

Siltbuster in the Dock at Falmouth !

Project : *Pendennis Shipyard, Falmouth Docks, Cornwall*
Clients : Seastructures then Mowlem plc

Development work on the conversion of one of the Pendennis Shipyard docks into a new, hi-tech painting facility, reached a memorable stage recently with the fitting of the new dock gates at the yard in Falmouth.

The dock conversion was the first part of a major re-development of the Pendennis site that will reinforce the company's position as one of the premier refit and new build facilities in the world. The dock measures 75 meters long and is 25 metres wide with an air draught of 19 metres which gives it the capability to handle virtually any size super yacht.



Seastructures Ltd. were employed as the principle contractor to carry out the installation on the lock gates and to pump out the water from within the impounded basin down to above the silt level. A further complication was that the Dock was contaminated with TBT which has to be treated.

The proposal was to pump out the supernatant sea water in the dock once impounded by a sheet pile wall down to 1.5 metres above the silt level using large diameter pumps and then the pumping regime would be change to pump out the remaining supernatant water via two *Siltbuster* FB50 units to remove any silt and solids which were disturbed by the operation. Once the supernatant was drawn down sufficiently the remaining silt would be treated and removed from the basin. For the dewatering of the supernatant water via the *Siltbusters* the EA set a suspended solids level of 100mg/l in the dewatering discharge and required confirmation from *Siltbuster* that this level could be achieved.

Siltbuster tested samples of the silt from the base of the basin and tested it to determine the materials settling characteristics and identified that flocculant would be required to achieve the required discharge limit due to the very fine nature of the material. The *Siltbuster* FB50 units, flocculant dosing equipment and associated equipment was mobilised to the site in June 2003 and the pumping began. In early 2004, Mowlem Civil Engineering took over on site to complete the work and once completed *Siltbuster* de-mobilised off site in early June 2004.

***Siltbuster* Project Duration** – 50 weeks

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