

Siltbuster Cures Groundwater Headache on Contaminated Site in Cardiff

Digging a trench for a 150mm diameter foul water pipe doesn't sound like a difficult job but when the contractor is faced with excavations through tarmac, hardcore, ash and clay on a contaminated former gas generating site and encounters a perched water table the headaches begin.

“..... it made what would have been a very difficult job very straightforward.”

**Colin Boon,
Consulting Engineer**

Colin Boon of Colin Boon Associates, the Project's Consulting Engineers explains “the problem was on the top of the clay with a perched water table and nobody knew how much water they would have to deal with”.

The specified discharge limits were such that initially the only viable means of meeting them was to tanker all the water off site ...an expensive operation. Another solution was looked for and a *Siltbuster* was installed.

By passing the silt laden water through a *Siltbuster* to remove the contaminated solids, the contractor was able to discharge the compliant water to the sewer whilst collecting the silt for testing and appropriate disposal, a requirement for all excavated materials on site.

Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd. installed the *Siltbuster* at the end of the site adjacent to a main sewer. The groundwater was pumped from a sump in the trench through the *Siltbuster*. The water then gravitated to the sewer. As the trench progressed the plastic pipe inlet was extended and used to carry the water from a new sump further up the trench to the *Siltbuster* unit which meant the highly mobile *Siltbuster* didn't need to be moved at all.

A gulley-sucker was used to empty the *Siltbuster*. “We emptied the *Siltbuster* twice in 14 weeks and emptying it was easy” said Colin. “We even found some old 750mm diameter cast iron pipes which contained a substantial amount of water and the *Siltbuster* also dealt with this with no problem”.

“I was totally satisfied with the *Siltbuster*. It performed better than expected and along with the very neat arrangement installed by the contractor for dealing with the groundwater – it made what would have been a very difficult job very straightforward. I would have no hesitation in recommending this equipment to anyone for similar circumstances”.

For more information on how *Siltbuster* can help with your groundwater headaches Call 1600 772256, Fax 01600 775312, Email george.anderson@siltbuster.com or why not try our website www.siltbuster.com

