

Steam hammer sculpture shimmers in stainless steel

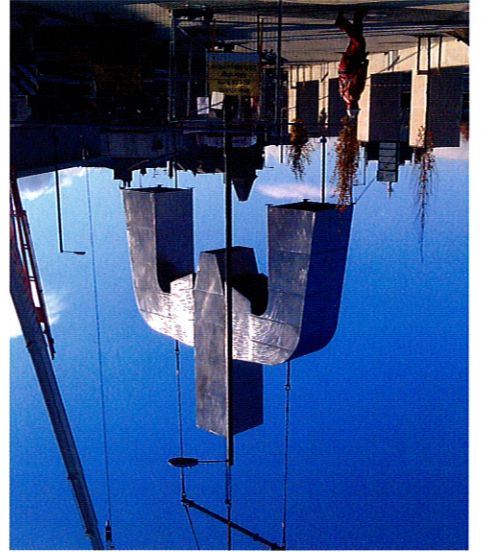
Customer Focus: Thomas Storey

"With our skills, experience and location we were perfectly placed to work on the sculpture," says Fred Ellis, Managing Director, Thomas Storey. "We spent six weeks in construction and delivered it on-site in one piece for it to be manoeuvred into position at Lime Square in early November 2010."

"This was an unusual project for us and there was a real buzz around the factory as the sculpture was being fabricated," continues Fred Ellis. "The 1:4003 stainless steel material was easy to source in these quantities from ASD who have been our supplier on the regular steel side for many years. It was extremely helpful to be able to make use of their multi-metal experience and resources for this job."

"We carry large stocks of 1:4003 and were able to work closely with Thomas Storey on supplying material as and when they needed it," adds ASD metal services' 1:4003 Product Development Manager, Paul Nixon. Acquired by its present owners in late 1996, the company expanded rapidly and moved its main operating facility from Stockport to Openshaw in 2006. The ISO 9001 accredited factory incorporates all the latest manufacturing techniques including CAD CAM systems, laser profiling up to 25mm, plasma and traditional gas burning, robotic welding and CNC press brakes from 25-500 tonnes. Extensive finishing facilities embrace shot blasting, phosphate and pre-treatment, powder coating and paint spraying.

Departing from the company's regular work fabricating components for OEM's, Thomas Storey helped create a magnificent stainless steel sculpture that now graces east Manchester's new Lime Square development.



Called Dead Blow, the sculpture by award-winning artist Robert Erskine, stands 29 ft high x 35 ft wide and depicts a steam hammer in celebration of the area's rich industrial heritage. Made from stainless steel grade 1:4003 supplied by ASD metal services Blackburn, the impressive structure is designed to be part of the main pedestrian walkway into the Lime Square centre.

Fabricators Thomas Storey, based in Openshaw just a short walk from the new development, provide a complete pre-production jig and tool design and manufacturing capability. Customers include some of the largest manufacturers of earthmoving and construction equipment as well as specialist commercial vehicle producers.

