

### **Installation of Steelwork for Airtel Vodafone.**

Airtel Vodafone was the third operator to be granted a 2g/3g licence on the islands of Guernsey and Alderney & Sark. Shape had previously worked for Airtel (as they were formally known) on the island of Jersey.

Due to the environmental impact a third operator may have had on such a small island Airtel worked very closely with the local communities & the planning department to minimise these effects. Where possible, sites were built on existing structures. In certain cases site sharing was negotiated with the island's other operators.

Shape was asked to supply & install all of the steelwork requirements & civil activities on all sites - 34 in total.

Initial steelwork surveys were carried out in mid November 2007 with an understanding that 14 sites had to be ready for the rigging & commissioning elements by mid December 2007, for the proposed soft launch date of 17<sup>th</sup> December. This was a challenging task for everyone involved. Steelwork was manufactured at our fabrication facility in Doncaster, whilst preparations were made for the transportation to the island of all material requirements & teams.

The teams were deployed in the last week of November. The first step was to complete all the civil & preparation works including the first fix of the lightening protection systems. Weather played a major factor for steelwork deliveries as ferries were delayed & often cancelled due to the adverse conditions. It turned out to be the worst period of weather they had seen on the island for 10 years.



Steelwork arrived on the island in the first few days of December. Again logistics proved to be a challenge with site locations having restricted access.

Installation of steelworks commenced & despite atrocious weather conditions yet again, Shape met its target to have all 14 sites ready by the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2007.



Shape returned to Guernsey in January 2008 after enjoying a well earned Christmas break. Since then we have installed a further 20 sites & deployed temporary sites to 2 locations while planning was gained for the permanent installations.

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