

Project: Floating pontoon bridge in the river Maas - Ivoz Ramet, Belgium

Product: Floating bridge using steel coupling pontoons

Loading: 4 vehicles with Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) of 50 tonnes

Retro Bridge BV has successfully supplied and installed a floating pontoon bridge in the river Maas near Liege at Ivoz Ramet in Belgium for a joint venture of Jan de Nul NV and BAM-Galère NV as part of its project to construct a new lock for large container ships.

The floating structure used 34 Retro Bridge coupling pontoons and 4 guide pile pontoons complete with associated connecting pins, plates and electric winches. Anchored in place using 4 guide piles, the floating pontoon bridge was built to provide temporary site access for concrete trucks and general construction plant. The contractor is constructing the wall for the new lock in sections and the floating pontoon bridge will be moved as each section of wall is cast.



Project Overview



To accommodate the rapid flow of the river, Retro Bridge designed and installed 'gap maintainers' made from steel and installed these at two locations on the bridge. The gap maintained is 1.5 metres, enabling water and debris to flow through. The contractor provided timber matting on top of the deck to avoid damaging our steel pontoons. At the point where quay and bridge meet, Retro Bridge provided an articulated ramp to allow vehicles to access the floating structure with ease.



Project Overview



The floating pontoon bridge is 144 metres long and has a roadway width of 6 metres that provides comfortable access for one lane of construction traffic. At each end the structure is 6 metres wider to accommodate the guide pile pontoons and to increase freeboard. The floating pontoon bridge was erected along the length of the quay and then towed into position by boat. During the course of the hire, the structure will be moved and rebuilt with a wider platform on the new lock side to accommodate a 50 tonne concrete pump and two 50 tonne concrete trucks.