

# RESTORATION AND PROTECTION OF A FAMOUS LONDON LANDMARK

Tower Bridge has stood over the River Thames in London since 1894 and is one of the most recognisable landmarks in the world. It is the only bridge on the Thames which can be raised.

The restoration of the bridge is vital to protect this landmark for the future.

THE NEW PAINTWORK, WHICH HAS A LIFE EXPECTANCY OF 25 YEARS, WAS ESSENTIAL TO PROTECT THE STEELWORK AND PRESERVE THE ICONIC STRUCTURE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. IN ALL, MORE THAN 22,000 LITRES OF PAINT WAS USED WITH THE BRIDGE BEING REPAINTED IN ITS ICONIC WHITE AND BLUE COLOUR SCHEME.

CLIENT:

Transport For London

APPLICATOR:

Pyeroy



### **TOWER BRIDGE, LONDON**





#### **SOLUTION**

The original specification included total removal of the existing paintwork by abrasive blast-cleaning, but would have meant the bridge had to be closed for three months.

Transport for London wanted to keep the structure open to prevent disruption during the busy summer period and alternative ideas were explored. Repainting from cradles could keep the structure open but blast-cleaning was not possible from cradles.

After discussions, a Network Rail approved system based on mechanical methods of surface preparation was agreed to remove all unsound existing paintwork.

A surface-tolerant epoxy coating system was chosen comprising Macropoxy™ M902, Macropoxy M905 and Acrolon™ C137V2.

Successful trials were carried out under the watchful eye of the Sherwin-Williams technical service team, and Transport for London accepted the proposal. The new paintwork, which has a life expectancy of 25 years, was essential to protect the steelwork and preserve the iconic structure for future generations. More than 22,000 litres of paint was used to maintain the original iconic white and blue colour scheme.

#### **SUBSTRATE**

Steel, cast and wrought iron.

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

25 years protection against high humidity and salinity levels.

#### **COATING USAGE**

More than 22,000 litres.

#### **FEATURED PRODUCTS**

- Macropoxy M902
- Macropoxy M905
- Acrolon C137V2 acrylic urethane finish.

#### THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS DIFFERENCE

Sherwin-Williams Protective & Marine delivers world-class industry subject matter expertise, unparalleled technical and specification service, and unmatched regional commercial team support to our customers around the globe. Our broad portfolio of high-performance coatings and systems that excel at combating corrosion helps customers achieve smarter, time-tested asset protection. We serve a wide array of markets across our rapidly growing international distribution footprint, including oil and gas, water and wastewater, bridge and highway, steel fabrication, flooring, food and beverage, rail and power, marine and passive fire protection.

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