

Access was restricted to Woodhall Spa Quarry following severe flooding in the Lincolnshire area. A temporary bridge was created to allow vehicular access in the area affected, keeping the quarry operational.





150 tonne mobile crane used to lift the vehicle bridge



24m temporary bridge structure



Keeping the site accessible for quarry workers



How Woodhall Spa Quarry was kept operational following severe flooding

Based in Kirkby on Bain, Lincolnshire, Woodhall Spa Quarry is operated by Aggregate Industries UK. Following a sustained period of flooding, the nearby river had breached its banks, flooding the quarry with water.

A river had subsequently formed through the quarry, preventing vehicular access. With the quarry still being mined, there was a need for a temporary vehicle bridge to allow access for vehicles that are used in the quarry. Vehicles ranging from small 4 wheeled tippers up to 30 tonne capacity articulated trucks are used across the site, and it would have been otherwise impossible for them to gain access to the area affected. Without access, the resulting loss of production and mining would lead to significant revenue losses and schedule delays.

We were appointed to supply, install and recover a temporary bridge to enable vehicular access in order to quarry more aggregate.

Challenges

Due to the weight of the bridge, a 150 tonne mobile crane, plus ballast wagon, was needed to lift the four sections of the 24m temporary bridge structure. There were challenges in getting the vehicles into position to unload the bridge sections due to the sandy nature of the ground in the quarry.

Solution

Time was of the essence for this project, as the quarry had been out of action for a month and could not fully operate without vehicular access. We worked alongside Aggregate Industries UK to agree the span needed and the access route with a plan to get all the required equipment on-site. Staff from Aggregate Industries UK adapted and moved the layout to the entrance of the site to accommodate the large mobile crane and ballast truck during the bridge installation.

Results

Despite the challenges with access and the boggy ground conditions, the bridge was successfully installed and operational in just one day, enabling vehicular access and allowing aggregates to be extracted from the quarry.



Our equipment supplied at a glance

24m x 4m Vehicle Bridge

The bridge was delivered, installed and operational the same day. We received great service from the Sunbelt Rentals team to get the bridge installed so quickly, especially with the ground issues we were faced with. Without the bridge we would not have been able to operate our quarry in that area due to the creation of the new river.

Richard Flaherty

Quarry Operations Manager, Aggregates Industries UK

