



## ***RailRoad*** PLANTERS & INTEGRATED SEATING



Public realm furniture design  
& innovation from Furnitubes





## RAILROAD PLANTERS & INTEGRATED SEATING



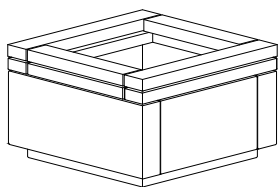
At Furnitubes we believe in the positive promotion of UK manufacturing and the benefits that it brings to the UK economy. Manufacturing in the UK also offers a more sustainable solution, with transportation distances and associated environmental impacts minimised. Wherever you see our **UK Made** logo you can be assured that the product is manufactured in the UK.



## INTRODUCTION

### Coordinated and integrated planters and seating

Planters are the latest addition to the RailRoad family, building on the popularity of the seating ranges to offer the specifier a wider selection of fully coordinated products. As with the seating designs, modularity and flexibility are key, allowing products to be joined in an infinite number of layout combinations. RailRoad planters are amongst the most robust from our entire range - constructed in folded heavy section plate steel and finished in a polyester powder coated finish - they form a rigid, durable construction designed to stand the test of time. We have considered the sustainability of planting as well, building in as standard the provision for a gravel drainage / reservoir base and including a drainage outlet pipe that can be used or simply capped off if not required.

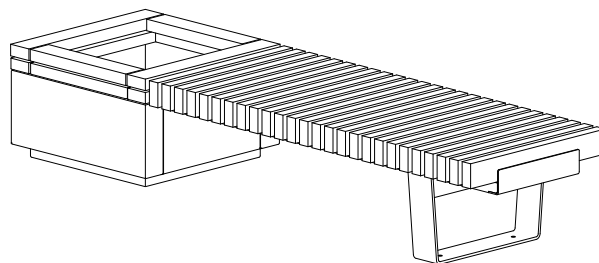


#### Independent planters

RailRoad independent planters are attractive and functional items in their own right, not only when they are combined with seating. The range is characterised by a relatively plain steel planting container, with a double course decorative timber top rim that visually softens the products, acts as a perfect foil to the plants and also serves as a seating perch. The standard range comprises:

- 4 standard plan size options - 1 cube and 3 troughs
- 2 standard height options for each plan size - to match the seat platform height and to suit higher perch seating

Other sizes of independent planters can be manufactured to suit specific schemes.



#### Integrated planters and seating

With the simple addition of an appropriate connection bracket, RailRoad seating platforms can be mounted onto one or both ends of standard planters, or even all four sides of cubes. Planters can be used at the start /end or within a continuous seating run, to create corners where seating changes direction, or even as a junction between 3 and 4-way seating directions.



Details of the RailRoad seating ranges that can be used in combination with the planters can be found at the following link:  
<http://www.furnitubes.com/brochures/seating-e-brochures-1>



**SMART  
SPACE®**

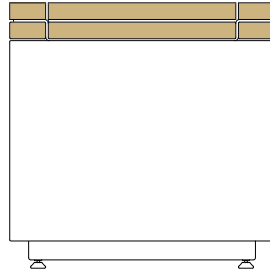
**SmartSpace** is an innovative approach to public realm furniture, whereby products are designed and can be arranged to meet the varying and changing requirements of outdoor spaces. RailRoad planters are the latest addition to the **SmartSpace** family.



## RAILROAD PLANTERS

### Features

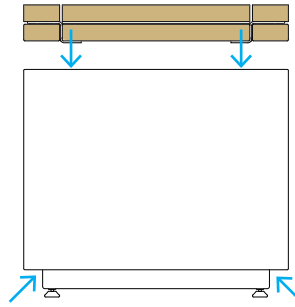
Many planters on the market look good and perform adequately for a year or so, but soon after can begin to show signs of deterioration due to their lightweight materials and low grade finishes. RailRoad planters are designed and built to last, with heavy duty materials used throughout.



- The timber top rim is an attractive feature that complements the planting and also serves as a robust edge that can be used to perch on.
- The planting pot - manufactured from heavy duty zintec steel plate - is both robust and durable. The standard finish is polyester powder coating to any RAL colour reference.
- Planters are lined with GRP and painted to ensure they are water-tight and to protect the steel from deterioration.

### Handling & installation

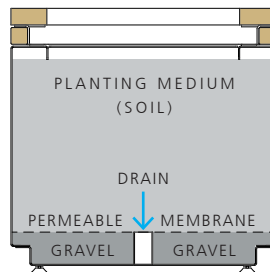
Planters are large and heavy objects even before filling with soil and plants. Mindful of this we have built in a number of features to aid safe handling and to minimise the risk of damage during installation.



- Planters can be manually lifted by hand (refer to products codes for weights), via straps wedged between the main body and plinth, or if the timber top rim is removed, via fixing holes that can be used as lifting eyes.
- After placement in position, the planter can be levelled via the adjustable feet in each corner. These can be simply adjusted by hand prior to filling the planter.
- Given the weight of a filled planter there is generally no need to bolt them down.

### Planting

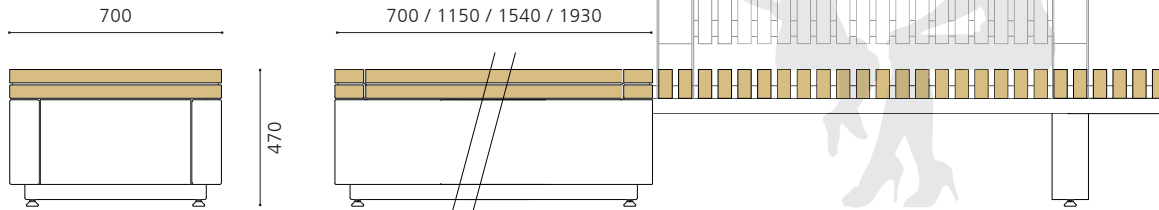
Maintaining a suitable moisture content in the soil is vital to sustaining healthy plants. A central drainage pipe is a standard feature in all planters and a gravel laid up to the level of the top of the pipe can act as a reservoir. If filled beyond capacity, surplus water will overflow into the drainage pipe and out of the bottom of the planter.



- We recommend that free-draining gravel is laid in the base of the planter up to the level of the top of the drain / approx 90mm above the planter base.
- A central drainage pipe is fitted as standard and is supplied with a top cap for use if drainage is not required.
- Placing a permeable membrane over the gravel will prevent the soil migrating down into the gravel.

## RAILROAD PLANTERS

Planter heights include the 20mm height of the adjustable feet. Seats joined to planters can either be fitted with matching feet for freestanding assemblies or with a 20mm spacer for bolting down. Alternatively, and on level ground, the feet on the planters and seats can be removed, reducing the heights shown by 20mm.



### RAILROAD PLANTERS, 470MM HIGH

Zintec steel plant container pot in polyester powder coated external finish and GRP waterproof lining, with iroko hardwood top rim in smooth planed finish

#### RRP2T 7070/47

700 x 700 x 470mm high  
Weight (empty): 65kgs

#### RRP2T 11570/47

1150 x 700 x 470mm high  
Weight (empty): 86kgs

#### RRP2T 15470/47

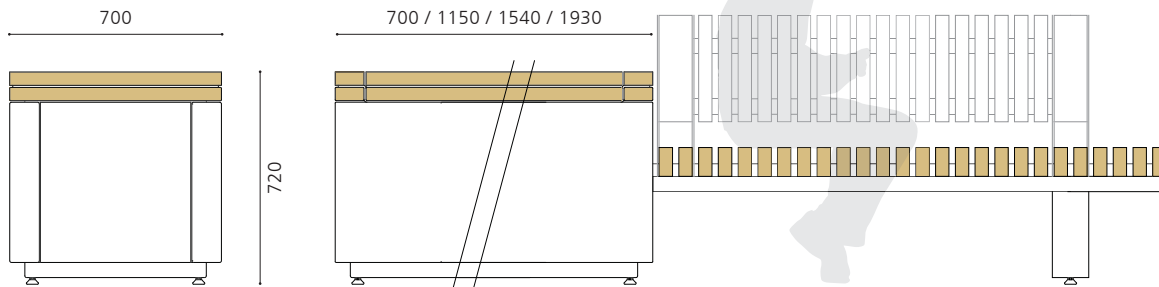
1540 x 700 x 470mm high  
Weight (empty): 105kgs

#### RRP2T 19370/47

1930 x 700 x 470mm high  
Weight (empty): 127kgs

#### OPTIONS:

- Bespoke size planters
- Connector brackets to adjoin seating platform to any 700mm wide end / side
- PPC coating to any RAL colour
- Oiled iroko slats



### RAILROAD PLANTERS, 720MM HIGH

Zintec steel plant container pot in polyester powder coated external finish and GRP waterproof lining, with iroko hardwood top rim in smooth planed finish

#### RRP2T 7070/72

700 x 700 x 720mm high  
Weight (empty): 82kgs

#### RRP2T 11570/72

1150 x 700 x 720mm high  
Weight (empty): 108kgs

#### RRP2T 15470/72

1540 x 700 x 720mm high  
Weight (empty): 130kgs

#### RRP2T 19370/72

1930 x 700 x 720mm high  
Weight (empty): 152kgs

#### OPTIONS:

- Bespoke size planters
- Connector brackets to adjoin seating platform to any 700mm wide end / side
- PPC coating to any RAL colour
- Oiled iroko slats



## RAILROAD SEATING & PLANTER LINEAR COMBINATIONS

### **Straight seating module + planter at start / end**

Planters can be used at the start / end of a seating run. Cube planters might contain single large specimen plants, whereas troughs offer greater planting opportunities to make a more significant display.



### **Straight seating modules + planter in mid position**

Placing a planter within a seating run serves to break it up into smaller segments, creating more private areas with planting between, which people who are not acquainted are more likely to use than if the seating is a single continuous line.



### **Straight seating modules + planter as corner unit**

Where seats are arranged in L-shapes, the corner section between the two arms is not a very effective seating area. Placing a planter in this area is an ideal use for an otherwise redundant space, and also serves to provide separation between adjacent seats.



### **Straight seating module + planters at start / end position**

If planters are used at both ends, the seating platform can simply bridge between them. With the weight and stability offered by the planters and their fill material, this type of assembly can generally be left freestanding.



## RAILROAD SEATING & PLANTER ISLAND COMBINATIONS

### Curved triangle

At 3.2m overall diameter, the smallest size RailRoad seating circle may be too large for some sites. Using 3 curved seating segments with cube planters creates a smaller and more unusual arrangement that suits placement around a tree or other feature.

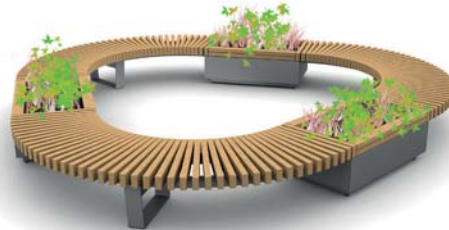


3 x Cube Planters  
3 x R2.5m Mid Module Seats  
**Seats 6 people**  
2830mm x 2730mm o/a



### Round-cornered triangle

A triangular layout is a distinctive variation on a circular enclosure, with trough planters that divide the assembly into smaller sections of seating. If one set of the seating pairs is removed the seating could be used as either inward or outward facing.

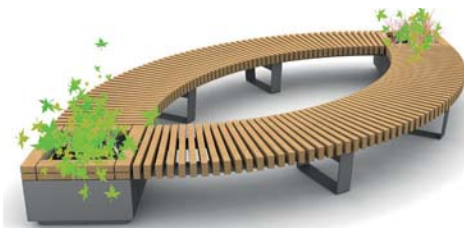


3 x Trough Planters  
6 x R1.25m Mid Module Seats  
**Seats 12 people**  
4500mm x 4330mm o/a



### Ellipse

An ellipse is an alternative to a full circle and takes up less space, using cube planters at the points and curved seating segments between. An attractive shape in its own right, this layout is also suitable for setting out around a specimen tree.

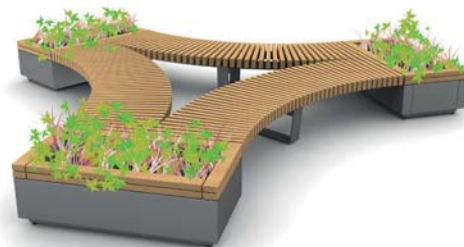


2 x Cube Planters  
6 x R2.5m Mid Module Seats  
**Seats 12 people**  
5020mm x 2660mm o/a



### Propeller

Trough planters at the end of each point offer the opportunity of significant planting, with the 3 sets of paired platforms providing curved seating between. The geometry of this layout even allows multiples to be linked together for further seating provision.



3 x Trough Planters  
6 x R1.25m Mid Module Seats  
**Seats 12 people**  
4710mm x 4110mm o/a

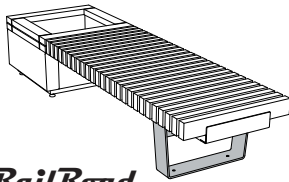
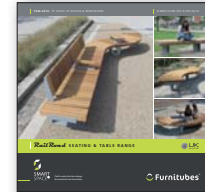


## RAILROAD SEATING

### Seating support options

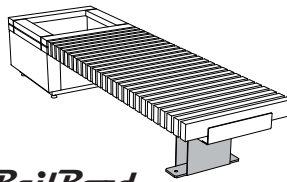
3 standard designs - Delta, Edge and Loop - are offered in the RailRoad seating range. For seating only, each style has a corresponding end profile detail to the timber slats. When seating is used with planters though, only the square-ended 'Edge' slats are used so that the timbers of both products align. Seating platforms, which are common to all seat support types, can also be used to span between planters, without the need for any seat-only supports.

Details of the RailRoad seating ranges that can be used in combination with the planters can be found at the following link:  
<http://www.furnitubes.com/brochures/seating-e-brochures-1>



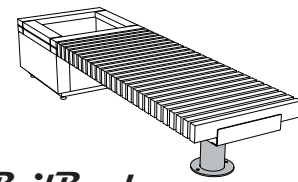
#### ***RailRoad*** **DELTA**

The preferred option for combining with planters, Delta provides the most stable solution that doesn't necessarily require bolting down to the ground if attached to heavy planters.



#### ***RailRoad*** **EDGE**

Seating with Edge supports may require bolting down to the ground, depending on the length of the seating run and the proximity to planters that provide stability.



#### ***RailRoad*** **LOOP**

The relatively small base plate on Loop supports generally require bolting down to the ground to achieve a stable and safe assembly, especially if the seats include backrests.





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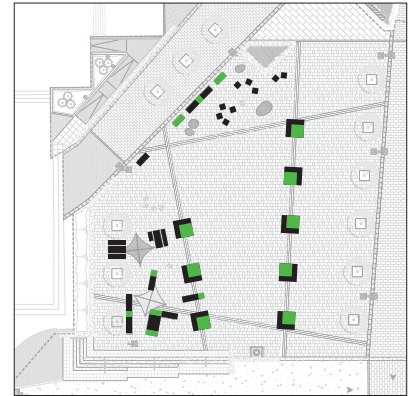




## RAILROAD PLANTERS & INTEGRATED SEATING

### Case study: University of Leicester

Fielding Johnson Square lies at the heart of the University of Leicester main campus, flanked by three distinctive 1960s high rise buildings, including the Engineering Building - the first major construction by renowned British architect Sir James Stirling. Created on the site of a former car park, the square has become the university's main public realm space and pedestrian crossroads, designed as an outdoor meeting place for staff, students and visitors. Earlier works included new paving, soft landscaping and lighting, powerpoints and WiFi infrastructure. The latest phase of works has introduced extensive seating and planter provision, all required to be freestanding so it can be moved around the square according to the space required for events such as Freshers' week. Furnitubes' RailRoad range of planters and seating was the ideal choice for this application, as modules can be joined together (and also readily disassembled) to create large stable structures without the need to permanently fix them to the ground. To aid manoeuvrability, planters were designed with higher-than-normal feet to allow access beneath for a low level pallet truck to quickly move the products around the site. In addition to the RailRoad range, other products supplied to the scheme include Hollo stools, bespoke Elements Goalpost table and bench picnic sets, and Arca dual compartment litter and recycling bins.



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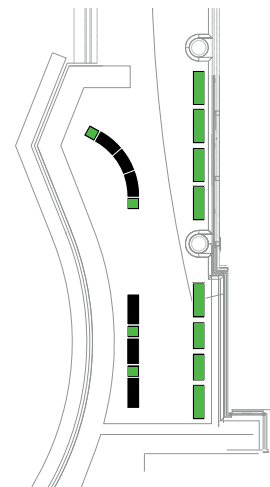


## RAILROAD PLANTERS & INTEGRATED SEATING



### Case study: Westquay, Southampton

Located in central Southampton, close to the city's docks, Westquay is an 800,000 square feet shopping centre spread over four levels and containing 150 retail units and restaurants. The original development was opened in 2000, and in 2016 was expanded to include Westquay South - a leisure destination housing over 20 restaurants, a 10-screen cinema and a bowling alley. A 4,000 space multi-storey car park is located on the opposite side of Harbour Parade to the shopping centre, linked to it by two high level pedestrian bridges. Where the bridges connect to the shopping centre there is a wide raised walkway along the Harbour Parade side of Westquay North. West-facing, the walkway offers a sunny aspect for much of the year and the client was keen to offer visitors the opportunity to enjoy this under-used outdoor space by providing seating and planting in the area. Furnitubes' RailRoad range suited this site perfectly, allowing seating and planter modules to be joined and therefore be sufficiently heavy and stable to be used freestanding (so avoiding the need for intrusive foundations). Seating has been provided for up to 20 people, and 12 new planters introduce greenery to this previously somewhat austere building facade, creating an attractive setting for Westquay visitors to stop, rest for a moment and enjoy the outdoors on their walk between the car park and shopping centre.





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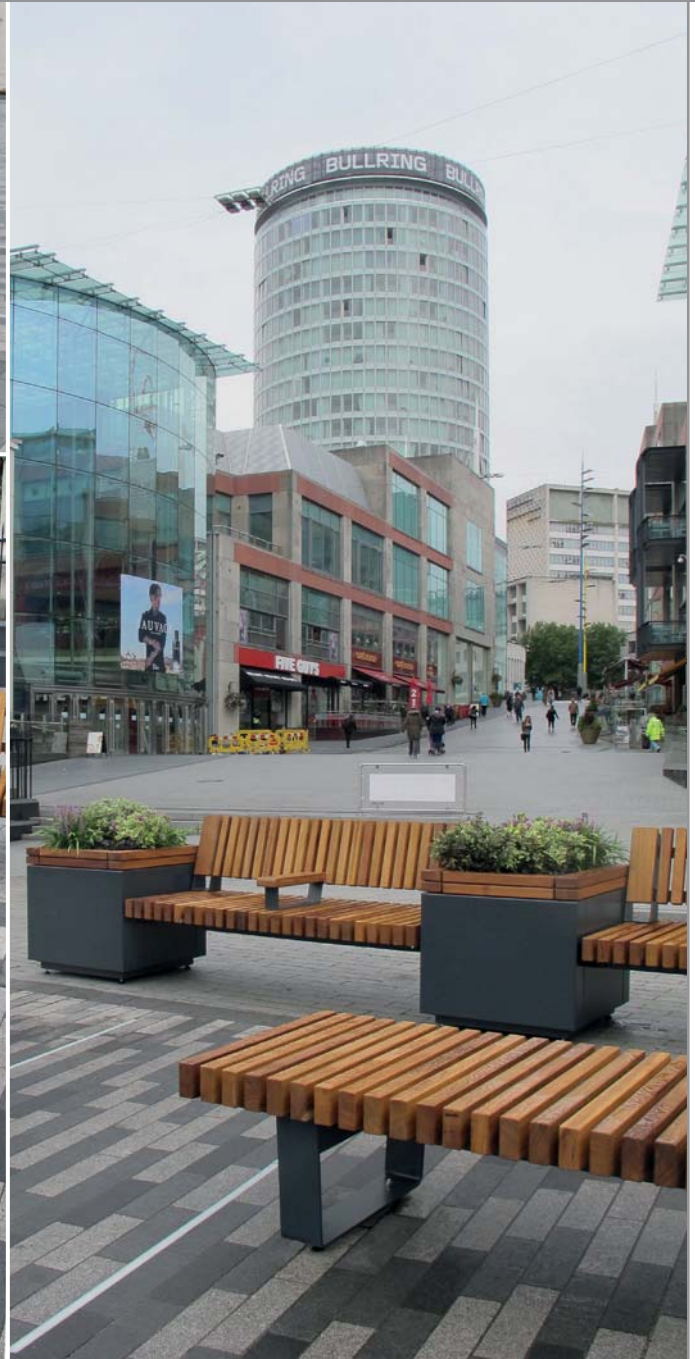
### Case study: Birmingham Bullring

The Bull Ring has been at the commercial heart of Birmingham since the Middle Ages, when a market was first held on the site. The first Bull Ring Shopping Centre was constructed in the early 1960s, comprising a mixture of open-air market stalls and a new indoor shopping centre - the first development of its kind in the UK - which at the time was considered the height of modernity. The Brutalist architecture of the Bull Ring did not age well though and its isolation within ring roads connected only by pedestrian subways was disliked by the public and contributed to the perception of Birmingham as a concrete jungle. After many years in the planning, the redeveloped and renamed Bullring opened in 2003 to popular and critical acclaim, including a RIBA Award for Architecture for the iconic Selfridges store. The development combined indoor malls and new exterior public realm focused around the Church of St Martin in the Bull Ring, the original parish church of Birmingham. The split level piazza offers a sunny south facing aspect and attractive views over the church and the city beyond. Whilst this area included some seating in-built to some steps, capacity was limited and the surroundings rather austere. The RailRoad range was the perfect solution to increasing seating provision and introducing planting. In total 18 planters and 12 seating modules were supplied (and all assembled on site in one overnight) to create an informal arrangement and with all seating connected to heavy planters, none of the products required permanently fixing down, so giving the flexibility of being able to easily rearrange the products or add further modules in future.





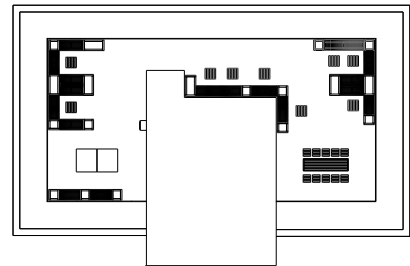
## RAILROAD PLANTERS & INTEGRATED SEATING



## RAILROAD PLANTERS & INTEGRATED SEATING

### Case study: Roof Garden to Green Dragon House, Croydon

Located in the heart of Croydon, Green Dragon House was an anonymous and vacant 1960s-built office building prior to its redevelopment into 119 award-winning one and two bedroom luxury apartments. With its High Street main entrance between retail premises and service yard to the rear, there was no scope for any significant outdoor amenity space for the residents at ground level. The answer was therefore a roof garden on the 10th floor, affording stunning views over Croydon and into central London, and beyond - the arch of Wembley Stadium some 20 miles away is even visible on a clear day. The garden includes an outdoor kitchen and barbecue, a table tennis table, and seating for over 60 residents and their guests, with shade (and rain) cover provided by two tensile fabric canopies. Furnitubes' RailRoad design was the perfect choice for Green Dragon House, with its modular design allowing seating and planters to be linked to create large structures that can be left freestanding, without the need to bolt down into and potentially compromise the waterproof roof membrane. The RailRoad products were complemented by the use of Hollo range coffee tables, and a bespoke dining table with Hollo stools completed the suite of products supplied.





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