

# POWER SOLUTION DELIVERY PROJECT OLYMPUS NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025

## TRANSPORTING GIANT CABLE DRUMS FROM TURKEY TO THE UK

**If you happen to spot a lorry rumbling along the motorway hauling cable drums, you may be witnessing our latest delivery from Turkey.**

**Since the first batch of cables passed the factory acceptance tests in June, some 199 drums have arrived safely at our warehouses in Ipswich and Felixstowe.**

Two copper cable drums fit on one trailer, each measuring 2930mm in diameter, 2400mm wide and weighing some 11481kg. A marine warranty surveyor checked the first load was secured as per manufacturer, Demirer Kablo's specification.

"Even if the lorry cab changes, the drums never move off the trailer to minimise risk of damage," explains Joshua Bunn, Logistics Manager. "Trackers mean the factory know their exact location at all times."

Each batch is usually 30 drums and despatched in stages over a three-week period. The lorries travel some 180km from the factory to the Port of Yalova in Turkey and onto a ferry that sails to Sete in the south of France. The journey continues to Calais and across the channel. To avoid delays from traffic congestion or transport availability, some lorries have travelled overland across Europe, onto trains, and through the Eurotunnel.

The logistics team prepare customs paperwork in advance and co-ordinate with the warehouse opening hours. The cable testing team is notified quickly. There's just seven days to run tests to check for damage before delivery is formally accepted.

"We have around 15 separate deliveries per batch so there's a lot of tracking, updating and rescheduling if the route changes or there are delays at customs," says Joshua. "Once we're happy, we accept the batch and the next is released."

The logistics team worked out a plan to store the drums according to when they'll be needed. "This is real team collaboration, everyone takes pride in what they do," says Joshua. "The last batch of 37 drums will arrive in Q1 2026. For me, it's a privilege to be involved in such an important stage of the project."



## UPDATE: WEST HAM CABLE ROUTE

**Construction along the North Woolwich Road began at the end of October and exposed a series of unexpected obstacles that demanded multiple changes to the route.**

The first was a shallow old brick sewer and after a new route was established, trial holes were dug.

"While doing this, we discovered a water mains and gas pipe, so we had to re-think the route again," says Jim Clark, Construction Manager. "We knew we'd have to be agile in how we work as not everything can be identified on the drawings."

To keep works progressing, the team continued further down the road, with another at the far end to meet in the middle. When the second new route was established, local businesses were informed by letter, while Newham Council permitted another road closure and a bus route diversion.

"We've got a great relationship with the London Borough and they accommodated our request quickly," says Jim.



More recently, a historical leak on a Thames Water mains pipe was discovered in the ground outside a night club, halting construction once again while the utility company assessed the problem.

"We temporarily reinstated the road so there was no loss of business to the night club," says Jim. "We give out our numbers to any businesses that might be affected by our work so at all times everyone understands what's going on."

Works are expected to finish on the North Woolwich Road at the end of January; the route beneath the Silvertown Flyover is almost complete. Progress is underway on the Bow Creek footpath.



Volunteers went along to the Newham District Foodbank earlier this month to sort food donations for distribution to local food banks.

**You can do the same by supporting The Felix Project on 22 December**

## 2025 REFLECTIONS

**Ian Cox, Project Director, looks back over the year**

### Growing the team

"January 2025 was a key milestone. We transitioned from design to construction and began to upsize the team in engineering, quality, project management, health and safety. We've recruited those with a can-do attitude to strengthen the team."

### Establishing a project identity

"We created a core identity so everyone understands we're working together to a common goal – the safe delivery of the project."

### Creating a community

"We encourage everyone to take time to talk to one other about life outside work. We hold social events and there's opportunities to volunteer with local charities."

### Developing careers

"Early involvement has allowed the team to develop their careers as the project's progressed. Working with international suppliers in China, Turkey and Germany has helped individuals build their network."

### Maintaining health and safety

"There's a view talking about H&S jinxes it but actually ensures we put safety first. We introduced Permission to Stop. It's empowering; the team can do this anytime. We'll continue to grow H&S in 2026."

### Achieving milestones

"We've found innovative ways to maintain the substation build on a small site for a large building. On the cable route, a whole team effort has found solutions to keep construction moving along."

### Looking forward to 2026

"I've taken great pride in seeing the team develop and grow. Each project has its own complexities and we've overcome some unexpected challenges – we have a robust plan for 2026."

