

Capability Document

—
2026



Helping you reach New Heights. We're an experienced specialist crane operator with an expert transport and rigging division, serving the UK construction industry for over 36 years

johnsutchcranes.co.uk



Introduction

**The only way
to do great work
is to love
what you do.**

John Sutch Cranes is a specialist crane hire and lifting solutions contractor serving the construction, rail, energy and industrial sectors across the North West and beyond. Built on a foundation of technical expertise, a modern fleet and an uncompromising approach to safety, we deliver crane hire, contract

lifts and Appointed Person services to clients who need a reliable, competent lifting partner – every time.

From complex multi-point lifts to time-critical scheduled operations, we bring the same standard of planning, compliance and execution to every job. Our team holds the full suite of CPCs qualifications, our fleet is maintained to the highest standards, and our safety record speaks for itself.





PAGE OF CONTENTS

02 • Introduction

04 • Company

06 • From John Sutch

08 • The History

10 • Our Group

12 • Accreditation

14 • Our Services

16 • NetZero2030

18 • Case Study

20 • Case Study

22 • Interview

23 • Question & Answers

NATIONWIDE, TIER 1 DELIVERY PARTNERS

We are not a generalist. Lifting is what we do, and we do it right. John Sutch Cranes is your trusted partner in heavy lifting. With our fleet of advanced mobile cranes, we deliver unparalleled expertise and reliability to your projects.

We pride ourselves on our commitment to safety, efficiency, and excellence in every lift. With our state-of-the-art equipment and experienced team, we deliver superior results on time and within budget. We get the job done.





Company

John Sutch Cranes is one of the North West's leading crane hire businesses, operating from two strategic depots in Liverpool and Manchester.

Founded in 1990 by John Sutch, a crane driver who built a business from the ground up, we have grown over 36 years into a family-run operation with 37 cranes spanning 10 to 450 tonnes, triple ISO certification, RISQS rail verification and a near-zero accident record.

We recruit directly from the armed forces. We are only as good as our last lift. That standard drives everything we do.

INFRASTRUCTION LIFTING PARTNERS

In 35 years, the business has been trusted to support the Mersey Gateway Bridge - one of Europe's biggest infrastructure projects — the Co-op Live Arena in Manchester with Tier 1 contractor BAM, and the Isle of Man Ferry Terminal. We have worked with principal contractors and public sector clients who demand the same thing: a lifting partner that plans properly, shows up fully, and gets it right.

WHY WE EXIST

At John Sutch Cranes, we are more than just a crane hire service; we are an integral pillar of the construction and engineering communities. Rooted in the values of trust, reliability, and unparalleled service, we have evolved from humble beginnings to a leading position as one of the best UK companies in the crane hire sector.



ABOUT US

THE KEY TO BIG CONTRACTS



A key to our success is the emphasis John places on loyalty and trust, values that resonate throughout our company. Many of our team members have been with us since the day we opened our doors, including dozens in our operations team who have dedicated over two decades of service. This longevity ensures a depth of knowledge and a personal commitment to our projects and clients that truly sets us apart.

The Sutch family, together with our dedicated team, ensures every project is handled with meticulous attention to detail and a deep commitment to client success. This unique combination of professional expertise and personal touch characterises every aspect of our service. Our extensive and versatile fleet is equipped to manage projects of any scale, but it is our personalised approach that truly sets us apart.

PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT & TEAMWORK



Prioritising the safety of all personnel and operations is essential. This commitment ensures that every project is conducted with the utmost care and adherence to industry standards. At John Sutch Cranes, safety is paramount and our record speaks for itself. The reason John Sutch Cranes has operated for 36 years without a major incident is that safety is treated as the non-negotiable foundation every other decision is built on. If a lift cannot be executed safely, it does not proceed.



NATIONWIDE RELIABILITY

Our owner set the standard 36 years ago and our clients rely on us to deliver efficient and effective solutions consistently. We pride ourselves on being dependable and delivering on our promises, no matter the scope or scale of the project.



DEDICATION TO DELIVERY

We commit to providing superior service and achieving the highest standards in every project. Our dedication to quality ensures we meet and exceed our clients' expectations.



From John Sutch

Tier 1 companies have turned to John Sutch Cranes for nearly 4 decades. From delivering lifting operations for the Mersey Crossing in Liverpool City Region, to solar farm works and delivering for Royal BAM and John Sisk, there's not a job we've ever turned down because we can't do it.



Thirty-six years ago I started this business with one crane and one ambition: to be the best lifting partner in the North West and then nationally.. That ambition has never changed. What has changed is our scale, our capability and our readiness to operate at the very highest level of the industry. Today, John Sutch Cranes is a business that Tier 1 contractors can put in front of their clients with complete confidence.

We have earned that position on some of the most demanding infrastructure projects in the country. The Mersey Gateway Bridge. The Co-op Live Arena alongside BAM. The Isle of Man Ferry Terminal. These are not projects where adequate is good enough. They demand a lifting contractor with the fleet, the qualifications, the planning capability and the operational discipline to perform without fail. We delivered on all of them.

The foundation of that delivery is the leadership team behind it. Paul Conneely as Operations Director, Paul Parry heading Sales, Chris Fisher leading our depot operations as a CPCS Appointed Person, and Hayley as Designate Managing Director and Andrea Lowrie as HR Director, bringing the business into its next chapter. This is a team that has been built deliberately — experienced, qualified, commercially sharp and absolutely committed to the standard Tier 1 procurement demands. Our accreditation portfolio backs every claim we make: triple ISO certification, RISQS rail verification,

We have spent 35 years earning the right to stand alongside the best principal contractors in the country. Every lift we have ever done has been preparation for the next one."

Achilles Global Energy, the full SSIP suite, BS7121 compliant operations across every lift.

Discipline and rigour are not values we talk about — they are embedded in the team.

If you are looking for a crane hire partner capable of delivering at Tier 1 level, on infrastructure, on programme and without compromise, the conversation starts here.

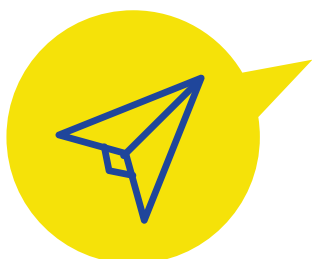
John Sutch

Founder, John Sutch Cranes





The History



36 YEARS OF MAKING HISTORY TOGETHER.

In 1989, John Sutch made the leap from crane driver to entrepreneur, putting his own house against his first crane. Today, with 36 years under his belt, that single machine has grown into a fleet of 36 cranes and a business trusted by contractors across the country.

1989–1993

THE COMPANY WAS ESTABLISHED

John Sutch founded the business on the back of one crane and total conviction in his own ability to deliver. What started as one man and one machine became the foundation for everything that followed.

- ☒ First crane purchased against the family home
- ☒ Operations began from a single depot in Liverpool

- First crane purchased against the family home
- Operations began from a single depot in Liverpool

1994–2001

ONE CRANE BECAME A FLEET

Steady, deliberate growth defined this period. As demand grew, so did the fleet — wagons, hiabs, vans and cars joining the operation as John Sutch built a reputation for reliability across the North West.

- Fleet expanded beyond the original single crane
- Reputation built on repeat business and word of mouth

2002–2009

BUILT THROUGH THE DOWNTURNS

The business weathered its first major economic tests during this period, steering through recessions that closed weaker competitors. In true John Sutch Cranes fashion, the business kept building and kept delighting clients.

- Navigated multiple economic downturns without stalling growth
- Continued investment in fleet despite market conditions



The last few years have marked a genuine step-change for John Sutch Cranes. After a decade operating under the same brand and website, the business took the decision to modernise across the board – not just the fleet, but the identity, the platform, and the story it tells to clients and industry partners.

2010–2016

GROWTH INTO NEW SECTORS

The business expanded its footprint into new, higher-value sectors, gaining significant market share in power stations, green energy and healthcare – markets that demanded a higher standard of technical delivery.

- Market share gained in power generation and healthcare
- Reputation extended into green energy infrastructure
- Long-term client relationships established in construction
- Continued growth and investment in fleet

2012–2014

MAJOR FLEET INVESTMENT

2017 brought a step-change in capability, with the purchase of four new cranes including the Terex AC250-5 and Liebherr LTM 1300-6.2 – a signal of the ambition driving the business forward.

- Terex AC250-5 and Liebherr LTM 1300-6.2 added to fleet
- Continued investment through the COVID-19 recession

2015–now

A BUSINESS THAT'S SET UP FOR THE FUTURE

2024 marked the company's 35th year of trading, with the fleet standing at 36 cranes – including the Liebherr LTM 1450-8.1, the business's biggest single investment, and the Tadano HK4.050-1. Five or six more cranes are already in the pipeline.

- Nearly 100 staff now employed across the business
- Liebherr LTM 1450-8.1 the largest single investment to date
- £1.3m invested in the lifting and rigging division fleet
- New Scania S660 heavy haulage units added to transport fleet
- Fleet of Hiabs upgraded across the rigging division
- Long-term commitment to reliability, safety and operational performance



Our Group

**ONE OF THE UK'S STRONGEST & PROFESSIONAL
CRANE HIRE COMPANIES**

John Sutch Cranes operates across two depots in Liverpool and Manchester, encompassing crane hire, a dedicated Lifting and Rigging Division, in-house transport, workshop and tyre service. Every asset in the fleet is owned outright.

We run 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Cranes leave depots every day. Our back-office team is available around the clock.

A recent £1 million-plus investment brought two Scania S 660 V8 heavy haulage units – 660hp, rated to 100-tonne GTW – into service. No crane in our fleet is over 36 months old. With over 100 years of Appointed Person experience, John Sutch Cranes is built for Tier 1.





MAIN TEAM

Behind every lift is a team built for the job. Experienced, qualified and committed — the people at John Sutch Cranes are what set us apart from every other crane hire business.



John Sutch
Founder

John founded this business in 1990 and has led it to industry leadership since.



Hayley Sutch
Designate MD

Hayley leads the next chapter of the family business, focused on growth and clients.



Andrea Lowrie
HR Director

Andrea leads people, culture and recruitment — including our direct pipeline from the armed forces.



Paul Parry
Sales Director

Paul leads sales and business development, connecting John Sutch directly to Tier 1 contractors.



Paul Conneely
Operations Director

Paul oversees day-to-day delivery, ensuring every mobilisation is planned, resourced and executed to programme.



Chris Fisher
Manchester Depot Manager

Chris holds full CPCS qualifications and leads fleet readiness and technical standards from Manchester.



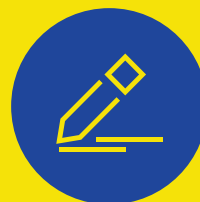
Accreditation that matters

John Sutch Cranes carries every piece of accreditation that ensures we can get on every project. Whether it is a high rise city centre development or a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, we have the paper that gets us on site.

MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS



John Sutch Cranes holds three management system certifications: ISO 9001:2015 for quality, ISO 14001:2015 for environmental management, and ISO 45001:2018 for occupational health and safety. All three remain valid until May 2029, forming the backbone of our Tier 1 supply chain compliance.



H&S AND SUPPLY CHAIN ACCREDITATION

John Sutch Cranes holds a full suite of health, safety and supply chain accreditations, including CHAS, SafeContractor, Achilles BuildingConfidence, Achilles Network, and Achilles Global Energy. We're also RISQS-verified for rail work, hold SMAS Worksafe status, and are Construction Plant-hire Association members.





Every accreditation on our wall has been earned, not assumed. FORS Bronze. ConstructionLine Gold. CLOCS certified. Member of the Engineering Construction Industry Association. Add that to our ISO triple certification, RISQS rail verification, and full CPCS competence across every lifting role – and you’ve got a business built to pass scrutiny at the highest level, first time, every time. We don’t chase accreditation for the certificate. We chase it because Tier 1 contractors, rail operators and major infrastructure clients need to know the crane on their site is run by people who take compliance

COMPLIANCE IS THE STANDARD HERE.

as seriously as we do. Renewals don’t get missed on our watch. Every certification is tracked, reviewed and resubmitted well ahead of expiry, because a lapsed accreditation is a stalled contract – and that’s a risk we’re not willing to put on any client’s programme. It’s the same discipline we bring to every lift: nothing left to chance.

That’s not marketing.

That’s 36+ years of doing the job properly.

COMPETENCE & QUALIFICATIONS

100%

John Sutch Cranes’ team holds full CPCS qualifications across Appointed Person, Crane Supervisor, Slinger/Signaller and Mobile Crane Operator competencies. Every lift is planned and executed in strict accordance with BS7121, ensuring safe systems of work on every site, every operation, every time.





Our Services

John Sutch Cranes delivers crane hire and contract lifting solutions across the North West and beyond. From single lifts to complex multi-stage operations, our modern fleet and CPCS-qualified team handle projects of every scale – precision, reliability and safety built into every job we take on.



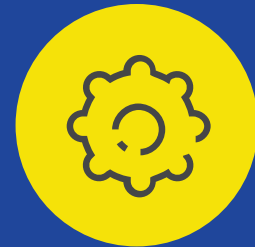
SAFETY FIRST. NO MATTER WHAT

Prioritising the safety of all personnel and operations is essential. This commitment ensures that every project is conducted with the utmost care and adherence to industry standards.



EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE

We commit to providing superior service and achieving the highest standards in every project. Our dedication to quality ensures we meet and exceed our clients' expectations.



TIER 1 CAPABILITY

We operate at the standard Tier 1 contractors demand. Full accreditation portfolio, triple ISO certification, RISQS rail verification, and a fleet spanning 10 – 450 tonnes – built to slot straight into major supply chains without compromise.





So what do we provide?

- Mobile crane hire — 10 to 450 tonnes
- Contract lifting, fully planned and managed under BS7121
- Complex multi-stage lifts, coordinated with engineering and design partners
- Rail-compliant lifting operations, RISQS verified
- Abnormal load and heavy transport coordination
- 24/7 emergency lift response

Every job is planned by a CPCS Appointed Person before a single wheel turns on site. No guesswork and definitely no shortcuts — just the right crane, the right team, and a lift plan that's been signed off before it starts.

From a single crane for a day to a multi-week programme on a Tier 1 scheme, the process doesn't change. Plan properly. Deliver safely. Every time.



RELIABILITY

Our owner set the standard 36 years ago and our clients rely on us to deliver efficient and effective solutions consistently. We pride ourselves on being dependable and delivering on our promises, no matter the scope or scale .



DIGITAL CONCEPT DESIGN

We plan digitally so nothing is left to chance on site. 3D lift simulation, AI-supported risk modelling and real-time fleet data combine to give every lift the precision it deserves — before the crane ever moves.



INTEGRITY FROM TOP TO BOTTOM

We're a family business and upholding the highest levels of honesty and fairness in every interaction means a lot to us. Our reputation for integrity is key to building and maintaining trust with our clients and partners.





#NetZero2030



We've invested in an Spierings SK1265-AT6 electric lift crane, cutting emissions on every job it's deployed to without compromising lifting capacity or performance.

Every vehicle in our fleet is tracked in real time, giving us the data to set – and hit – meaningful carbon reduction targets year on year.

Sustainability isn't separate from safety and compliance at John Sutch. It sits alongside our ISO 14001 environmental management certification as part of one connected approach to responsible operating. Our clients are increasingly held to their own ESG commitments. We make sure we're a supply chain partner that helps them meet those targets, not one that gets in the way of them.

OUR SOLUTION OFFERS

Sustainability isn't a bolt-on at John Sutch Cranes. It's built into how we operate, from the fleet we invest in to the way we plan every lift. Our commitment to Net Zero by 2030 shapes decisions across the business – equipment, transport, and the way we work with clients who share the same targets.

We're reducing our environmental impact across every part of the business – fleet, operations, and reporting – so our clients can meet their own ESG obligations with confidence in their supply chain.

- Electric lift crane in operation, reducing emissions without reducing capability
- Full vehicle fleet tracking, driving data-led carbon reduction targets
- ISO 14001:2015 environmental management certification across the business
- Transparent emissions reporting available to clients on request
- Continued fleet investment aligned to our Net Zero 2030 commitment
- Route and load planning built to minimise unnecessary mileage across every job



SPIERING
MOBILE



SOCIAL VALUE

Sustainability isn't only about carbon. It's about the impact a business chooses to have on the community around it. In 2020, John Sutch Cranes donated a percentage of crane sales to The Christie's Cancer Appeal Fund – a contribution that goes directly toward funding priority projects and groundbreaking cancer research at one of the UK's leading cancer hospitals. It's a small gesture next to the scale of the work The Christie does. But it reflects something bigger about how the business sees its role – not just as a crane hire company, but as a business that shows up for the causes and communities around it.

"It is the continued passion, loyalty, and enthusiasm of businesses like yours that ultimately brings us a step closer to a future without cancer." – The Christie

CARBON REDUCTION PROGRESS

We track every vehicle in our fleet to measure emissions in real time, giving us the data to set targets that are ambitious but grounded in fact – not guesswork.

Reduction in Emissions - 34% since 2023

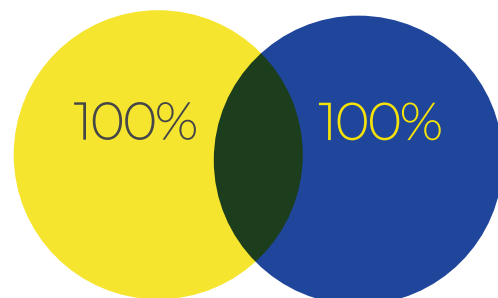
Depot operations covered by carbon tracking - 100%

Unnecessary mileage reduction - 58%

NetZero Campaign Push - 50%

FLEET INVESTMENT

Spierings e-lift cranes. John Sutch brought the first Spierings to the UK 35 years ago. Now we've partnered with a manufacturer building exclusively electric, in step with our own Net Zero 2030 target.





Case Study: JN Bentley

John Sutch Cranes delivers complex contract lift at Bolton Waste Water Treatment Works. Our Grove GMK5200 was back in action for long-standing client JN Bentley, delivering a technically demanding contract lift as part of the ongoing storm tank construction programme at Bolton Waste Water Treatment Works.

The images from site tell the story: our crane positioned at a 15.2 metre radius, working alongside the newly-formed concrete tank structures that define this stage of the build. This wasn't a straightforward pick-and-place. The 27-tonne steel item required a bespoke rigging solution – a symmetrical 7m x 3m quad beam matched with a precision sling arrangement, supported by a secondary cross beam and chain block configuration to manage the load safely into position.

OVERVIEW

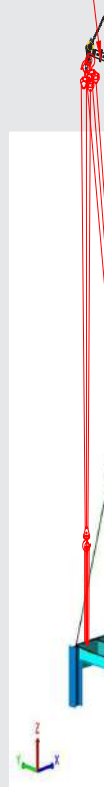
At 29.6 tonnes total lift weight against a 35.5 tonne maximum safe working load, the lift ran at 83% of capacity – precision engineering with no margin for error.

“This was a lift that demanded proper planning from day one,” said Mick Turner, Technical Sales Representative at John Sutch Cranes, who developed the rigging plan for the operation.

“Getting the beam configuration right, working out the sling arrangement, and making sure every element of the lift was signed off before the crane arrived on site – that’s what turns a complex lift into a controlled one.” Our Appointed Person, Supervisors and Slings worked in close coordination throughout, with the full lift plan built around the spatial constraints of the tank structure and the surrounding site.

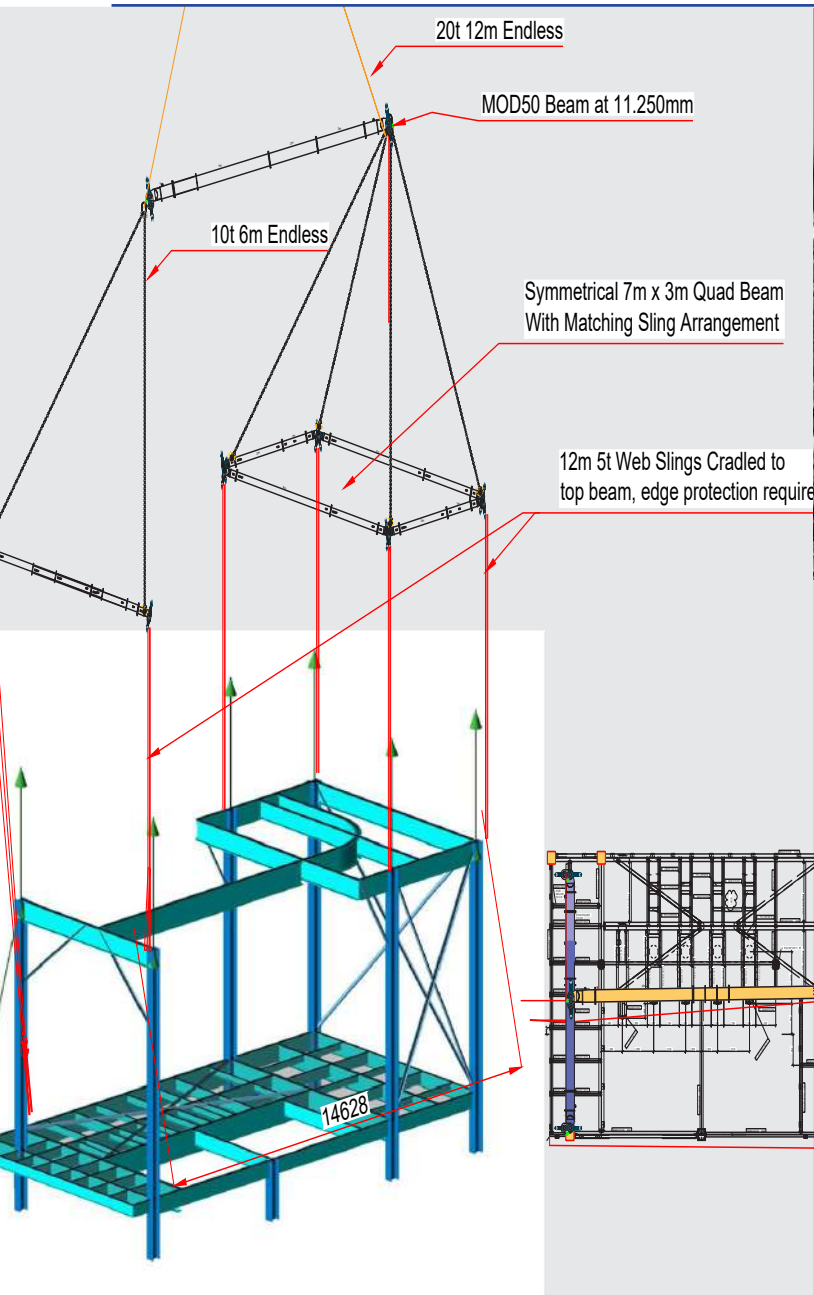
6.75 Cross Beam
With Chain Block Attached
to Bottom Frame Beam
and Top Gantry Beam

MAIN LIFTING CRANE DATA GROVE MANITOWOC			
Crane Model:	GMK5200		
Lifting Configuration:	Main Boom		
Outrigger Base Centres:	8.95 x 7.9	m	
Counterweight:	70.00	te	
Boom Length	33.90	m	
Fly Jib	n/a	m	
Luffing Jib °	n/a		
Lift Details			
Radius	15.20	m	
Items Weight:	27.00	te	
Lifting Equipment:	1.40	te	
Stowed Fly Jib Deduction:	0.42	te	
Hook Block Deduction:	0.78	te	
Total Lift Weight:	29.60	te	
Max SWL	35.50	te	
(%) Of Capacity	83.38	%	
Outrigger Load / Mat Information			
Max Outrigger Point Load	69.50	te	
Standard Mats (Dia) (Area m ²)	1.30	1.13	
GBP Under Standard Mats	61.50		
Additional Mats (L x W) (Area	2 x 2.5	5.00	
GBP Under Additional Mats	13.90		



Dwg/Original/Am





PAUL PARRY, SALES DIRECTOR

"Jobs like this are exactly what our clients trust us for. JN Bentley know that when the lift gets complicated, we've got the technical capability and the planning discipline to deliver it safely and on programme — that's 36 years of experience behind every job we take on."

JN BENTLEY SAID

"On a lift of this complexity, we had to place our trust entirely in the team executing it — and that trust was repaid. We were full of praise for Mick and the wider operational delivery team, both for the precision of the planning and the confidence the crew brought to a genuinely demanding day on site."

SOLUTION

The project forms part of continued lifting works John Sutch Cranes has carried out for JN Bentley at Bolton, re-inforcing a partnership built on repeat delivery across the North West's civil engineering and infrastructure sector.

Copyright, John Sutch Cranes Ltd 2005 This drawing is the property of John Sutch Cranes Ltd and must not be copied, lent or used without our permission The information contained within this drawing is for reference purposes only and is without charge, liability or responsibility	 Head Office: Bridle Park 1 Bridge Road Boothferry, Warrington L10 4UG Tel: 0191 238 8880 Manchester Office: Clark Industrial Estate St Roches Road Manchester M12 0ZF Tel: 0161 877 8004	Client: JN Bentley Site Address: Bolton WWTW Job Description: Contract Lift Client's Drawing Reference No: DWG-001
---	--	---





Case Study: Heineken



Three oversized brewing tanks. One tandem lift. A journey from the Port of Liverpool to Heineken's Manchester brewery – with John Sutch Cranes handling the critical link between ship and road.

When three oversized brewing tanks arrived into the Port of Liverpool bound for the Heineken Brewery in Manchester, John Sutch Cranes was the team trusted to get them off the water and onto the road.

The tanks had travelled by ship via the Port of Liverpool before continuing along the Manchester Ship Canal to Salford, where our crews carried out the unloading operation – lifting each tank from the vessel and setting it directly onto specialist HGVs for the final leg of the journey to the brewery. Given the scale and profile of the tanks, the operation called for a tandem lift, with two of our mobile cranes working in careful coordination to manage the load safely off the ship and into position. It's exactly the kind of technically demanding, time-sensitive freight handling operation that our fleet and crews are built for.

OUR CLIENTS: Peel Ports & Heineken

A landmark freight operation showcases the scale John Sutch Cranes can operate at

- ➔ **Commissioned by Peel Ports Group to support a major freight logistics operation**
- ➔ **Three brewing tanks for Heineken**
- ➔ **Shipped via Liverpool, Manchester Ship Canal**
- ➔ **Unloaded at Salford onto HGVs**
- ➔ **Tandem lift, two cranes coordinated**
- ➔ **Precision handling for oversized cargo**
- ➔ **Delivered safely, on schedule, Manchester**
- ➔ **Showcased Peel Ports' connected network**



CLIENT STATEMENT



Handling cargo of this scale demands precision at every stage, from the vessel's arrival on the Manchester Ship Canal through to final unloading at Salford. John Sutch Cranes brought exactly that level of expertise to the operation, coordinating a tandem lift that moved three oversized brewing tanks safely and efficiently onto specialist transport for their onward journey to Heineken's Manchester brewery.

This operation reflects the strength of our connected network. The Port of Liverpool and Manchester Ship Canal continue to prove their value for complex, time-sensitive freight movements of national significance.





Interview

Hayley Sutch has grown up inside **John Sutch Cranes**, from the yard to the boardroom. We sat down with the Designate Managing Director to talk Tier 1 delivery.



Q

Tell us about the history of the business.

A

John Sutch Cranes was established by our dad, John, and has spent over three decades delivering for the UK's leading contractors. We've been working alongside Tier 1 principal contractors since the early days of the business – it's not a recent ambition for us, it's been part of who we are from the start.

Q

What Does Tier 1 Delivery mean to you?

A

It means planning to a standard that leaves nothing to chance. Full accreditation, rigorous lift planning, and a team that understands what a Tier 1 contractor expects before they ask for it. We've supported major infrastructure and construction programmes for decades – that discipline is built into how we operate.

Q

How has Tier 1 experience shaped the business?

A

It's shaped everything. Working consistently within major supply chains for decades has pushed us to invest in accreditation, compliance and planning capability most crane hire businesses simply don't have. It's not something we're building toward – it's been the standard we've operated to for the majority of our history.

Q

What sets John Sutch Cranes apart from competitors?

A

Track record. We've delivered alongside Tier 1 principal contractors on some of the UK's most demanding schemes for decades, not years. That reputation has been earned lift by lift, project by project, since long before Tier 1 became an industry buzzword – and protecting it drives every decision we make.



**Quality is the priority of
what we do in our business
through the process.**



CONTACT US



Bridle Park,
Bridle Road,
Bootle,
Merseyside,
L30 4UG

Rothesay
Garage,
Globe Lane
Industrial Estate,
Broadway,
Dukinfield,
SK16 4UU



0151 236 8880 & 0161 877 8004



paul.parry@johnsutchcranes.co.uk

www.johnsutchcranes.co.uk

#JOHNSUTCHCRANES