

News

Prince of Wales Pipe Testing

Over the last few weeks LB04 Prince of Wales have been focussing heavily on the pipe pressure testing phase of the build. This is a critical area of focus for team due to the lessons learnt from Queen Elizabeth.

The team utilised all previous experience and learnings as well as updating workmanship standards through training and coaching sessions in order to ensure those lessons are fully embedded into the build. They also have ensured the equipment and material suppliers were on site to help improve this aspect of the installation.

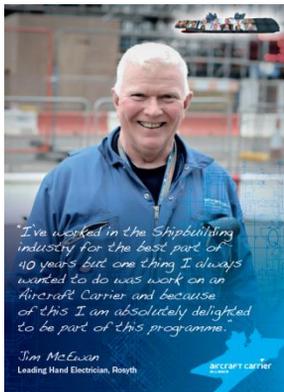
These improvements have resulted in the first four main chibro pipe lines (over 400 spools) pressure tested and passed first time with zero leaks. There is still a long way to go on LB04 for pipe pressure testing, but the initial indications are very positive and by focusing on this critical activity the quality of installation within this phase remains the main priority.

Alan Nicholson, LB04 Project Manager said; "This has been a great achievement by the team and I want to thank everyone involved in this improvement. We still have a way to go and I am confident the team will continue the good work."

Our People

Our twelfth people profile is now available to watch online [here](#).

This week's profile features Jim McEwan.



Spotlight on...

Red Arrows D-Day Celebration MSETF Tracking Opportunity

The appearance of the Red Arrows at the Portsmouth D-Day celebrations on Southsea seafront provided a fantastic opportunity to exercise a number of the Mission System EME Test Facility (MSETF) real time sensors. The presence of seven fast jets in close formation are as good a representation of a complex air attack on QEC as we are ever likely to see.

Obviously with QEC being protected at all times by class leading escorts and defensive screens such as Type 45 Destroyers and, in due course, Type 26 Frigates we are not likely to ever experience such a demanding close-in air raid. The MSETF in Cowes proved an ideal location to monitor the whole air-display and provided a very special opportunity to exercise the Medium Range Radar (MRR), Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) and Direction Finder (DF) sensors.

During their display the systems all contributed successfully to building an accurate air picture of the aircraft movements – and correlating with each other. It was possible to see the display manoeuvres visually described on the CMS Label Plan Display (LPD) and see bearing spokes generated through the tracks as the display team's voice communications were detected. The display provided a number of challenging scenarios of multiple tracks combining and separating as the air display progressed as well as providing numerous High-G manoeuvres to exercise the system trackers.

The image bottom left shows the individual aircraft tracks on the CMS console LPD display. The long lines are known as velocity leaders and they are in proportion to the detected speed of each track and show the current heading of each track.



HMS Queen Elizabeth Rosyth

Tanks

- Last week four Compartment Completion Inspections (CCI's) were fully signed off by the client.
- 0DX2 and 9EY0 were fully water ballasted.

Shaft Programme

- Shaft bulkhead glands in 9QX4 have been set up to shaft line and screewed to position awaiting confirmation from Dimensional Control prior to welding.
- Shaft bulkhead gland in 9QX5 is ready for final position once deep sea seal gland steelwork face has been machined – target to fit 18 June 2014.
- Coupling covers are progressing well with forward covers now assembled and grease being pumped into cavities. The remaining two aft coupling covers will also be completed by 18 June.
- The rope guards are all completed with exception to intermediate aft Port and Starboard, as coupling covers need to be completed and painted prior to fit.

Hull Programme

- Painting of the topside areas has continued and is 100% complete in damage control zone 1. Work on the sponsons continues to make good progress with SP01-SP05 now 85% complete.
- At the aft end of the vessel work has continued i.w.o. the external shaft area and the paint team is making good progress in both the boot top (LB04 99% / LB05 90%) and boot top down (LB04 98% / LB05 95%) complete respectively.

HMS Prince of Wales Merseyside

HMS Prince of Wales CB02:

- G ring scaffolding is being removed from Hangar area in readiness for transport to south slipway in con hall (see image top right).
- All compartments (excluding Hangar) have now been PO1 inspected within G ring.
- Painting and Insulation to all G ring compartments continues (Paint complete to 29 compartments and two in progress, Insulation complete to 18 compartments and six in progress).
- Painting to Flight Deck of G ring commenced last week.

- Installation of pipework, Hilti second fix equipment supports, cable containment and electrical platform continues throughout G ring.
- Fitting of seats and pipe supports within F ring 4 deck centre unit compartments continues.
- Preparations for second PO1 inspection underway for F ring 4 deck centre unit compartments 4FX4 & 4FX6.
- Seats and pipe runs being fitted within F ring 4 deck starboard and port end unit compartments continues.



HMS Prince of Wales CB04:

- A ring units 3, 4, 5 and 6 flight deck panels together and being welded out.
- A ring units 1, 2, 3 and 4 transverse girders being erected and welded with bulkhead erection is well underway.
- The manufacture of seats and supports for A ring 3 and 2 deck compartments continues.
- B ring units 1, 2, 3 and 4 2 deck unit plates being welded and girders being fitted.
- B ring flight deck plates being fabricated and welded together continues.

Tyne

HMS Prince of Wales CB03:

- 91/105 CHOIs have been completed at site and 29 now on CMS.
- 44/70 Pipe install and testing ITRs(101/108) are now in the system which equates to circa 500 spools and testing continues on day and back shift.
- The process for cable install ITRs(103) has begun with the first 14 prepared.
- Work continues to complete scope work in Ring L with circa 2000 hours to be completed by all parties.
- The HAZID for transportation was held onsite this week and all information and plans are in place for the load out.

Portsmouth

HMS Prince of Wales LB02:

- The CHOI plan is progressing well with 196 CHOIs now completed.
- Shell painting is nearing completion and transportation banners are being applied.
- The pipe program continues to make excellent progress. 163 101s were achieved and 290 108s.
- Electrical equipment installation is progressing with 111 items fitted last week and terminations on-going with 45,241 cores terminated to date.
- Cable installation is nearing completion with 242km installed.
- Weighing preparations are well underway, staging is down in readiness for the planned weighing on 15 June

HMS Prince of Wales CB02:

- Transport ACA Banners being fitted in readiness for the Load-out and transportation to Rosyth
- On ring A the flight deck is being cleared and prepared for painting early week 25.
- Transportation pillars being completed in readiness for weighing.
- On rings B and C all external bulkhead painting is now complete .
- On ring B, Pipex scope is completed as planned with 25% progress on Ring C.
- On all rings good progress has been made on the Block hand over packs.



Govan

HMS Prince of Wales LB03:

- The Defence Quality Assurance Field Force (DQAFF) were on site last week as part of an audit of the LB03 Handover Document and physical evidence on the block. Everyone involved in the document has provided assistance to the team and initial feedback has been positive.
- The final care and protection audit for LB03 was undertaken by the customer and attended by personnel from the ACA. The block was given a satisfactory rating, in particular highlighting level of protection and progress of the block.
- Implementation of change will continue until block load-out and the production team are working their way through all workable change.
- The watertight integrity programme is progressing well, with only a few weeks remaining until completion. Successfully completing this work is essential to the transportation process and continues to be a major activity leading up to block roll out on the 12 July 2014.

HMS Prince of Wales LB04:

- With all the units delivered to the Assembly phase of build a few weeks ago the team are now in the position that we have erected all the LB04 Units. Over the next three weeks the Assembly team will work to close out all the welding of the units. Well done to all the teams involved in achieving this programme which is currently four weeks earlier than planned.
- This takes us close to the move of rings M/N round to join up with rings P/Q/R/S. This will take place on the weekend of 27 June. All preparation work is well underway with scaffolding being removed and items being placed securely on the Block. A few areas still to close out with regards to pipe installation to ensure the Block is weather tight for the move and these will be complete over the next two weeks
- Last week saw the end of the successful installation of all the main area Cabins within LB04. Over 220 cabins shipped into the block over six ring and deck areas. A good achievement from the teams to achieve this plan and also working together with our Cabin supplier.
- The first CHOIs were carried out on the Block.