

Site of the Month - Pinxton (Balfour Beatty Engineering)

The Substation has been built to supply power for Castlewood Business Park just off Junction 28 of the M1 Motorway.



The contract is a 'Design and Build' for our client Balfour Beatty Engineering (formerly Cruickshanks). The ultimate client is E.ON Energy Services and the project is valued at £1m. The site is located under the Chesterfield 132Kv overhead line from which the power is being taken and transformed down to 11Kv.

The Pinxton Substation 132/11Kv contract began in the snow in January 2009 and involved establishing an agreed substation level minimising the amount of spoil removed from site. We have constructed 2 no. Grid Transformers and associated bases for electrical equipment along with a control building and 2 no. access roads. There were no existing site services and these have all been brought to the site.



The works were substantially completed by the end of August but due to operational requirements we have had a series of visits right through to this December. The site manager and his team have produced an excellent standard of work. The main Alpha team consisted of Carl Rickerby, Dale Sneddon, Bob Marsh, Allun Jones, Chris

Davis, Ryan McGinley & Ron Wakelin. We have also had considerable help from many other Alpha people who have all contributed to a successful Project.

John Cassidy - Senior Contracts Manager

PROPERTY & BUSINESS INVESTMENT In The East Midlands



For the second year running Alpha Construction exhibited at the East Midlands Property and Business Investment show held at the Nottingham Conference Centre. The show was a great success with many vital contacts being made and the opportunity to develop existing relationships that we hope will lead to new business opportunities in the new year. We would like to thank Nestle for their extra support at the show by allowing us to promote our work on the Omni building and by supplying Alpha with a brand new Dolce machine to use at the show. As Alpha continues to grow as does our presence at the exhibitions, which is something we are looking to further develop next year.

Near Miss Reporting



We are currently undergoing a re-launch of our "Near Miss" reporting procedure, partly as a result of Client involvement (with their supply chain), and partly as a method to raise the level of our own Health, Safety and Environmental performance.

As such, I will be visiting most of our sites during the next few weeks to carry out a short presentation highlighting the reason for "Near Miss" reporting and the benefits it will bring. It is directed at Site Managers and operatives alike, but will also involve our own supply chain – any sub-contractors on site will be encouraged to attend.

There are many positive lessons to be learnt from "Near Miss" reporting and a proactive response from all individuals on site will bring about an improvement in our own performance and our standing within the industry.

Dave Pattinson – Contracts Manager

Recent Contract Awards

C08/09 Eaton Socon OC

The Oil Containment Scheme continues with this £625,000 contract for NG that kicked off in October and runs for 16 weeks.



C15/09 Laleham Substation

£100,000 job for Siemens will keep the lads ticking over the Christmas period with a completion date set for 07/01/2010.

C14/09 Creyke Beck GIS

Following the success of Iver, Reading and Wakefield, Alpha look once again to impress ABB with the construction of this GIS building on the existing YEDL Sub. The contract is worth £1,577,000 and will run through to summer 2010.



C16/09 BV Dairies - Dorchester

This is a first time contract with BV Dairies and Kirk Environmental in which we have been contracted to construct reinforced concrete circular tanks, bases and infill slab with supporting civils. This project is worth just under £150,000 and runs for 11 weeks, beginning mid November.

Material Inspections

Laing O'Rourke and construction equipment supplier SGB Services have been fined a total of £105,000 after one man died and another was seriously injured when a concrete slab collapsed at Heathrow Airport in 2005. The incident occurred despite earlier recall of defective equipment. The HSE inspector summarised the event saying, "this could have been prevented if both companies had more robust systems in place. This case demonstrates an extremely serious failure of both the contractor and supplier to ensure the materials they supplied for the work were fit for purpose."

How it Happened:

Threaded shoring adaptors securing parts of the temporary works structure were found to be part of a substandard batch made for SGB. Two of the adapters suffered "catastrophic failure" resulting in the collapse and 17m plummet of the concrete slab. The HSE found Laing O'Rourke did not have adequate inspection systems for the adapters and had not removed the substandard adaptors from use when warned.



C09/07 Hendon (Siemens)

One final visit required next month to gravel the compound area following Siemens' (cabin) departure from site. All snagging completed, final account agreed and paid. As far as the Client (and Alpha) are concerned, our contract has been a success – well done to all those involved with the project.

C18/08 Market Harborough (Purepower)

A start on site is still dependent upon the successful commissioning at Huntingdon, which is still imminent.

C04/09 Epping (Freedom)

We returned to site last month and completed the laying of gravel to the transformer bunds and compound area, completed the compound fencing, and relocated the gates. The remaining contract work to construct a VT base has been delayed until next spring and, as such, has been removed from our scope of work. The contract is therefore complete – again well done to all involved.

C14/09 Creyke Beck (ABB)

We commenced work on site this month and have begun with trial holing, cable and trench protection, and palisade fencing. The foundations are due for completion by Christmas, with the steel frame to be erected early in the New Year. Design work by Jenkins & Potter nears completion.

C07/09 West Side Warehouse (Nestle UK)

The warehouse works are progressing well, we have carried out substantial piling & drainage works and we are now in the process of casting ground beams to the perimeter of the proposed building. The standards of workmanship and general site behaviour are very high and our client, Nestle UK, do appreciate this. As we are working in and around a 'live' food factory it make these high standards a must.

C06/08 – Iver GIS (ABB)

Congratulations to Ben, John, Brian and all who have been involved in achieving the dust free handover date for the internal building, despite numerous set backs throughout the proceedings. External works for phase 2 are now nearing completion too with roads and paths ready for Tarmac. We will return in the New Year to complete the landscaping and weld mesh fencing, but until then a big thank you and once again congratulations to all who have been and still are involved in delivering this scheme.

C09/09 – Wakefield B GIS (ABB)

Excellent progress has been made since the last newsletter, the steelwork structure is up, the roof on, the crane in and the spine wall and 1st floor slab cast - we now await the stripping of the first floor falsework to allow the wall cladding to commence. An excellent effort by all involved in this scheme and keep up the good work; it'll soon be Christmas and the dust free date will be looming. At least the majority of the remaining works are inside the building now, out of any inclement weather we are dealt!

C16/09 – BV Dairies (Kirk Environmental)

We are now 2 weeks in to an 11 week programme to undertake the civils on this Anaerobic Digestion plant for a Dairy in Shaftesbury, Dorset. Our scope includes a cut and fill exercise, circular concrete tank bases, drainage, ducting, access road, concrete infill bases and a wiremesh fencing surround. Carl Rickerby, Andy Poole, Bob Marsh, Chris Davies and Ryan McGinley have been involved in these early stages, the first milestone being the completion of the tank bases for Christmas. Well done to all involved for keeping the works on track and maintaining an impressive site set up for a new client to Alpha.

EMPLOYEE NOTICEBOARD

Alpha Sponsor FBE Launch

The Forum for the Built Environment (FBE) launched their Derby Branch under Alpha Construction's Sponsorship at the Quad in Derby City Centre. Our very own Anthony Bamford was there for the opening presentation. FBE organiser Adrienne Vaughan was delighted with the event and the full capacity turnout.



The HSE has launched a new and extremely modern initiative in order to improve their communication throughout the construction industry. By following links on their website you will be able to download monthly podcasts direct to your laptop or MP3 player, keeping you up to date on current issues such as Asbestos Awareness.



Nestle



The Nestle Lights

They might not have had a talent show runner up (who no one will recognise this time next year) to switch on their lights but Nestlé's new illuminations on the side of their bag filter building sure do beat the ones found in most home towns.

The new factory lights will be visible to all passing through the village and adds a brilliant final touch to our Bag Filter Building project. The different colour patches represent the colours used in the Dolce Gusto range.

HSE REPRESENTATIVE

If you have any issues or suggestions over any Health, Safety or Environmental aspects please contact your employee representative **Mr Ken Richards**. (Mobile No 07717 580115)

FIRST AIDERS FOR HEAD OFFICE

The trained first aider for Head Office is Gavin Knight. If you are interested in taking a First Aid course then please contact Gavin on: 01283 733622 OR gavin.knight@alphaconstruction.co.uk

