

FOCUS FAIRHURST

SMITHS Dock

Fairhurst's Ports & Harbour Division are currently half way through a twenty month contract to supervise the reclamation of Smiths Dock in North Tyneside. The reclamation contract is being carried out on behalf of Making Places, a joint venture between Places for People and Cofton Limited at a target cost of £16m. The 12.5 hectare development was formerly a major repair dockyard on the River Tyne and has planning approval for 1200 homes.

The scheme, which was recently showcased in a two page article in the New Civil Engineer, has been project managed by Fairhurst's Ports & Harbours Division for the last four years during the masterplanning and detailed design stages. The Planning and Development and the Geotechnical and Environmental Divisions have also contributed to the scheme providing detailed design and guidance during both the design and site contract phases.



The site consists of six docks, of which five are to be closed with either new closure walls or sheet piling across the entrance, with the sixth being left open to the river. Fairhurst have designed the four main closure walls to the docks, a 100 metre sheet piled wall, a 300 metre combi-piled wall, 900 metres of flood walls and various quay refurbishment and wall repairs. Three major sewer diversions have been designed and a comprehensive geotechnical and environmental strategy has been produced by Fairhurst to remediate the site.

Fairhurst are project managing the main contractor, Volker Stevin, under an NEC form of contract, working in close partnership with the client, contractor and the various statutory bodies. The works are scheduled for completion in March 2009.

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London: One Year On.....

Last September saw the opening of the new London office and what an exciting year we have experienced!

Starting on day one with a due diligence survey for a former gas works certainly helped integrate the London office with the other Fairhurst offices. The environmental team quickly provided valuable advice and historical information to assist with this project.

We have grown in numbers and have already moved within our building to accommodate the extra staff. The new staff bring a mixture of skills and experience to the office, so that we are able to broaden the services offered to clients.

A number of the early projects have moved through the planning stages and work is now commencing on site. We were pleased to see our first foundation piles being installed in early July. Another milestone completed in less than a year.



The summer will be busy, with a major refurbishment of a Grade II listed building in Mayfair due to commence. Complex finite element analysis of the party wall foundation has been carried out, to allow the installation of a swimming pool within the existing basement. The project is also very fast track with the client requesting occupation of the completed building before Christmas this year.

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WELCOME



Over the past few years Fairhurst has grown considerably both in terms of staff numbers, which now exceed 525, and office locations, which now number 15. Our challenge going forward is to sustain this growth and consolidate our market share within the various geographic locations positioned throughout the UK.

The passion for good engineering and our multi-disciplinary skills base allows us to positively contribute to the whole construction process from initial feasibility studies through the approval stages and on to implementation.

Competition for engineers at all grades is intense, and Fairhurst is adopting a very proactive position in training and personal development to help win the hearts and minds of our staff.

On behalf of all the Partners and staff I would like to thank you for your ongoing loyalty and support.

Bob McCracken
Senior Partner

FOCUS
Update

NEW REGIONAL DIRECTOR:

Ian McKay has been appointed as Regional Director within the Glasgow office. Ian has over 22 years experience in the design, project management and procurement of a wide range of highway projects and studies in the UK and overseas.

NEW TECHNICAL DIRECTORS:

The Partners are pleased to announce the appointment of David Townsend as a Technical Director based within the Bristol office and Chris Wise as a Technical Director based within the Watford office. David Abercrombie and Stephen Goodchild are now Technical Directors based within the Planning and Development Division in the Newcastle office.

ClydePORT

WA Fairhurst & Partners are currently acting for Peel Holdings/Clydeport in respect of engineering inputs related to planning applications and enabling contracts for a series of River Clyde waterfront sites. This activity has increased over the last few months with the introduction of several new and significant projects.



These sites have historical interest insofar as they previously provided key harbour, berthing and dock facilities for the River Clyde during its industrial peak. Fairhurst's input involves geotechnical, hydrological, marine and general civil engineering. The procurement of this work will offer the Glasgow office a significant and long-term workload.

These sites extend from Ardrossan, along the Clyde Estuary to Greenock, Port Glasgow and Renfrew.

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Subsea 7

Headquarters campus for Subsea 7

The new £30 million Headquarters Campus for major oil industry Client, Subsea 7, is nearing completion at Arnhall Business Park, Westhill, Aberdeenshire. Having undertaken the design of the Business Park's roads and infrastructure for the Westhill Development Company, our Aberdeen office continued its involvement in the Business Park by providing full civil, structural & geotechnical engineering services along with specialist transportation and ecological services for Subsea 7.



The building is set within a large 'campus' style site incorporating parking and significant areas of landscaping. Extending to four main storeys the design concept of the building provides individual 'wings' connected together by a communal internal 'street' below an atrium roof. This 'street' focuses on a 'town square' concept bringing together the 1,000 people that will be working within the building. The vertical circulation cores are located so that the glass walled lifts overlook the 'town square' from opposite sides.

Subsea 7 are to take occupancy of the building in September 2008 and will consolidate their current Aberdeen office based operations within this single campus.

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AWARD
Focus

WA Fairhurst & Partners, as part of its commitment to staff development, sent a team of graduates from Dundee, Glasgow and Edinburgh to compete against graduates from other engineering companies from all over Scotland in the annual Institution of Civil Engineering (ICE) conference in Stirling.



The theme for the weekend was to encourage 'out of the box' thinking when approaching the task of regeneration and encouraged delegates to consider architectural, transport, environmental, social and economic factors when considering the fate of a derelict steel works in Oban, Scotland. Fairhurst representatives were spread amongst all the teams. However two representatives from the Dundee and Glasgow offices were placed in the same team: Andrew Kram and Heather Miller, both of the Geo-Environmental Division. They took on the role of team principals and led the team to victory.

The president of ICE congratulated the Fairhurst members of the winning team, commenting on their foresight, professionalism and confidence. A photograph and editorial is to be published in a future ICE newsletter. Fairhurst wish to congratulate both Andrew Kram and Heather Miller for their achievement.

Inverness District Office Wins RICS
Scotland Sustainability Award

The Forestry Commission's Inverness District Office, based at Smithton, has won the RICS Scotland Sustainability award for 2008. The assessors were 'very impressed by the quality and the careful consideration to all aspects in creating a sustainable building'. The building, which was visited recently by HRH Prince Charles, has been entered into the worldwide final of the RICS awards to be held in London later this year.

The client's brief demanded a sustainable design and a requirement to demonstrate exemplary use of locally grown timber, ideally sourced from within a 50 mile radius of the regenerated brown field site. Fairhurst provided both the civil & structural engineering services.

Douglas fir from the Commission's Fort Augustus woodlands was used for the main structural elements. JJI engineered joists manufactured by James Jones & Sons in nearby Forres were specified for the floors and wall panels. European larch and Scots pine, also from Fort Augustus, were used for the external cladding. The building is served by a woodchip boiler and rainwater harvesting system.



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ACERGY Headquarters Development for Acergy

Our client, the Stewart Milne Group, have recently completed the construction of a new Office, Warehouse, Archive and Leisure Building at a cost in excess of £30m for Acergy, on a 20 acre site on the Westhill

Business Park which is located approximately 6 miles west of Aberdeen. Acergy specialise in seabed to surface engineering and construction. The site will cater for more than 800 of their employees and will consolidate the majority of their Aberdeen management and operations into one location.

The works were procured on a Design and Build basis and Fairhurst provided full civil, structural, transportation and geo-environmental services on the development. This included significant new infrastructure on the adjacent highways.

The end result is a contemporary and striking group of buildings with style and personality reflecting the vision of Acergy, the Stewart Milne Group and the Architects.

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PLANNING & Development

On behalf of Helmsley Acceptances Ltd, Fairhurst are preparing a masterplan for the redevelopment of Stromeferry Village, in Ross-Shire.

Fairhurst's Planning Team has been commissioned to secure an economically viable and marketable planning consent which is in line with the aspirations of the Highland Council and the local community. A mix of new housing is proposed along with the reinstatement and extension of the hotel as a guest house, potentially with a restaurant/café open to the public.



To date, Fairhurst have prepared a planning appraisal, masterplan and community consultation event and are currently preparing a planning application which will be supported by a design statement and a landscape impact assessment. A drainage strategy and geotechnical report have also been undertaken in-house, project managed by Fairhurst's Planning Team. miles.walker@fairhurst.co.uk

ENVIRONMENTAL Focus

Solution to Oil Contamination

Hydrocarbon contamination can present an expensive obstacle to divestiture of derelict land. The Geotechnical and Environmental Division have been recently involved in minimising environmental liability and remediation abnormalities associated with such contamination impacting on the sale of Brett Oil's site in Lincoln. Subject to remediation of the depot's contamination, the intended development is residential. Fairhurst's investigations determined a plume of oils resting on shallow ground waters within fill overlying peat. As part of the land sale information pack, remedial options, geotechnical solutions and abnormal costs were provided by the Environmental team.

Throughout the divestiture process, Fairhurst worked closely with the vendor and developer to ensure that abnormal costs were minimised. This was achieved by targeted contamination risk modelling and remediation design to meet the requirements of the purchaser's proposed development. A cost effective, sustainable and regulatory approved reclamation solution was developed to remove the oils and overcome the poor ground conditions. This entailed vacuum extraction, piled foundations utilising reinforced soil mattresses to stabilise hard standing areas.

Residential development is to commence later this year. The vacuum extraction works currently underway have now successfully reduced the hydrocarbon plume to less than 10% of its original extent. All this was achieved within a period of only two months.



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FIVE a Side

After a gruelling seven match run the Glasgow B team were narrowly beaten 1-0 in the final of the WAF Five a Side football tournament by Newcastle.

Teams from Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness and Newcastle met in Perth in June to contest the annual Five a Side competition.

Many thanks go to everyone that took part, particularly those who travelled a long way, for what was an enjoyable and closely fought contest. A special thanks to Derek Thomson from the Inverness office for organising the tournament. Congratulations to the Newcastle team.



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