

SITE OF THE MONTH - WATTON (Carillion)

In September 2010 we were awarded a contract to construct a new Switch House for Carillion Utility Services at EDF's Watton Sub-station site in Norfolk.

The Switch House is designed by Robert Stone Associates from Wymondham and measures 17 metres, by 5 metres wide, and 4 metres high. The foundations consist of a 1 metre deep base slab with perimeter walls, which are subsequently backfilled. Cable trenches are formed in the 'basement' using raised access flooring, and timber trench sheets supported on steel angles.

The frame of the building is steel section, with brickwork / blockwork walls, and a 'Kingspan' clad roof. The photograph shows the internal blockwork under construction.



Externally, a concrete bellmouth provides a new access off the existing country lane. A sub-base car-park area is to be provided, with minor drainage work and stoned areas completing the works.

The contract is being ably run by Ken Richards, with assistance from Brian Bvuma (engineering) and Patsy Morgan (general grafting) and follows on from Drinkstone, completed last year for the same Client.

Progress is improving after the recent bad weather and we are aiming to hand over the building to Carillion at the end of February for their electrical fit out. We return in the summer to complete our finishing works.

Mr. Dave Pattinson - Contracts Manager

Substation Ear Defenders

Be aware that working inside Transformer Noise Enclosures can concentrate the noise and the noise frequency/vibration effect due to the sound waves bouncing off brick walls. Tests at Lister Drive Substation have shown that the softer Neoprene earplugs are the most effective together with the wearing of ear defenders as an added benefit.

Discuss the work/PPE requirements with your Site Manager before commencing any work activity.

Mr. Ken Durham - Contracts Director

NEW CONTRACTS

C20/10 Melton Mowbray

The first site of a batch of Central Networks substation modification works for Balfour Beatty Eng. Services. A small scheme but in a difficult environment.

C01/11 Nestle Small Works

Nestle continue to provide small projects to keep us busy at Tutbury and now also some investigation work at their Hayes Factory in London.

C02/11 Daventry

The 2nd Central Networks/Balfours project. A foundation/basement structure for a prefabricated switchroom building.

Mr. Mark Clarke - Commercial Director

POTENTIAL CONTACTS

The business development department is always looking to improve relationships and ascertain new contacts.

If any individual knows of a contact that is worth contacting or keeping in touch with, please provide the business development department with details.

PRAISE FILE

The business development department have also introduced a "praise file" – this file is based on quotes from clients whom have sent comments of praise for good workmanship achieved on projects. This information helps the department to sell the company.

If anyone receives praise from clients, again please forward to the business development department.



Miss Melanie J Cartlidge - Business Development Manager

- TO ACHIEVE A ZERO ACCIDENT RECORD IN 2011
- TO INCREASE TURNOVER TO £11.5M
- TO ACHIEVE A PROFIT MARGIN OF 2%
- TO CONTINUALLY IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS OPERATIONS TO THE BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS AND STAFF

C07/10 Lincs Onshore (Siemens)

The arctic conditions in December raised the concern of frostbite and then the wet conditions and thawing in the New Year resulted in treacherous muddy conditions and the concern switched to trenchfoot! Despite the challenging conditions, excellent progress has been made with the huge dump tank now installed and backfilled releasing the area for the completion of associated structures. A huge thank you to all involved on site whose determination, patience and commitment it truly appreciated. A special thanks to those who turned in during the Christmas break to keep the programme progressing. We now continue with the extended working hours and weekend working as requested by Siemens in an attempt to meet their tight milestone dates.

C08/10 Spring Gardens (Balfour Beatty Engineering Services Ltd)

Timing is everything and we have been trying to screed and waterproof the control room roof since the middle of December, we are nearly there. The poor weather has been very frustrating but we have still managed to allow our clients access so that their works may progress. Ian, Dave, and Carl can now see the light at the end of the tunnel.

C10/10 Eade Road Demolition (National Grid)

The work was substantially complete for Christmas. Some of the brick work walling has over run due to the poor weather. The client has got what they needed for the follow on tunnel works.

C11/10 Lister Drive (National Grid)

Oil containment scheme for National Grid in Liverpool, Job progressing well and heading for completion At the end of March / early April. A job well done by all involved especially the site team lead by Ashley Carlin with Dave Baker along with Steve Steel and Chris Davies and welcome to the new starters Alan Lewis, Pete Divers and Kevin Best.

C12/10 West Bolden (National Grid)

Oil containment scheme for National Grid, site was hit by the severe weather in December recording approximately 18 inches of snow so slow start to the contract but with the site now all clear works can progress again. Site being lead by John Insley aided by Ross Venton and Brian Bvuma along with Ian Sheppard and Alun Jones.

C15/10 Skelton Grange (National Grid)

Oil containment scheme for National Grid, site has finally thawed out and work is now carrying on contract aiming for completion again late March early April after which the site team should move onto the next OC scheme for National Grid at Kirkstall substation. Craig Cooper is site manager for the contract aided by Pete Edwards, Emma Asquith and Richard Howell. Keep up the good work everyone.

C17/10 Watton (Carillion)

Reasonable progress is being made on site with erection of the steelwork frame now complete. Blockwork / brickwork have now commenced but the cold weather severely disrupted progress before Christmas. The New Year has brought better weather and roof erection is due to be undertaken at the end of the month. (see also site of the month)

C18/10 St John's Wood (National Grid)

The works were slowed down by a number of factors including the weather but critically the new electrified fence was operational for Christmas. The refurbishment works and demolition works are now progressing in tandem and it is a race to the finish line as who will complete first. The two jockey's are Jake and Rob ably assisted by Bujar.

C20/10 Melton Mowbray (Belfour Beatty Engineering Services Ltd)

This is the first of a batch of jobs from Belfour Beatty for Central Networks. The client has already expressed his appreciation for the careful excavation technique as we have avoided damaging some unmarked cables. Andy, Dan and Carl are the site team. The follow jobs are Daventry, Checker House, and Hucknall with hopefully more to come.

C01/11 Nestle Tutbury (Nestle UK)

A new year, a great deal of visiting and pricing and the beginning of another busy year at Nestle (we hope!). Site team are ready for whatever's thrown at them including the Egron Tower Penthouse for which the order is imminent. Kevin, Dan, Lee, Carl and Mark will all be undertaking SPA Food Passport training in the near future.

EMPLOYEE NOTICEBOARD



Professional Exam Results



Congratulations to Ben Brookes and Jake Manning for obtaining Charter and Incorporated Engineer Status with the Institution of Civil Engineers. Hard work has paid off with much appreciated assistance from mentors Jeff Green and John Cassidy. I hope this gives encouragement to others on the progression.
Mr Ken. Durham - Contracts Director

New Arrival

Bujar Cani and his wife Orsela are celebrating the birth of a new baby girl. Baby Abela was born on Friday 21st January with a weight of 6lbs. Congratulations Bujar and Orsela from everyone at Alpha!

DRIVERS BEWARE

Extra care should be taken when opening car windows in the extreme cold weather. Make sure your window is not frozen before pressing the button. A frozen window runs the risk of burning out the window regulator and a hefty bill for the repair. (Approximately £250.00).



Andrea & Dave Pattinson

The office staff gave Andrea and Dave a good send off, as they arrange to depart for their new life in New Zealand. Andrea has been with the company since 2003 and she has been instrumental in creating and implementing our Integrated Management System. Our thanks go to both Andrea and Dave for their hard work and we wish them well as they start their new life on the other side of the world.



New Starter

Emily Knight joined Alpha Construction in the new year and has settled in quickly as part of the Alpha team. We wish Emily the best of luck in her role of Business Development Assistant.

Employee Representative for all HSE Matters

Please remember your employee rep is Ken Richards. Ken is always available if you wish to talk to him about any concerns you may have regarding HSE matters or any suggestions for improving our systems of work.
Ken's mobile number is 07717 580115.



Happy Birthday!

We wish Stewart McLeod many happy returns on achieving his 60th birthday. His retirement countdown continues with 59 more payslips to go!

