

PORTHCAWL MARINA, WALES

CENTERPIECE OF REGENERATION PROJECT

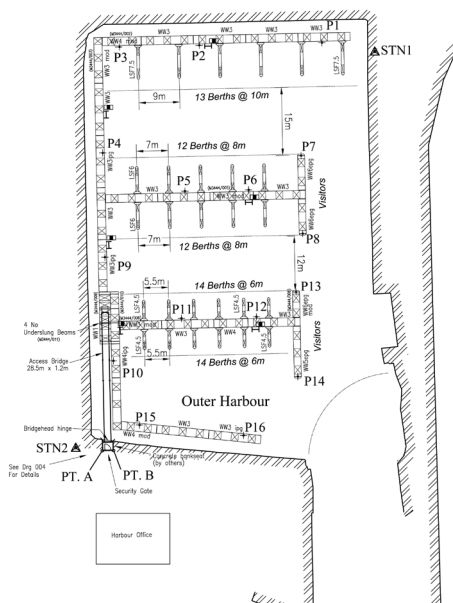
Walcon is pleased to have undertaken the construction of a new marina as part of a £3.2 million regeneration project taking place at Porthcawl on the coast of South Wales. The project includes the redevelopment of the immediate harbour area as well as the renovation of the existing basin together with the installation of a permanent footbridge and the marina itself.

Once completed the scheme is intended to breathe new life into the resort town known for its surf beaches and golf courses.

Commissioned by Bridgend County Borough Council, the marina provides 70 berths within the basin for craft ranging in length from six to ten metres in length. Built using Walcon's rugged System 21 pontoons, the finger pontoons are arranged on three piers, with a fourth for longer boats to come alongside. All the berths are served with water and electricity and are intended for use by leisure, commercial and visiting craft.



The Porthcawl basin undergoing initial works prior to the installation of the pontoons.



As well as building the System 21 pontoons, Walcon built and installed a structured access bridge. 28.5m long and 1.2 metres in width. The length is due to the large tidal range to be found on the south coast of Wales.

Prior to the installation specialist civil engineers BAM Nuttall drained and dredged the harbour to enable a permanent depth of water for the pontoons and boats, and fitted a new lock gate. They also undertook the piling work for the marina, driving them into the dry bedrock.

The official opening of the marina was held on 11 April 2014, and was attended by local officials as well as Welsh First Minister Carwyn Jones and Finance Minister Jane Hutt.

This project forms part of a larger scheme to make Porthcawl and Swansea Bay a Water Sports Centre of Excellence. It is being funded by the European

Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government, Bridgend County Borough Council and Visit Wales.



The new marina shortly after completion, looking north at low tide. Tidal ranges here substantial (more than 11 metres at springs) as can be seen by the height of the piles. Work continues around the harbour walls to add more leisure amenities.

The view south shows the lock gate at the end of the basin and the access bridge running down the western side. The finger pontoons vary in length from six to ten metres to accommodate a wide variety of craft.



Looking down the 28.5 metre long access bridge to the marina below. The System 21 pontoons have a tough, galvanised, all-welded steel structure and are easy to maintain. Decking can be supplied in a variety of hardwoods or man-made materials.

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Founded in 1963, Walcon Marine is the market leader in the design, construction and installation of marinas, yacht harbours and berthing facilities around the world. As probably the longest established and most experienced company in its field, Walcon Marine is a global organisation with manufacturing facilities in the UK, Australia and Dubai. Its pontoons are now installed in over 30 different countries on five continents, and recent projects include the marina built at Portland on the south coast of England for the 2012 Olympics.

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