

Water supply and waste water disposal for Europe's largest paper mill



Satisfaction guaranteed by the BLS® problem solver

In September 2009, the family company Palm Paper, leaders in the production of newsprint and corrugated case papers, will be putting Europe's most up-to-date paper mill into operation in King's Lynn in England. In the future, 400,000 tonnes a year of high-grade newsprint produced entirely from waste paper are going to be produced there. On 11 December 2008 a topping-out ceremony was held at Palm Paper and early in 2009 the installation began of the world's largest machine for making newsprint.

Water for papermaking

What do you need for making paper? Gigantic machines, a variety of fibrous materials and, above all, water!

Palm Paper's mill has been built on the Great Ouse river. The water for paper production will be drawn from the flood relief channel and will then be cleaned by means of sand filters. After the manufacturing process the waste water, having been cleaned in the water treatment plant, will be fed back into the Great Ouse. The Beton und Rohrbau C.-F. Thymian GmbH & Co. KG company was given the contract to construct the water treatment plant. Surveys revealed that the ground in the area to be built on was part of the flood plain of the Great Ouse and consequently would be unstable. So, a material was needed for the pipelines that could accept the possible settlement.

For safety's sake: BLS®

Beton und Rohrbau, a Berlin company, decided to use ductile cast iron pipes with BLS® joints because the material could guarantee the safety needed in view of



the heights of cover, which were small in some cases, and because the flexibility of the joint would allow it to compensate for the expected movements of the soil. By using the BLS® pipes with their restrained joints it was possible to dispense with the use of concrete thrust blocks. 700 metres of DN 500 BLS® pipes were laid to carry the industrial water to the production plant and 340 metres of DN 600/800 BLS® pipes were laid to carry the waste water away. The pipes, wrapped in geo-textile, were bedded in sand.

At the end of May, all the work was completed and the laying manager, Bernd Klippel, could breathe a sigh of relief: "It wasn't exactly the easiest of sites because it was almost impossible to estimate the soil resistance. So we were more than happy to be able to get round these imponderables by using the BLS® pipes. In spite of the difficult soil conditions, the laying work progressed very smoothly and, thanks to the uncomplicated joint, without any problems".



King's Lynn

King's Lynn is an industrial town and port with a population of 35,000 in the county of Norfolk in England and it has not only had an eventful history but also has a highly diversified economy. A large number of companies who are world leaders have set up shop in King's Lynn, such as Campbell's for example, the world-famous soup-maker. The setting up of the Palm paper mill will underline the economic importance of the town.

Close to the Custom House there is a memorial commemorating the man who was probably King's Lynn's most famous son, George Vancouver, who explored and mapped the north-west coast of America in 1792 as the captain of the Discovery. The Canadian town of Vancouver and Vancouver Island lying out to sea from it were named after him.

