­NEWS RELEASE

May 22, 2020

**Two Potain MR 295 tower cranes are helping to build Birmingham’s tallest office building**

* *Two Potain MR 295 luffing jib cranes are installing the steel frame of the 103 Colmore Row office building in Birmingham, UK.*
* *The cranes’ compact counter jib makes them suitable to work in the limited space available.*
* *The cranes have been equipped with additional custom wind sail plates to further reduce the out of service radius due to the tight site location.*

Two [Potain MR 295](https://www.manitowoccranes.com/en-GB/cranes/potain/top-slewing/mr/MR-295-H16) luffing jib cranes are helping to build a Grade A office building in 103 Colmore Row in Birmingham. The 16 t and 20 t capacity cranes have been on the site since last October, supporting the construction of the concrete core and lifting and assembling steel girders to help build the office tower’s steel frame and winter garden.

The Potain MR 295 features a fixed counterweight that minimizes moving parts and creates a compact counter jib, making the cranes the ideal size to work in the confined city center. The crane can be equipped with up to 60 m of jib, with capacity at the end of the jib being up to 2.8 t. For the Colmore Row project, the cranes have been equipped with 40 m and 45 m jibs, which gives the cranes a capacity of 6.1 t and 4.5 t, respectively. The first crane was erected to 114.5 m and the second crane was erected on top of the concrete core, installed some 100 m above ground level with a tip height of 162 m, making it the tallest structure in Birmingham.

**Tons of steel**

“We needed a crane with the capacity and reach to meet the tough project specifications while also being compact enough to work in the limited space available,’’ said a spokesperson for the contractor, BAM. “The Potain MR 295 fulfills all our requirements and we are impressed with the strong performance of the cranes. Building the steel frame will take around 36 weeks to complete and it means the cranes will have to lift more than 2,200 t of steel. With the MR 295, we’re progressing rapidly.”

Comprising 20,775 m2 of office space, the 26-story tower will be Birmingham’s tallest office building and will also be home to a restaurant located on the top floor. The building is located at the junction of Colmore Row and Newhall Street and is part of Birmingham’s City Center Enterprise Zone. Work is expected to be completed by May 2021.

The MR 295 was supplied to BAM for the project by Radius Group, which has a rental fleet of 50 cranes in the UK, supported by its own crew of erectors and mobile electric maintenance experts who travel all over of the country. The company also runs a workshop in Buckingham with a team of five permanent service personnel and a stock of spare parts. For further spare parts, technicians and technical documentation, Radius Group is supported by the Potain after-sales and parts services support from the Manitowoc premises in Buckingham, UK.

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ABOUT THE MANITOWOC COMPANY, INC.

The Manitowoc Company, Inc. (“Manitowoc”) was founded in 1902 and has over a 117-year tradition of providing high-quality products and support services that are tailored to customers’ needs. Its 2019 net sales were approximately $1.83 billion. Manitowoc is one of the world's leading providers of engineered lifting solutions. Through its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Manitowoc designs, manufactures, markets and supports comprehensive product lines of mobile telescopic cranes, tower cranes, lattice-boom crawler cranes, boom trucks and industrial cranes under the Grove, Potain, Manitowoc, National Crane, Shuttlelift and Manitowoc Crane Care brand names.

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