

# Case Study

## Peek completes Welsh Bridge junction upgrades against the odds

Coordinated effort brings success despite challenging conditions



### Background

Peek was instructed to carry out major works on a traffic junction upgrade near the Welsh Bridge in Shrewsbury town centre. The full schedule of works included a number of improvements to cycle and walking routes between Shrewsbury town centre and the north west of Shrewsbury. The town is one of only 18 to be awarded 'cycling town' status by Cycling England and its aim is to help more people to cycle more safely around the town, more often.

The project was part of the Sustrans (the sustainable transport charity) Connect2 programme, funded by a £50 million Big Lottery Fund grant and the initial plans were drawn up between Mouchel and Shropshire Council, with Peek contributing towards the initial programme meetings.

Unfortunately, following a gas explosion at the site before the works had begun, the plans for this challenging project were further complicated. The explosion damaged much of the signal infrastructure nearby and destroyed the existing controller at Frankwell Quay. As the damage was caused several weeks before the work was due to start, all parties had to react instantly and the construction work began ahead of schedule.

### Solution

The project consisted of the upgrade of two sites at Frankwell Quay and Smithfield Road, either side of the Welsh Bridge. This included a number of high tech improvements to traffic signals at both sides of the junction. Signals were linked wirelessly by the latest intelligent MOVA control system, using the Peek Chameleon® MOVA outstation; this is designed to monitor and adapt to different traffic conditions and ensure that traffic flows as efficiently as possible. Adding to the technical challenge, all MOVA road detection used a wireless detection solution in place of traditional loops.

## Outcome

The Welsh Bridge junction reopened and the new pedestrian and cyclist crossings are up and running. Traffic is flowing in all directions with all traffic lanes open around Bridge Street and Welsh Bridge.

Shropshire Council has converted the riverside footway into a shared use pedestrian and cycle track from Welsh Bridge to Raven Meadows and a brand new pedestrian and cyclist crossing point near Roushill has also been completed.

In June 2010, resurfacing work began on Welsh Bridge, which includes high friction surfacing at the junction, coloured surfacing in the cycle lanes and advanced stop lines for cyclists.



Peek project manager, Pete Elwell, said the project and the circumstances were a real challenge:

*“ It was already technically challenging – then we had to adapt our original plans because of the gas explosion and the damage that caused. Our team showed a fantastic work ethic and had an excellent working relationship with the client. Suppliers and contractors all came together to ensure the project ran smoothly and on time. ”*

Shropshire Council's cabinet member for strategic planning and transport, Martin Taylor-Smith, said the project had been extremely successful:

*“ The Welsh Bridge project is an important part of the improved infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists in Shrewsbury. We are delighted with the efforts of Peek, who have worked so hard to ensure the project was delivered on budget and ahead of schedule. ”*

## About Peek

Peek is a leading supplier of intelligent transport solutions. For more than 30 years, the firm has been providing advanced traffic control products and systems, management and maintenance services for both the urban and highways markets.

Peek's established and proven portfolio includes traffic management systems incorporating SCOOT, highway congestion management and enforcement systems, vehicle detection systems, exterior lighting, as well as supervisory and communications systems. Peek is ISO 9001:2008 and ISO 14001:2004 certified.

With headquarters in Basingstoke, Hampshire, Peek employs more than 500 staff throughout the UK. Peek is part of the Infra and Traffic division of Imtech NV, a global technology services provider based in the Netherlands.

For more information, visit [www.peek.co.uk](http://www.peek.co.uk)



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## Imtech profile

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