

# GROUND *breaker*

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Since our last edition of **GROUNDbreaker**, times have remained hard in the construction industry. Within BAUER, by sticking to our strategy of large challenging projects, we have remained active, particularly on the complex Pembroke Jetty Project and the prestigious Tottenham Court Road Station Upgrade Project together with our partner Keller Foundations (operating as BAUER Keller JV).

Our team have remained positive and upbeat during these difficult times. They have shown great flexibility and understanding whilst remaining

committed to our principals in all that we do. This includes early design assistance, by providing value engineering solutions to give our clients the edge over their competitors. Comprehensive and well presented offers emphasise our technical and resourcing advantages, in addition to detailed project planning to facilitate the smooth running and early identification of any problems in the most complex projects.

I am also extremely proud that since commencing operations in 2008 we have now received

our second ISO accreditation from Lloyds Register in the form of ISO18001 which emphasises our dedication to the highest standards of Health & Safety (see page 3 for more details).

Our success to date is based on pulling together as a team and within this issue of **GROUNDbreaker** we would like to introduce you to a few members of our team.

Michael Jones  
Managing Director  
**BAUER Technologies**

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## Ian Dales

TENDERING MANAGER

On first meeting with BAUER Technologies in 2008 to discuss joining their fast growing estimating team, I explained that my aim was to return to the heavy duty end of the deep foundations market. By that I meant large diameter, deep piles and diaphragm walling

in the UK's most challenging projects. I hadn't at that time expected that within months I'd be thrust headlong into such a fantastically challenging project as the Tottenham Court Road Station Upgrade project.

Bauer Keller JV are now actively engaged on the extensive deep foundation works at Tottenham Court Road and will be present until Summer 2011.

Keller is a perfect partner for BAUER on the London Station Upgrade projects and other Crossrail schemes. We prefer to stick to our 'core competencies' of large diameter piling, secant pile walling and diaphragm walling, whereas Keller are arguably UK market leaders in specialist grouting, ground improvement and

limited access work.

BAUER Technologies are known as specialists in performing small numbers of 'mega projects' (from projects acquired to date, average project value = £8m) but are relatively new to the UK market. Keller on the other hand have more commonly been involved in a high number of smaller value projects and have a long history in the UK.

We see Tottenham Court Road and other major London Station Upgrade projects as a key market in our future development where we can work closely with a main contractor from an early stage.

We know that the technical and commercial strength of our works can be an important factor in the final decision over who is awarded the Main

Contract. The team from BAUER looking at these difficult projects includes support from BAUER's senior designer Peter Gollub from the highly experienced technical department in Germany. To be able to draw on Peter's team's vast experience in developing and constructing the most complex foundation solutions in the world's most difficult environments means that we are able to provide second to none support in looking into value engineering solutions. Effectively our early involvement means that we are able to act as if we are the main contractor's in-house company.

On bidding these major projects, we are supported by our excellent Technical Manager Yvonne Ainsworth (who is now on site at

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Tottenham Court Road as our Project Manager) and throughout the bidding period from Hans Kraxenberger (Piling) and Christoph Schroepfel (Diaphragm Walling) both from our Parent Company in Germany. The support level we are able to gain from Germany is staggering and it's very reassuring for me to experience the full assistance from all areas of the BAUER Group.

Christoph has been involved in all of BAUER's major worldwide diaphragm/cut off wall projects

over the last 5 years, ranging from the 116m deep Peribonka Dam wall in Quebec, to the Istanbul Metro Project linking Europe to Asia under the Bosphorus, to the logistically, climatically, and geologically challenging Merowe Dam project in Northern Sudan. Not forgetting the emergency 98m deep 'rescue' circular shaft on the Cairo Metro project to recover a lost TBM machine. His assistance, planning and advice in preparing the diaphragm wall bids is invaluable.



Tottenham Court Road Station Upgrade, London

## Digging deep TO COMPLETE PEMBROKE JETTY

One of our more tricky projects to-date, BAUER Technologies has completed works to install 20 piles on a 50-year-old jetty on the Severn Estuary at the site of the new 2000MW, Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Station, to support the Liebherr LGD 1750 and its safe off-loading of five 400 tonne turbines as a part of the power station construction.



### Carl Dunsire SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER

The installation included 4 piles located off the end of the jetty reaching into the tidal zone of the

Milford Haven Estuary, which on a 1960's constructed jetty, acknowledged to be in no condition to support the 100-tonne rig, was particularly risky. Add the SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) status of the area and the environmental risks, in addition to the Health and Safety issues meant a no compromise approach had to be adopted.

BAUER chose its rotary system for the job, using thick walled casing with tungsten carbide cutting teeth rotated to toe using BAUER's powerful BG28 rig. For the marine piles, 1220mm diameter casing and 19mm thick were fitted with BAUER spec cutting teeth, to ensure penetration through the boulders.

Speaking about the project BAUER's Project Manager Carl Dunsire said "Everything about

this project was big except for the working space, and there was a genuine risk that if we got something wrong, we would lose our 1.2 million Euro rig to the sea - and it doesn't float!"

Carl added "The BAUER rig movements and piling locations had to be planned weeks ahead with the tracks located on large crane mats embedded into the piling platform. Two safety boats in contact with the Coast Guard, patrolled the icy waters around the jetty, which itself was bunded to prevent an accidental discharge into the protected environment.

Work was undertaken 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to complete the piling and ensure that the tight deadline was met as the ships in Rotterdam were on equally tight schedules to depart."

Taking just one month from start date to completion in March 2010, the work was successfully completed with the 1700 tonne crane now in place and already undertaking its heavy lifts to offload the turbines.



Pembroke Jetty, Pembroke



## Jim Finbow

HEALTH & SAFETY  
MANAGER

On joining BAUER Technologies in 2008, my brief from Michael Jones was that Health & Safety is to be our number one priority and our aim is to be the company with the best three year HSE statistics in the UK piling and diaphragm wall market.

Whilst other parts of the company charged forward towards technical excellence and market awareness, I've been privileged to experience the company's unwavering support in regards to all proposals and recommendations in relation

*Jim Finbow, Health & Safety Manager, BAUER Technologies. Jim is IOSH qualified with over 10 years experience in the field of Health & Safety.*

to achieving our HSE goal.

In order to ensure compliance with our move towards 'Behavioural Safety', any BAUER Technologies site has a full-time Health & Safety Manager based on site. This has resulted in rave reviews from clients as they view our staff's attempts to perform every duty in the safest manner.

We have set up structured systems with a tough programme of independent accreditations allowing us to be regularly audited by external bodies to ensure compliance. We agreed that BAUER would gain Quality, Health & Safety and Environmental accreditations from ISO (9001, 18001 and 14001).

Achieving these accreditations and qualifications is a positive step in the development of our company's systems, as they serve to reassure clients not only with a good and reliable product, but also to demonstrate a sound business strategy of learning, development and improvement.

Additionally holding these accreditations is often a prerequisite to gain entry onto active tender lists, therefore something of a priority for BAUER to remain in the UK market.

With one major project already completed by BAUER on my arrival, I was to be based on-site at Newport working on Severn Power CCGT for Siemens, a large piling project (up to 8 piling rigs of different types). One big advantage of bringing BAUER's international experience to the UK market was that the highest levels of HSE standards were set as the benchmark for our staff and they have accepted this as the required UK standard without having a 'well I've always done it that way for 20 years so why should I change' attitude.

The systems were developed around our needs, our methods and our client's needs. At an early stage critical control points were identified in our processes with flowcharts then used to document

input to and output from these processes. In simplifying our systems by replacing typewritten procedures with flowcharts, we improved the ease of understanding and usage. We are delighted that in a short period of time we have completed the accreditation process for both ISO 9001 (July 2009) and ISO 18001 (May 2010) with ISO 14001 soon to follow.

### LINK-UP: RAILWAY SUPPLIER QUALIFICATION

Any company who wants to work on or near a rail line has to be able demonstrate a high level of HSE standards and the development of a management system. It was decided in 2009 that BAUER Technologies has the necessary systems in place to progress towards Link-Up qualification. We have applied for Link-Up and our final audit is planned to be completed by end of August 2010.

## PEMBROKE POWER STATION PROJECT 2009 Inaugural 'Pride in Plant' AWARD

The respect BAUER's employees show for the equipment is of the utmost importance, therefore we instigated a scheme on-site whereby a member of staff is rewarded for taking pride in the piece of plant or equipment they use and maintain during a project. This is not limited to large pieces of equipment such as a BG28, but includes all plant, equipment and tools.

The reward is presented towards the end of the project and although the criteria is not based on a fixed formula, the following is taken into account before deciding who is the worthy

recipient of the Award:

- The manner in which the member of staff interacts and works within the team.
- How the individual looks after their plant/equipment.
- How many breakdowns have occurred due to lack of maintenance?
- Is the plant/equipment safe to use and used safely?

The Award forms part of BAUER Technologies continuous improvement programme to reward their employees for going 'the extra mile'. In doing



*Pride in Plant Award presentation to Billy Byron on-site at Pembroke Power Station*

this it also helps to promote a positive site culture where team members at the front line are encouraged to highlight areas

for possible improvement and present those ideas to the site management for discussion and possible implementation.

And the winners are...

# GROUND *breaker*



## CHAMPAGNE CELEBRATIONS AS Barhale Construction Plc

### SCOOP PRIZE DRAW

Rod Jones, Contracts Manager for Barhale Construction Plc, was the lucky winner of BAUER's prize draw, a competition run by BAUER at the London Tunnelling Event in October 2009. Michael Jones, MD of BAUER Technologies, was delighted to meet with Rod Young and present him with his prize - a fabulous case of champagne.



*Pictured above from left to right:*  
**Rod Young** Barhale Construction Plc;  
**Michael Jones** BAUER Technologies Ltd.



## CORKS WERE POPPING FOR Costain Limited

*Pictured above from left to right:*  
**Michael Jones**  
BAUER Technologies Ltd.  
**Barney Pieterse** Costain Ltd.

Barney Pieterse, Civil Estimator for Costain Limited, was first out of the hat in BAUER's prize draw competition run in November at the 'Civils' event in London. Michael Jones, MD of BAUER Technologies, presented a case of champagne to Barney at Costain's Middlesex offices.

## BAUER COMPLETES Coins 3-Peak Challenge

### TO RAISE £5,500

BAUER Technologies were proud to enter a team into the COINS 3-Peaks Challenge this year. The challenge involved scaling all 3 of the UK's tallest mountains - Ben Nevis in Scotland; Scafell Pike in the Lake District, and Snowdon in Wales - in as fast a time as possible.

The BAUER Technologies team, comprising Weena Jones, Kevin Smith, Jim Finbow and Nick Eyre, despatched the three peaks in a very respectable 26 hours and 37 minutes, but more importantly it also secured the £5,500 which was pledged by our sponsors. This feat was even more remarkable as Jim and Nick were late substitutions

for original team members that had to withdraw due to illness and injury. Michael Jones, BAUER's Managing Director and Nigel Dudson, "Team Logistics Consultant!", supported in their capacity as team motivators.

After completing the challenge, Michael Jones said: "On behalf of Team BAUER, I'd like to say a big thank you to all those who supported us in our efforts to raise £5500 for this very worthy cause. The COINS Foundation are able to construct houses for orphaned children in Africa for around £1500 each, so in effect we are proud to have raised enough money to build almost four houses."



*Team BAUER celebrate, having completed the COINS 3-Peaks Challenge*

Michael added "The team trained long and hard to tackle the challenge, but the real motivator was seeing the pledges come in. We've since been asked if we will repeat the task and try to better our time - once the blisters have healed we will give it further consideration."

Although the event is completed for this year, donations of support are still welcome and can be pledged via a dedicated web-page at [www.bauertech.co.uk](http://www.bauertech.co.uk) and following a link to its sponsorship website, where donations can be pledged.



*BAUER's European Fleet ready for call-off*



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