

Project News Update: Brighton i360



Systech’s Neal Mardon who has been appointed by Hollandia as project manager for the construction of the Brighton i360 alongside Mackley and Poma gave an insight as to how the build is going.

The main tower structure has now been completed, standing at 162 metres in the Brighton skyline and consisting of 17 individual cans. These were put into place by a world’s first jacking tower which comprised of four sections and stood at 60 metres high. The tower would lift the structure each time in order for another can to be put into place, at the final lift the combined weight of the cans was just under 1000 tonnes.

Due to the confined space which the site sits on the delivery of the jacking tower and cans were brought in via barge from Hollandia’s base in Rotterdam, Holland. In all there were two beach landings made by a 66 metre barge, this was a challenge in itself due to the variable weather conditions. This [video](#) shows the process taking place. The jacking tower was removed a couple weeks ago which has allowed for preparations to be made for the next phase.



The jacking tower in place

The next stage of the project is for the construction of the glass viewing pod which is being built by the French company Poma. The pod is made up of 48 sections and is to start arriving on site in early November. Once completed it will measure 18 metres in diameter and will be able to hold up to 200 people with it taking around 8 minutes to climb and the same again to descend. Poma previously built the capsules for the London Eye but are traditionally used to the mountains making ski lifts and cable cars, this is a first for the company due to the vertical climb. The pod is due to be constructed by Christmas with testing to begin in early 2016.

The Brighton i360 is due to be completed in July 2016 where along with the observation tower there will be restaurants, bars and hospitality areas accessible to the general public, not just i360 users along the beachline.

The build has come with many challenges and obstacles to overcome but Neal is confident that they are on track to complete on time. As well as Neal, Systech’s Mudi Ewere is on site as a project planner.

Neal by the demo construction of the pod in France



The Brighton i360 once completed

