market presence in bulk commodities, ro-ro, cars and cruise vessels. The port's London Container Terminal handles a mix of short and deep-sea services, is the UK's number four port for containers and has the greatest reefer (refrigerated container) point connectivity in Europe.

Tilbury's strategic location makes it a natural point for distribution, with nearly 20 million people living within 75 miles. Serving the UK's market, the port offers customers excellent

transport links to and from the UK's capital and across the South East where over 50% of the population live and work. The port is a diverse multi-modal hub, covering around 1,000 acres (850 acres and the London Distribution Park, in addition to the Tilbury2 site) and is well positioned to access the M25 orbital motorway and the rest of the UK's national motorway network. In addition, there are direct rail connections within the port and dedicated barge facilities.

3. The privately funded port, Tilbury2, is being built on a site covering in excess of 150 acres, which was part of the location of the former Tilbury Power Station. When operational in Spring 2020, Tilbury2 will be the UK's largest unaccompanied ferry port and the country's biggest construction processing hub, with AEO-trusted trader status. For more go to [www.tilbury2.co.uk](http://www.tilbury2.co.uk)