F.Lloyd
(Penley) Ltd

Benefits of building a bridge over the river (Clywedog) to help communicate and efficiencies between two warehouses at F Lloyds and Bedwell .

Building a bridge to connect two warehouses across the river offers significant benefits, primarily by improving logistics, streamlining operations, and reducing costs. The justification for such an infrastructure investment is based on substantial gains in communication, efficiency, and safety.

Enhanced logistical efficiency

Reduced transit times: By eliminating the need for vehicles to travel along and around the industrial park i.e. approx. 2 miles from Bridge Road north too Bedwell the bridge is direct and greatly speeds up the transfer of goods between warehouses. This is especially beneficial for high-volume or just-in-time inventory that needs to move quickly. i.e. more efficient in fuel, emissions, time, costs. Traffic.

Lower transportation costs: Fewer truck journeys and shorter travel distances lead to reduced fuel consumption, lower maintenance costs for vehicles, and less reliance on expensive third-party transport. Over time, these savings can offset the initial construction costs.

Operational moving MHE (FLT) from one site to another site via the road is logistical very difficult, time consuming, and drives additional cost into the business

Simplified inventory management: A single, integrated operation across both sites possible by connecting the two warehouses. This enhances real-time visibility and control over inventory, reducing stock-outs, overstocking, and the need for complex, separate management systems.

Improved handling and cross-docking: A bridge facilitates efficient cross-docking, where goods are immediately moved from inbound to outbound vehicles with little to no storage time. This minimizes handling, reduces labour costs, and speeds up order fulfilment.

Improved communication and collaboration

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Seamless operations: The physical connection fosters a more unified operational culture. A single, integrated logistics hub can be managed, rather than two separate, disjointed warehouses

Streamlined communication: A direct connection removes the "physical silo" created by the river, allowing for more natural communication and collaboration between teams. Managers and staff can easily move between buildings for meetings, oversight, or to solve problems in real-time rather than travelling around the industrial estate i.e. 2 miles rather than 500 meters across a bridge.

Safety and risk reduction

Mitigated transport risks: Eliminating Road travel reduces our risk of accidents, traffic delays, and damage to goods during transit between facilities around the estate It also removes the risk of our supply chain disruptions caused by external factors like traffic jams or adverse weather.

Reduced carbon footprint: With fewer vehicle journeys between the warehouses, the company's carbon emissions are reduced, aligning with sustainability goals.

Reliable operations: A dedicated bridge ensures uninterrupted access between the warehouses, protecting against downtime and delays to our business

Scalability and flexibility

Optimized space utilization: The bridge allows both warehouses to be used as a single, flexible space. For instance, one building could serve as a dedicated picking and fulfilment centre, while the other handles goods receipt and bulk storage. This maximizes the efficient use of available square footage.

Future growth: The bridge provides greater operational flexibility to scale up or reconfigure business activities in the future. This allows for long-term growth and adaptability to changing market demands.

Report by Murray Rolfe