

Time to face facts

CCTV evidence of jetting damage to plastic pipes

It has been reported in a recent issue of *Construction News* that... "a major housing developer has refused to use structured wall plastic pipes on its sites because of doubts over the material's integrity.."

Charles Church (Southern) the upmarket housebuilder will not use the thin wall plastic pipes after serious faults were discovered by CCTV, following water jetting, at a number of large developments in the Reading area.

Video footage, seen by *Construction News*, appeared to show the walls of buried structured wall plastic pipes with puncture holes and water pouring in through them.

Of great concern is the lack of interest by the plastic industry

who have dismissed the video evidence, rather than acknowledging the damage caused and improving their products so that it cannot occur again in the future. The Concrete Pipe Association has obtained a copy of the video, part of which can be viewed on the CPA Web site:

www.concretepipes.co.uk

It is understood the three water companies, Thames, Southern and Anglian who have suspended the use of certain structured wall plastic pipes will continue to implement the policy.



Water spray due to damage to wall of plastic pipe

Would you be satisfied using a product that is so susceptible to jetting damage?

e-mail the CPA on: mail@concretepipes.co.uk with your view.

Barry Cooper takes the Chair



CPA chairman, Barry Cooper (right) welcoming Peter Minting, deputy editor *Water & Waste Treatment*, during a recent visit to Stanton Bonna's manufacturing plant at Ilkeston, Derbyshire.

Barry Cooper, commercial director and deputy chief executive of Stanton Bonna was appointed chairman for the next two years at the CPA's AGM. Commented Barry, "With this honour comes the realisation that we are entering a period of significant activity and change and I believe the CPA has an increasingly important role in advising the industry on such critical issues as product standards and health and safety. The CPA will continue to address all matters, however sensitive, relating to drainage systems and campaign vigorously for wider recognition of the benefits of precast concrete components."

"One major issue which requires urgent attention is the continuing lack of investment in the UK's sewerage infrastructure. It has been reported that almost a quarter of our ageing sewerage system is in a critical condition and that at the current rate it will take over 1000 years to replace the network. There is concern over the difference between what the water companies believe should be spent on capital maintenance and the figure set by OFWAT. The call for greater investment is increasing and with it the recognition that products with proven durability are best suited to meet the long-term demands of the system, a strong argument for specifying precast concrete."

"Finally, I would like to express our appreciation for the tireless work undertaken by my predecessor Philip Boon and wish him a long and happy retirement."



Appointment

David Billington has recently been appointed sales director of Hughes Concrete Limited. Having spent 35 years selling rigid pipe systems, albeit made from a different material, David now brings considerable experience and market information to the Hughes operation. He says, "With all the recent investment that has taken place at Leek, I am really looking forward to selling the products from what I consider to be a little gem of a factory!"

An enthusiast for pipes, horse-racing and steam trains, David has a grown-up family and over the last couple of years has viewed life rather differently through the antics of his three-year-old grandson!

Introducing the Downstream Defender™

Hanson Concrete Products in a joint venture with HRD Ltd have introduced a stormwater treatment system – the Downstream Defender™.

The system incorporated in a reinforced concrete shaft is a hydrodynamic vortex separator which removes settleable solids, grit and silts, and oils from stormwater runoff.

With increasing urbanisation, the problems of stormwater runoff from impermeable surfaces are becoming more apparent. Runoff from roads, car parking areas and other impermeable surfaces often carries a high sediment load, which along with other associated pollutants, such as oils and heavy metals can have a detrimental impact on receiving watercourses.

The Downstream Defender™ provides for high removal efficiencies of greater than 80%, depending on performance specification, and a wide range of sizes to cater for a broad range of design flows.

It can be installed in minimal areas compared to lagoons and treatment ponds, and is an ideal solution to Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) for prevention or reduction of solids and pollutants entering detention



basins / ponds or to replace devices such as silt traps or lagoons.

The system requires no power and has no moving parts; it is highly efficient with minimal head loss and is supplied fitted in the concrete chamber ready for installation.

The application of the Downstream Defender™ is suitable where stormwater runoff is likely such as construction sites, car parks, vehicle maintenance washdown yards and new developments. It is also suitable for wetland, basins and pond protection and for SUDS projects.

Investment programme continues

Grange Rexim has recently installed and commissioned a new batching plant and Betodan machine to produce monolithic gully pots as part of phase three of its investment programme. The gully pots incorporate a new multi-purpose seal, which can accommodate both plastic and clay pipe in 100mm diameter and 150mm diameter sizes.

Design features have reduced the weight of the gully making for easier handling and installation on site.

This comprehensive range of gully pots is available in sizes from 225mm diameter to 450mm diameter and from 600mm deep to 1200mm deep and reflects Grange Rexim's intention to re-establish itself as a major supplier of concrete road gullies.





Special precast units for vacuum sewer systems

Milton Pipes Ltd is supplying McNicholas Construction with special precast collection chambers for an extensive sewerage system being installed at Wraysbury, on behalf of Thames Water and the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead.

The system will provide first drainage to some 700 houses in Wraysbury, comprising 19 km of rising mains and sewers. Flows along the 200mm sewers, buried to 3m, will be driven by two vacuum pumping stations and 130 intermediate precast concrete vacuum chambers. Milton was commissioned to construct the specially-designed vacuum chambers, and provide 150 standard 1050mm gravity manholes.

Vacuum systems can provide an efficient method of sewage transfer on very flat sites and sites with a high water table or with a complex network of existing utilities. They can be laid around existing services, and sewage can be transported over bridges and other constructions.

Each chamber consists of two sections including watertight joints and a specially-developed precast concrete conical base. The entire unit is designed with holes for access and pipe connections for the vacuum network.

The lower chamber, where sewage is collected, incorporates the conical section. The upper chamber consists of a standard 750mm deep x 1050mm diameter manhole chamber ring.

A specially-cast landing slab forms a separate 'clean' area in the top chamber for the vacuum valve system and associated monitoring equipment.

Access to Manholes

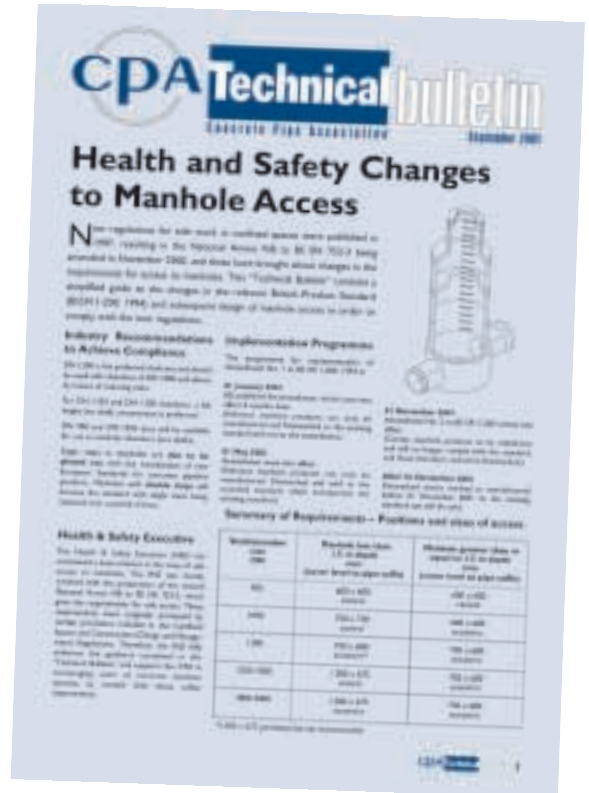
CPA publish technical guide

The Concrete Pipe Association has published a new "Technical Bulletin" which provides a simplified guide to the Health & Safety changes in the requirements for access to manholes.

New regulations for safe work in confined spaces were published in 1997, resulting in the National Annex NB to BS EN 752-3 being amended in November 2000. This subsequently brought about changes to the relevant British Product Standard for manholes – BS 5911-200: 1994, which came into effect on 1st May 2001.

Copies of the Technical Bulletin can be obtained from your usual supplier, from the Concrete Pipe Association (details on back page) or from the CPA Web Site:

www.concretepipes.co.uk where you can view and download the document for printing.



Associates chairman revs up for first year

Motorcycle enthusiast, Julian West of Forsheda is the new chairman of the Associate members who supply products and services to members of the CPA. Commented Julian, "One of my responsibilities is to ensure the Associates continue to play an active role in all matters relevant to the precast concrete drainage systems industry and I am pleased an officer of the CPA will be attending our meetings. I also believe we should take the initiative in seeking to increase the number of Associates by making known the benefits of membership."



Julian astride his 170mph Aprilia RSV 1000

"I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the whole hearted commitment shown by my predecessor, Bob

Bellamy during his two years in the chair and I hope I will be able to carry forward the momentum he generated."

NEW SYSTEMS TAKE THE PRESSURE IN KELVIN VALLEY



Advanced joint seals and inter-jacks have been developed by Hepworth Concrete to accommodate the special challenges of jacking pipes at depths up to 35 metres at the major Kelvin Valley sewer project on the outskirts of Glasgow for client West of Scotland Water. The project is thought to be the deepest jacking project in the country and calls for 5.3km of DN 1500 pipe, representing the UK's largest single pipeline order.

Stage 2 Phase 3 of this on-going development by the West of Scotland Water Authority involves the installation of pipelines to take flows from sewage works at Deerdykes and Auchengeich for treatment at Dalmuir waste water treatment works. In order to accommodate the required hydraulic gradients the pipeline is being driven at depths ranging from about 12 metres down to 35 metres.

At this depth, the finished pipeline and joints must be able to withstand significantly greater pressure than is normally experienced. To accommodate groundwater pressures up to 3.5 bar, Hepworth worked in close collaboration with its seal provider, Forsheda, and AE Yates to develop a new high performance seal. The enhanced characteristics required are achieved by modifications to the rubber profile, which were then extensively tested to prove performance in the most demanding conditions.

Linked to this work was a joint development with contractors AE Yates Ltd to design special inflatable inter-jack seals, designed to ensure that seal integrity and pressure performance would be maintained even after the 300 to 400 strokes potentially required at each inter-jack station in order to complete the pipeline.

To undertake the work contractors A E Yates Ltd used the Hepworth pipes in conjunction with Herrenknecht AVN1500T and Wirth 1.5m I:D TBM equipment. Ground conditions are predominantly sandstone and mudstone. Main contractor for the project is Ennis Construction Ltd.

Have Pipes, Will Travel

Johnston Pipes Limited has been supplying a design and build contract, for the widening of 17km of the A2/M2 from Cobham to junction 4 in Kent, which is scheduled to be completed in 2002.



The project is being carried out as a joint venture between Costain C E Ltd, Skanska C E International and John Mowlem & Company plc (CSM), and required a number of non standard products.

Roy Swarbrooke, sales director of Johnston Pipes said, "It is always a test when a contractor requires something unusual but we enjoy a challenge and together have risen to the special requirements of this project. The contract was over 230 miles away from our Telford depot and we have shown that with our hauliers, we can offer an excellent service throughout the UK."

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CPA member companies represent almost 100% of the concrete drainage industry.

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