

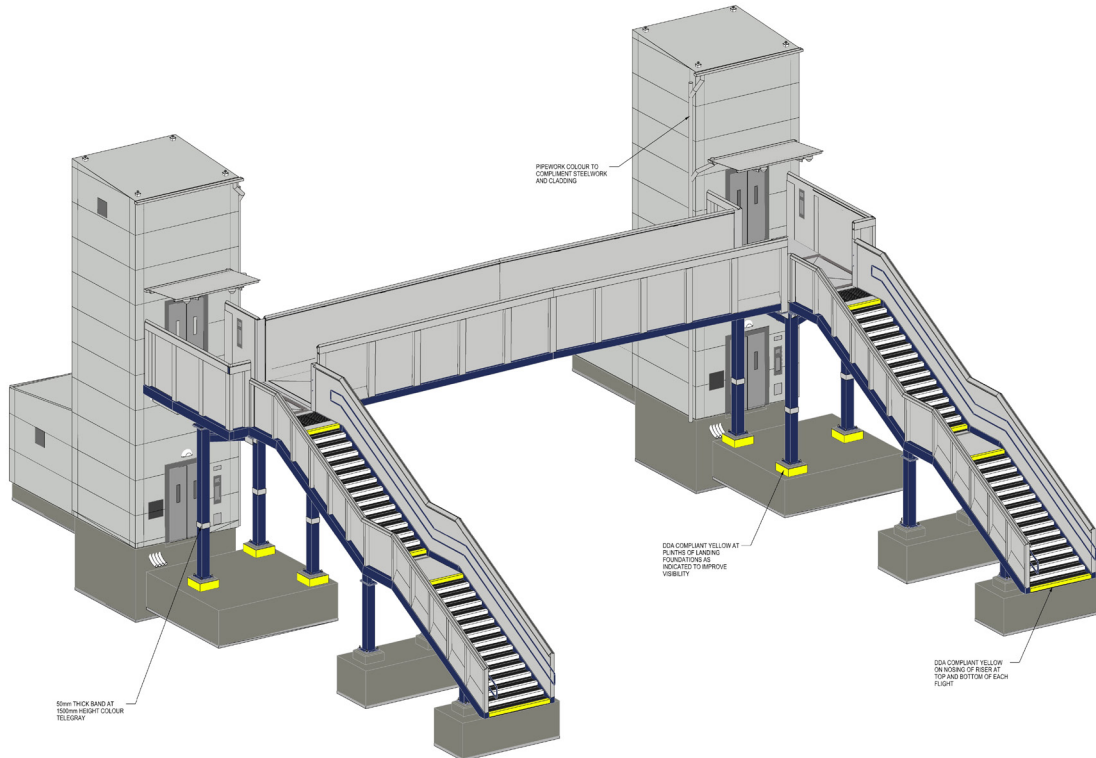
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The Micron



The staff newsletter of AJ Engineering and NEWCo

NEW RAIL PROJECT ON TRACK



AJ Engineering has been awarded another contract to fabricate and install a pedestrian railway bridge on the Inverness to Aberdeen line.

AJE will be working on behalf of BAM Nuttall on the site of the new £14million Inverness Airport Railway Station.

This is the third project the company has completed for BAM Nuttall on behalf of Network Rail. It previously completed a similar bridge at Kintore and at Forres which also included the fabrication and installation of the waiting room and ticket office.

This new project which is about to get underway also involves the fabrication and installation of a footbridge, which will replace a level crossing about a mile west of the main Inverness Airport Station.

Project Manager Craig Johnston said: "We are delighted to be working on behalf of BAM Nuttall again on yet another railway project. This is very similar to what we did at Kintore. The project involves fabricating and installing the lift shafts and pedestrian bridge that will connect the two platforms.

"Kintore and the Forres were landmark projects and the Inverness Airport Railway Station is as well. It has been long awaited and we look forward to getting started and seeing it being completed and open which is expected to happen in December this year."

In early March, Scotland's new transport minister visited the site. Jenny Gilruth, who was appointed to the role in January, was given a tour of the site to see how the project is progressing.

The station will serve as an interchange for passengers travelling between the airport and Inverness and will be an additional stop on the line between Inverness and Aberdeen, giving international travellers easy access to both the Highland capital and the Granite City.

The aim is for the new station is to open new travel links to the airport, which is currently accessed mainly by car and occasional bus services.

After the station is completed, a 64-space car park will be built, with four disabled spaces and 10 electric charge points.

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REMOTE WINDFARM WORKS FOR AJE



Aerial picture of the site and buildings that AJE have been involved in

AJE is currently working on a project which spans an area the size of around 40 football pitches.

The company is working on three separate projects at the Viking Wind Farm on Shetland. The wind farm was developed as a joint venture between SSE Renewables and the Shetland community and AJE has been contracted by BAM Nuttall. The works for the AJE team which can see 20 workers being on site at any one time involves the detailing and installation of a total of nine buildings which will be used in various ways to support the infrastructure of the windfarm.

Leading on the project is James Attridge. He said: "Once again AJ Engineering has excelled in working in a remote location and this is possibly one of the biggest projects in terms of the size and scale that we have been involved in. We secured the job last May and we first had boots on the ground in September with the project expected to be complete by this July."

The project which consists of 103 wind turbines is set around the central Mainland of Shetland.

"There have been some challenging conditions for the team to work in," explained James, "but our teams are used to this type of working. We were there over the winter months which was extremely challenging, but the team just ploughed on and made really good progress. Working in tricky or remote locations is something that we, as a company specialise in and it's not unusual for us."

The wind farm is expected to be complete by 2024 and will be capable of producing enough energy to power the equivalent of almost half a million homes, including every home in Shetland. It will be the UK's largest onshore wind farm in terms of annual electricity output playing a crucial role in contributing towards the UK and Scotland's net zero targets.

HYDRO JOB COMPLETE FOR NEWCO TEAM

A team from NEWCo has recently completed a fabrication and installation job at a hydro scheme.

The DN1000 5deg Alignment Pipe was fabricated at NEWCo's HQ in Fort William, from mild steel then galvanised.

It was transported to a remote intake near Applecross where the site installation and welding to an existing pipe took place.

The project, took a week and a half to manufacture and with a team of coded welders being on site for three days.



WHISKY WORKS FOR AJE TEAM

AJE has played a small role in the major transformation of a popular distillery's visitor centre at Muir of Ord.

Diageo has transformed its Glen Ord Distillery visitor centre, a tourist magnet that welcomes upwards of 35,000 visitors a year, and the centre is due to re-open at the end of next month.

AJE has provided steel sections and some decorative balustrades for the development. James Attridge, project manager said: "Our portfolio of working with distilleries is growing and we have now completed many projects with Diageo. This one was slightly different to other works we have done for Diageo, and although very little of what we have done will be seen by the public, it is great to be involved in a project that attracts so many people from across the world."

The Glen Ord development has more than doubled the existing 66 sq.m retail area and create a new 222 sq.m bar to form a centrepiece of the new-look centre, which has also be given a revamped entrance. Other new facilities include a 'story room' and two tasting rooms.

