

CAIRN CROSS CIVIL ENGINEERING LIMITED



Cairn Cross Civil Engineering Ltd

Background

Cairn Cross Civil Engineering was established in 1987 by Andy Bald. The founders and directors have spent their careers in the civil engineering disciplines and established Cairn Cross with the business objectives of providing high quality, economic services through a technically competent and well managed workforce where safety is the principal consideration.

Cairn Cross has grown to a medium sized business with turnover now around £2m p.a. About 90% of turnover is from rail related activities, including a significant proportion of work on and about the Controlled Infrastructure including working within the rigorous demands of engineering possessions.



To be able to undertake this range of activity, Cairn Cross has devoted a high level of resource and effort to developing and maintaining an effective governance framework which includes a comprehensive HSQE management control and reporting system. In broad summary the HSQE system ensures a structured and detailed approach to the planning and management of all works together with regular, routine reporting of progress to plan and appropriate consideration and action on any issues arising.

An underpinning feature of the HSQE management control system is the process to ensure the recruitment of technically competent and capable staff. The process also ensures the on-going training and development of all levels of staff. There is also an appraisal system that applies to all staff to ensure that Cairn Cross maintains an appropriately qualified and well motivated team.

All of Cairn Cross operational staff are appropriately qualified in the Sentinel system and all the requirements relating to competence, training and medical standards are strictly applied to all employees. The Company is qualified to undertake rail activities via the Proof audit scheme. The most recent audit was completed in September 2007 when the Company's systems were qualified without reservation or any required improvement actions.

Cairn Cross does have, however, a very strong commitment to continuous improvement and all HSQE systems are regularly reviewed, the results considered by the board of directors and improvements made wherever appropriate.

Works and Activities

The main works and activities that Cairn Cross provides to the rail industry are:-

- Insitu and Pre-cast RC Works
- Bridge Replacement (including Rail possession works)
- Groundworks (including sheet piled deep excavation)
- Drainage
- Sheet Applied Waterproofing
- Rail Maintenance Depot Works
- Fluid Containment Bunds and Diesel Containment Pans
- Palisade Fencing
- Installation and Grouting of Bridge Bearings



These services are delivered to a range of key rail organisations, including Grant Rail, May Gurney, Edmund Nuttall, Birse Rail, West Coast Traincare, Maintrain, Northern Rail. Cairn Cross is proud of the level of repeat business from these well known and demanding clients. This is a clear recognition of the overall quality of work delivered and also recognises the good working relationships that are created by the Cairn Cross approach to works planning and delivery.

Quality and effectiveness of Delivery

A primary objective of the Cairn Cross management team is the delivery of a consistently high level of quality and effectiveness in all work that is undertaken. Success in meeting this objective is clearly demonstrated in the strong and on-going relationship with clients and the level of repeat business. Review of a recent, major project shows just how we work to meet our client's requirements and it also illustrates both the range and complexity of the activities that Cairn Cross can manage successfully:-

Project: Oxley Depot, Wolverhampton



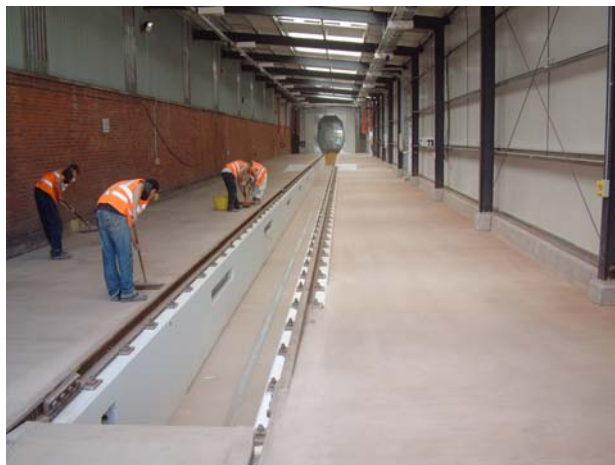
Client: Design and Projects Int. Limited

Project Scale: In excess of £1m

Project Scope: Maintenance Building with 230m long access pit, bogie drop facility and paint booth foundations to existing Depot

Key aspects: -

- Involvement in civil engineering design and planning of works at tender stage
- Liaison and on site management of M & E sub-contractors
- Liaison with end client West Coast Traincare throughout duration of site works
- Detailed programming and co-ordination of site activities
- Regular site safety audits and responsibility for welfare of all on site
- Created a 'working together team' with both client and end client
- Quality of work to high standard
- Innovation: Invested in tilt rotor on excavator to allow a variety of attachments to end of dipper arm and much greater control of bucket operations - made use of the excavator very efficient



The result of this approach to an unusual and complex project was that works were completed on time and to budget and without contract disputes and contract claims. The client reaction was very positive and, as is a feature of Cairn Cross approach, further work is expected from this client.

Cairn Cross – Our future in Rail

The development to date of Cairn Cross has reflected the director's careful approach to planning and their primary objective of delivery a high quality service to clients. The result has been a sustained, steady growth in the rail sector through delivering quality and value to customers.

This business growth will continue by understanding and supporting our customer's strategic objectives and through managing and delivering projects on time, to quality and environmental standards and with safety and economy as key drivers.

Cairn Cross will continue to invest heavily in business development, maintaining the highest level of commitment to training and the introduction of innovative ideas and processes that will add to the quality of rail works and drive down costs.

Cairn Cross has established a strong and on-going relationship with Network Rail and can make a real contribution to achievement of Network Rail strategic objectives, both locally and nationally.

