

## Two stage redevelopment programme with focus on refurbishment and reuse

### Buckler's Hard Yacht Harbour



Over the course of two winters, Walcon Marine completed a comprehensive, two-stage redevelopment programme of Buckler's Hard Yacht Harbour on the River Beaulieu on the south coast of England. This involved a complete rebuild of the marina and the addition of increased capacity while refurbishing and reusing as much of the original Walcon infrastructure as possible.

The initial phase saw the removal of the fuelling dock together with the three upstream piers and greenheart timber piles. These were all stored on-site while dredging took place over the winter, before being refurbished and then re-installed in the spring. All the new pontoons plus additional 'hybrid' timber piles were delivered to the site as required, to suit the agreed programme.





The following year stage two began with the removal and subsequent reinsertion of the back walkway so as to manoeuvre the phase one pontoons in position. This was then followed by the removal of piers A, B and C, and the continuation of the process of refurbishing the pontoons to be re-used, driving the new piles, and the reassembly of the piers with their extensions.

The transport of all the pontoons was undertaken by sea using Walcon's Wolf and Warrior barges, and Walcon's road transportable rig carried out all the piling. While as much of the existing infrastructure as possible was refurbished and reused, all the existing finger pontoons were replaced and additional new pontoon equipment supplied for connecting to the pier extensions. Sections of the main walkway were also replaced.

The works were undertaken in a sensitive and sustainable manner, which was especially important given the marina's location in the New Forest National Park. The refurbishment of the existing pontoons and introduction of bespoke 'hybrid' timber piles – where reusing individual greenheart piles in their entirety wasn't possible, 'hybrid' piles that combined a section of timber with a lower steel encasement for the below-water-line section were made and installed - have helped to maintain the traditional charm of the marina.

The fully refurbished Buckler's Hard Yacht Harbour now has an additional 66 berths capable of taking boats up to 20 metres in length.



"It was a very satisfying project to work on," said Walcon Marine MD James Walters. "Sustainability and minimal environmental impact on-site are becoming increasingly important in the marina sector and Walcon had both the experience and equipment to deliver sensitive projects of this type. To return to Buckler's Hard Yacht Harbour and its beautiful location to undertake this project was a great pleasure."

Harbour Master Wendy Stowe added: "It was a pleasure working with Walcon Marine, which shared our vision for creating a high quality marina in a sustainable manner. We were delighted to be able to welcome berth holders and visitors back to enjoy our market-leading facilities."



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 and Australia. Its pontoons are now installed in over 30 different countries on five continents.

[www.walconmarine.com](http://www.walconmarine.com) Tel. +44 (0) 1489 579977 Email: [sales@walconmarine.com](mailto:sales@walconmarine.com)

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