

## Site of the Month - Ilkeston



**Contract Value: £800,000**

**Client: Ward Recycling**

This contract involved the civil engineering works and the design operations for the new shredder installation at Ward Recycling in Ilkeston, Derbyshire and to provide new facilities around the shredder installation.

The new scheme involved the construction of new large concrete foundations and plinths for the actual shredder installation along with a new 2 storey steel framed electrical control building and overhead gantry crane to service the new shredder. Other works included the installation of two new oil interceptors, two new weighbridges and a new weighbridge office.

Overall this was a successful contract delivered in a timely manner under difficult construction constraints.

Credit to Ken Richards and his team for the amount of effort they have piled into this project.

*Alan Jackson (Contracts Manager)*

## Semi-Automatic Quick Hitches



From the 1st October 2008 European suppliers and manufacturers of Semi-Automatic Quick Hitches have entered into a voluntary agreement to cease exports to the UK of these devices. The changes comes into force after agreements between the HSE & UK industry.

This decision was reached after four fatal incidents; all involving these semi-automatic quick hitch devices in the twelve month period between December 2006 and November 2007.

Further information and guidance is available at [www.hse.gov.uk/construction/quickhitch.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/quickhitch.htm)

## Economic Changes Effecting Alpha

In the past couple of months all the departments have echoed the change in the economy and the Buying Department are no different. Changes in the market have increased the procurement process with more suppliers desperate for business (especially in the aggregates market) as well as unstable prices, the teams workload has increased. However it is not all bad news with the cost of reinforcement and fuel falling by the day.

One tip from Alpha's buyers is to look towards local suppliers for cheaper costs and more efficient service but please make Stewart and Pete aware of these suppliers. Stewart and Pete would also like to advise employees to think ahead as the normal material we purchase are now becoming less available locally due to suppliers reducing their stock value. They also advice of expected large increases in the prices of Aggregates / Readymix due 01/01/09.

*Stewart McLeod & Peter Bradshaw (Buying Dept.)*



## Alpha In 2008



As we approach the end of the year I thought I should update you on how we are performing against the Business Targets we set for 2008.

### • Turnover:

The turnover for this year will be in the region of £10.9 Million which is behind our target but still a great achievement. The delay in commencing the Iver Project has seen over £1m of workload pushed back into 2009.

### • Profit:

We are on course to exceed the 3% profit margin target. This has been achieved in part by reducing the budgeted company overhead cost by over 5%.

### • Accidents:

We have so far had no reportable accidents this year, and one lost time incident. This one incident does however mean that we will not meet our zero accident target, however it is still an excellent achievement.

### • Fuel Usage:

We are once again on target for reducing all fuel usage both at the office and on sites. Key savings have been secured in the office by the new energy efficient gas central heating boilers and by not leaving computers on standby over night.

*Rob Smith (Managing Director)*

## Recent Contract Awards

### C13/08 Pinxton:

Construction of £830k worth of completely new 132/33kV electricity substation with Cruickshanks, starting on site in November the job is expected to take around 7 months to complete.

### C14/08 Nestle Workshop:

Yet another scheme just starting for Nestle at Tutbury, construction of a single story extension to the workshop, value £380k due to finish next March.

### C15/08 Hurst and Tottenham:

Two transformer bund upgrades for Siemens with a value of £230k.

### C16/08 Spring Gardens:

A £50k "design only" job for Cruickshanks for a scheme in Shrewsbury, which hopefully will lead on to become a construction order early next year.

### 17/08 HV Substation Intake:

Tutbury again but this time working for Freedom Network Solutions, bringing a new electricity supply cable into the Nestle factory, 11 weeks duration with a value of £140k.

*Mark Clarke (Commercial Director)*





# CONTRACT NEWS

### C10/07 – Rolls Royce (Cullum Detuners)

Congratulations to Carl Rickerby for completing this project ahead of programme ably assisted by Brian, Greg & Ben with Steve, Buzz, John Y, Matthew Pointon, Chris and occasional assistance from a variety of sub contract labour. Now we await the inaugural duck flinging which will finally prove Nick Landers catch fence!

### C04/08 – Waltham Cross OC (National Grid)

This project commenced on the 20 October, as per contract programme, although we have suffered a somewhat slow start due to SAP illness. Good luck to Ash, Pete and co in delivering this project; our first Oil Containment scheme in the South for sometime. Joining the Site is new starter Steven Steel.

### C06/08 – Iver GIS (ABB)

After the discovery of asbestos in the green field where this £1.5M GIS hall was due to be constructed, the land remediation works have finally started prior to our re-establishment on site. We expect to recommence our main works on site in January 2009.

### C07/08 – Reading GIS (ABB)

Following the success of the completed enabling works, the main works commenced on 27 October 2008 in earnest with the site strip and installation of the piling mat. Best of luck to Greg, Ben and all those whose services will be called on to deliver this £1.5M project by 18 May 2009!

### C15/08 - Hurst & Tottenham Shunt Reactors (Siemens)

Both sites on this Siemens project involve the renewal of bundwalls and bases which will house new shunt reactors. Both sites have intense programmes, although the client has delayed both starts already! Substantial completion was planned for before Christmas although we eagerly await further news with regards to this and the potential for acceleration. Good luck to Bob on Hurst, which will be the first to commence and Keith on Tottenham.

### C13/07 - Stony Stratford (Cruickshanks)

The works are on programme and going well. The site has recently enjoyed a covering of snow but I am sure this did not deter Andy, Dave, Gary, Steve P, Ian or Steve from producing the goods. A Carl was reportedly on site last month but he failed to notify the site manager.

### C12,14,17/08, - Nestle (UK)

We are working on three main projects at the moment, the Tempering Silo, Workshop and HV Cable Works. Kevin and Jake seem to have it all under control, ably assisted by Keith, John, Mark, Dan, Jimmy and Carl.

### C09/08 - Northfleet (National Grid)

The works are progressing well and we are on programme. Ben has just left site to assist on Reading and has been replaced by Dale, who I am sure is enjoying the company of John, Carl, Dave and Michael.

### C01/08 Monk Fryston (National Grid)

Oil containment contract for national grid contract is heading for a finish towards the end of the year Craig Cooper now in control after Ash left to go to Waltham cross. Craig has also been joined with new starter Alan Jones. Good luck Alan and well done guys keep up the good work.

### C08/08 Ilkeston (Ward Recycling)

The original contract for the shredder installation is now complete and is ready for activation during November. We are now focusing on the weighbridge construction Ken Richards and the team doing a great job keep up the good work

### C10/08 Mercia Marina (Land and Water)

Works onsite have now been completed with the installation of the drainage and the completion of the works to the dry dock, a successful job for a new client. Well done to all those involved with the contract

### C11/08 Huntingdon Energy Plant (Pure Power)

Site establishment was 6/10/08 and the earthworks and temporary concrete retaining walls have been progressing well. This will be a challenging project for Jason with the assistance of Rob Little who is also mopping up work on SJW & LUL contracts. Ron, Chris and Buja have contributed to this good start

# EMPLOYEE NOTICEBOARD

## Construction Excellence Award



Alpha were shortlisted for its work on the Nestle Omni project at this years Construction Excellence East Midlands Regional Awards which took place on Tuesday 14th

October at the Nottingham Conference Centre.

The event launched by EMCBE and Chaired by the former BBC correspondent Kevin Bocquet; showcase excellence and to reward achievement from organisations and project teams that have achieved regional acclaim.

Sadly Alpha did not win in their categories however we are all still very proud that our work has been recognised and shortlisted for not just one but four awards, including: Project of the Year, Value Award, Innovation and Integrated Collaborative Work.



## Hurst Setters New Website



The new and improved Hurst Setter website contains all your health, safety and environmental needs. The Website also contains information on the training courses being held by Hurst Setter and links to corporate bodies and institutions such as IOSH & HSE.



## Company IMS Forms

All sites were issued with a CD containing the latest versions of our IMS record forms. Please ensure that you only use these forms and not previous versions which may still be on your PCs / laptops. This disc is a working progress so we desperately need your feedback on any problems or suggested improvements that you may have. We will be reviewing the disc soon so please get your feedback in as soon as possible.



## HSE Employee Surveys

There are many forms still outstanding, please ensure that you return them as soon as possible. Your comments are important to us and you can be assured that we will be looking at all the issues raised. Thank you to those of you who have already completed and returned them.

## 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 aiders for Head Office are; **Tony Bamford and Gavin Knight**.