



Alimak 650 5.0m x 2.0m PG Hoists with driverless control

The 5 Broadgate development which was under construction for Swiss Bank UBS was officially ‘topped-out’ in March this .

The building, which forms part of the Broadgate Estate, was designed by international architectural practice Make, and will provide 700,000 ft² (approx. 65,032 m²) of Grade ‘A’ office space over twelve floors.

The new building will allow UBS to consolidate its London trading operations into one building.

It will also meet the highest standards of sustainability in terms of energy performance, responsible specification and procurement of materials, and the provision of facilities to support sustainable employee behaviour.

Construction, which is being managed by Mace, commenced in March 2012 and final completion is scheduled for Spring 2015. Over 5,000 jobs have been created during the construction phase.

5 Broadgate sits at the heart of the Broadgate; a 30 acre fully managed estate in the heart of the City. Since opening, the estate has been progressively developed and now includes 16 separate buildings covering 4.0 million ft² (approx. 371,612 m²) with a further 710,000 ft² (approx. 65,961 m²) under development.

The office buildings are set around four landscaped squares each providing an attractive working environment enhanced by restaurants, pubs, shops and health clubs close by.

Due to its excellent location – it has been built around Liverpool Street station, the City’s main transport hub – Broadgate has become a dynamic and thriving business community. With over 30,000 workers, it is home to some of the world’s biggest corporations and top professional practices.



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Benchmark Hoists were involved at an early planning stage with Mace and our brief was to supply:

- Twin external Passenger/Goods Hoists on the main North Elevation fronting Appold Street to provide the main bulk load carrier facility – utilising the now proven Alimak 650 FC 26/50 Passenger/Goods Hoists – these remarkable Hoists are 2 metres wide and up to 5 metres long developed to suit industry needs for Hoists capable of lifting large cladding elements, rather than relying on the site tower cranes, already in demand and more susceptible to high winds, compromising the site programme. The Hoists have 2500kgs SWL capacity and travel at speeds up to 54 metres a minute proving themselves invaluable to site.
- Twin external Passenger/Goods Hoists on the South Elevation close to the main site facilities to provide the main personnel access over 13 levels – again utilising the Alimak 650 FC 25/39 Passenger/Goods Hoists – these 1.5metre wide cars of modular construction allow possible car sizes from 3.2m up to 4.6m long. The Hoists have up to 3200kgs SWL capacity and travel at speeds up to 54 metres a minute, dependant on site power supply and motor deck arrangement – with the ALC2 control facility added as an option to provide driver or driverless control- the latter operating similar to a lift system, with call boxes at landing levels and simple key pad for floor selection in the cars.
- Mace chose to use hoist operators during the standard site working hours when the site is most busy and driverless outside these hours when the demand was less.
- In addition Benchmark provided two additional Goods Hoists in the basement levels – The M20/40 Goods Hoists were positioned in a plant leave out section and goods lift shaft serving 3 basement levels, the Hoists were erected on a special narrow mast due to the restricted opening sizes. Installation and removal required temporary lifting equipment over the leave out section.
- Further Beam Hoists were provided in the Basement 3T capacity and at Roof level 2T capacity

A programme of staged climbs was carried out on the main external hi-rise Hoists to suit the building construction with high levels of service support to minimise any down time, which was imperative to the success of Mace.

Mace was impressed by the standard of equipment provided and levels of service and technical support by Benchmark Hoists.

Under a separate contract with Seele UK, the external cladding contractor, we were appointed to install an Alimak APF Transport Platform – the specification required by Seele to transport their many cladding panels was a minimum loading area of 7.5 metres x 4.0 metres clear and 4000kgs lifting capacity - this twin masted Hoist was positioned on support steels set below level 2 and served ALL levels from 2>12. This required a high degree of design input due to the temporary works required – installed by the site tower cranes, but dismantled manually and removed via level 2 once split in to its smallest component parts. Due to the restricted site access and high levels of site traffic – the main traffic flow of vehicles passed underneath the Hoists at level 2 – a protection deck/access deck was erected by Benchmark Scaffolding.

The contract for '5 Broadgate' was awarded on recommendation from the same team we worked with back in 2010 on the Park House Project on Oxford Street...it is a relationship built on trust.

Benchmark Hoists setting the standards...the story continues