

# Transforming rolling stock maintenance and inspection

Premier Pits has been manufacturing and installing prefabricated steel maintenance and inspection pits for vehicle workshops for over 35 years

Since 2007, and after rigorous research and development, the introduction of Premier Rail Pits has brought this innovative approach to the rail industry. Here are some examples of how a prefabricated steel pit has been the preferred solution to precast concrete.

## Alstom Technology Centre

- **Specification** – Manufacturing and installing a 30 metre Railway Inspection Pit. With LED lights and two access tunnels.
- **The Project** – Premier Pits was appointed in October 2016 to install a prefabricated vehicle pit. The original scope was to install the pit with in situ reinforced concrete. However, the client, who worked with Premier Pits before installing road vehicle inspection pits, discussed with the end user the benefits of prefabrication off site.
- **The Problem** – The client was faced with a challenging below ground structure. They highlighted the railway inspection pit as high risk on their risk register. It was on their critical path and therefore any delay on site would impact the end date. There was also a tolerance in the specification of +/-5mm which they were unsure they could construct with in situ concrete. Not only this but they faced a skill shortage of subcontractors who had the ability to construct this type of below ground structure in an on-site environment.
- **Solution** – To mitigate the risk, they approached Premier Pits to investigate a prefabricated off-site approach. Premier Pits collaborated with Buckingham Group and gave them a product with was commercially competitive with in-situ poured concrete short term as well as being a far superior product long term due to it being watertight, maintainable, cleaner and safer to use. It was also installed in two weeks reducing their anticipated programme time by over six weeks. The product is also fully painted and has LED lights making this an excellent working facility for their engineers.
- **Outcome** – A satisfied main contractor and end user to have this facility, with cost, quality and time certainty during the build.



• **Testimonial** – ‘We have worked with Premier Pits on several road vehicle maintenance pit projects and are therefore fully aware of all the benefits of prefabricated pits built off-site, this method of construction saved us considerable time on site and leaves the client with a far superior end product.’  
*Nigel Graveson, Project Director for Buckingham Group*

## Heathrow Terminal 5

- **Specification** – Two 54 metre pits manufactured from pre-formed mild steel, fitted with safety lights and anti-slip flooring with a durable paint finish.
- **The Project** – To install prefabricated steel maintenance pits for the passenger transfer system at Heathrow’s Terminal 5.
- **The Problem** – The pits had to be installed twelve metres below ground level without interfering with other ongoing construction work. Also, the pits had to allow for free access along the length of the pit when in day to day use.
- **Solution** – Due to restricted site access, the pits had to be designed in eight metre sections prior to manufacture at Premier Pits’ factory in Spalding. They were then delivered by road direct to site. On arrival, the sections were



offloaded and lowered by crane in one movement through the terminal roof, into position twelve metres below ground level. Here they were bolted together to form 54-metre-long watertight pits. The problem of continuous access was answered by designing supports that only projected halfway across the width of the pits.

- **Outcome** – Both pits were installed within ten working days during which there was minimum disruption to other construction work. The pits are now operational and are playing a significant part in improving maintenance efficiency and staff working conditions.

Tel: 01775 821 222  
 Email: info@premierpits.com  
 Visit: www.premierpits.com



# TRANSFORMING ROLLING STOCK MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION

## Premier Rail Pits – The UK's No.1 Prefabricated Pit Company

Improve the efficiency of your workshop with our range of maintenance and inspection pits, built to CE certified standards.

Premier Rail Pits offer the following benefits:

- Guaranteed water tight
- Quicker installation time compared to precast concrete
- High quality finish
- All internal service ducts fitted prior to installation
- Any length available
- Rail attachments fitted prior to installation
- Full or part installations are offered

Additionally, the company provides a full range of accessories and safety products. This is all supported by a sophisticated support package that covers everything from concept through design, manufacture and installation to commissioning.



**Premier Rail Pits**  
PREFABRICATED RAIL PITS

**Tel** +44 (0)1775 821222  
**Fax** +44 (0)1775 820914  
**Email** [info@premierpits.com](mailto:info@premierpits.com)  
**Web** [www.premierpits.com](http://www.premierpits.com)

