

Best Large Commercial Project

Beluga Line Station - Broughton

Airbus UK



This Broughton facility was completed in June 2015, and allows the Beluga aircraft to park nose-in via specially designed doors to the integrated loading facility, and wings then loaded onto the Beluga using state of the art “cargo boarders” and loading jigs. From day one the target of 99.5% efficiency needed to be undertaken with a turnaround time of 75 mins. All the targets are being achieved which has driven efficiencies back into the transportation logistics network. Whilst the aircraft is docked into the facility re-fuelling also takes place

The Design and layout of the Broughton BLS is Unique within Airbus, Its design was influenced by a number factors which included Beluga access from the taxiway and limited site area. The bespoke design allows for the wings to be double stacked and protected from the weather. The building was designed around the process which it contains, to be as efficient in terms of design, construction and most importantly its use.

Ground Floor Area:	4,440m2
First Floor Area:	1,811m2
Second Floor area:	142m2
Total Floor Area:	6,393m2
Maximum Internal Clear Height:	21.5m
Maximum Building Height External:	24.5m

The facility has achieved a “Very Good” BREEAM rating at both pre and post construction phases Airbus has invested £30 million into this the Facility and associated infrastructure so the loading and unloading activity now takes place “indoors”. Over 55% of the associated project costs were placed in Wales with local suppliers and contractors benefitting from this investment The building is clad in composite cladding panels; all of the external envelope is insulated. The external envelope materials were selected to meet the current building regulations and exceed them where possible. The main roof and wall cladding material was also chosen due to its location as a local supplier, further contributing to the Carbon foot print of the project.

Similar line stations have also been built at Airbus plants in Hamburg, Bremen, Getafe and Saint Nazaire and are a key part of maximising the use of the Beluga fleet to support production demands

