



Precast – New Lifeboat Station, Bembridge



Project details:

The Bembridge lifeboat station is classified as a key station by the RNLI and is strategically situated in the Solent, home to one of the busiest shipping lanes in our waters used by over 100,000 commercial ships per annum. Since the station was first built in 1867, over 900 lives have been saved.

Although it is private sailing yachts which are most at risk, a wide variety of boats commonly run aground here, especially in the often stormy weather conditions which affect the Solent during winter months.

The all-weather lifeboat house constructed in 1922 which had been modified in 1987 survived until 2009 when it was demolished. The supporting stilts and walkway were old and crumbling away and waves could dangerously crash over the walkway and anyone on it. The RNLI investigated the viability of further repairs and alterations to the station but it was found to be cheaper to build a new station which was completed in 2010 at a cost approximately £10m.

Lytag® lightweight aggregate was used to produce LC45/50 lightweight precast concrete units for the slipway and walkway, suitable for use in a marine environment, in a value engineering exercise. The reduced unit weight also helped with crane lifting requirements

Project:

New RNLI lifeboat Station,
Bembridge, Isle of White

Date:

2009 - 2010

Client:

RNLI

Architect:

Alan Culshaw Architects /
Opus

Structural Engineer:

Opus

Main Contractor:

Nuttall John Martin

Precast supplier:

Cornish Concrete Products
Ltd

