

British Drilling Association

Founded 1976

NEWSLETTER

Committed to Excellence in Health & Safety, Quality of Workmanship and Technical Standards for the Benefit of the Drilling Industry and its Clients

December, 2008

Secretary's Column

As we move towards the end of the year many will be reflecting back on the events of 2008 and wondering what 2009 will bring. The past twelve months have brought increasing uncertainty on a month by month basis, even a weekly basis as we've got to the end of the year. It doesn't appear that the recession we're heading into (or are in by anything but official government name) will be short lived or a mild one. The depths it will plunge to are not worth speculating about here for we can all hear the news, read the papers and examine forecasts.

Sadly, there are industry colleagues being made redundant or facing redundancy. Businesses have to make hard choices at such times. Savings have to be made and inevitably it's people who have to be laid off if there's insufficient work. Our thoughts go out to all those that may be affected. Their loss is also the industry's loss, for the skills they demonstrated may not be fully recovered when things pick up. Potentially another skills shortages problem may lie ahead.

The BDA will continue to stress the importance of both maintaining and improving industry skills. Quality and the industry's ability to provide solutions depends on its skills base. Bringing on talented individuals, training them well and getting them qualified must continue even during tough economic times - this to avoid future problems.

All thoughts are welcome, call:
**Brian Stringer
 01327 264622**

Email: brian@britishdrillingassociation.co.uk

BS 5930 Future Amendment 2

In October's Newsletter we gave details of the work that BDA has been doing in compiling a report for British Standards (BSI) on conflicts in BS 5930 with regard to new European standards. BSI has now asked BDA to draw up an amendment draft of BS 5930 for public consultation.

BS 5930, Code of practice for site investigations was last published as a complete revision in 1999. An amended version (Amendment 1), that dealt with amendments to Section 6 (soil and rock classification), was republished in December 2007. This Amendment 1 was to remove conflicts with BS EN ISO 14688 and 14689, the new European standards for soil / rock classification.

All other sections of BS 5930 have now been examined by a BDA Working Party, on behalf of BSI Committee B526/3, to identify conflicts with BS EN ISO 22575-1 Geotechnical investigation and testing - Sampling methods and groundwater measurements issued in 2006. This is the new standard under Eurocode. A BDA report was sent to B526/3 in September and it was formally adopted at a meeting on December 4th by that committee.

BS 5930 now has to be amended to remove conflicts with BS EN ISO 22475-1. Chief amongst these conflicts is the position of the U100 sampler. The BDA report makes the following comment:

"22475-1 defines a sample suitable for shear strength and compressibility as quality class 1. Such a sample can only be obtained with a thin walled open tube sampler. The U100 by generic 22475-1 definition is a thick walled sampler and therefore cannot provide a class 1 sample."

The BDA report further says:

"U100 is an OS-TK/W sampler under 22475-1. As such can only achieve sample quality of maximum 2 (and more normally 3). Conflict in 5930 which says that quality class 1 can be obtained in favourable circumstances - may sometimes give class 1 samples but, more often, class 2 samples may be obtained"

Currently many U100 samples go for laboratory testing as a class 1 sample. It will not be possible under the current design of U100 samplers (which have an area ratio from about 30% to 50%) for these samples to undergo class 1 testing under 22475-1 (and to be amended BS 5930).

The challenge for the industry is two fold. Can the manufacturers of U100 samplers design it so that it meets 22475-1 requirements for thin walled samplers in order that class 1 samples can be obtained, and equally important still retain its ability to be driven into ground without undue damage. Technically it may be possible with higher grade steel, thinner tubes and small angled cutting shoes,

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Membership

New Corporate Members

We welcome these new members to the BDA.

Gardline Geosciences Ltd

Marine heave compensated drilling to 700 metres

Registered Member

Andy Fielding

Contracts Manager (Drilling)

Salmon Road
Great Yarmouth
Norfolk
NR30 3QS

Tel: 01493 332111
Fax: 01493 332265

Email: geosciences@gardline.co.uk
Web: www.gardline.com

Geologic Boreholes & Systems Ltd

Borehole drilling for water and geothermal applications. Fitting of pump systems and group loops. Well conversions / Site investigation.

Registered Member

Richard Lane

Managing Director

Sandy Knapp
Old Feniton Village
Honiton
Devon
EX14 3EF

Tel: 01404 851459
Fax: 01404 850435

Email:

richard@geologicboreholes.co.uk
Web: www.geologicboreholes.co.uk

Membership Renewals 2009

BDA Main Committee has decided that the fees for 2009 will be held at the same rate as 2008. Your Association wishes to help during what are difficult times. It is for this reason that there will be no increase. The BDA will however continue to offer the same level of service and expand its programmes - we will not be cutting back on what needs to be done. It is even more important at this time that the BDA raises its support for members.

Renewal invoices for 2009 BDA membership will be posted in first week of January. We'd appreciate early attention to these.

Contractor Members' Questionnaire

Included with the membership renewal invoices for contractor members will be a short questionnaire that we'd like filled in. The purpose of the questionnaire is to collect information about the contractor membership as a whole on where it is regarding drilling operative competence qualifications. We'd also like to know about the range of drilling activities that you offer.

All information received will be treated confidentially and only seen by the BDA Secretary.

New Members Required

There are 119 Corporate Members of the BDA but we could always do with a few more.

Please take every opportunity to encourage others to join so that everyone in the industry can share the burden of what the BDA is doing.

BDA EVENTS

DINNER DANCE SUCCESS

This year's dinner dance held in Southampton was another great success and raised a magnificent sum for charity.

285 members, partners and guests met at the De Vere Grand Harbour hotel in Southampton on November 1st for the BDA's annual dinner dance. This year proved yet again that the Association likes to party and a thoroughly entertaining evening was enjoyed by all. The dance floor was full all night and for the first time overflowed onto the stage with a line up of mostly female guests dancing in front of the band!! Who knows whether this impromtu innovation will become a regular feature of future events?

The magnificent sum of £7,096.85 was raised for two children's hospices - Chestnut Tree House in Sussex and Naomi House in Hampshire. It was particularly pleasing to help the latter as it had lost a considerable sum which was invested in Icelandic banks. Nearly £47,000 has now been raised for charity over the past 8 years at our dinner dances.

We are especially grateful to the generous sponsors of the charity raffle and tombola - AEG, BAM Ritches, Boart Longyear, Boart Longyear Drilling Services, Casagrande, Cementation Skanska, Dando, Equipe Training, H & F Drilling Supplies, Norwest Holst Soil Engineering, Raeburn Drilling & Geotechnical, Rotary Test Drilling, SAL, Sandvik Mining & Construction.

Next year's dinner dance will be in Scotland which we last visited in 2003. We'll let you know the details as soon as the arrangements are made.

BDA on the WEB

***Our new fully updated website will be re-launched very shortly.
It's been a long time coming but we hope you like it.***

www.britishdrillingassociation.co.uk

BDA AUDITED LEAD DRILLERS & DRILLERS
Current List (as at 5th December 2008)

ANDREWS, Barry	LD(GI, RY)	JACKSON, Martin	LD(GI,RY)	STRONG, Paul	D
ATKINSON, Michael	LD(GI, RY)	JACKSON, Richard	LD (GI, CP) (M)	SUTTON, Steven	D
BACON, Edward	LD(GI,CP)	JOHNSTONE, Derek	D	SWAN, Jason	LD(GI,RY)
BAILEY, Rhys G	LD(GI,CP, D & G)	KEANE, Michael	LD (GI, CP)	SZABO, Steven	LD(GI,RY)
BANCROFT, James	D	KICZYNSKI, Steven	LD (GI, CP)	THOMPSON, Stephen	LD(GI,CP)
BARNES, Graeme	D	KNOX, Russell	LD (GI,CP, RY)	TURNBULL, Neil	LD(GI,CP)
BISHOP, Thomas	LD(GI,CP)	LANE, Victor James	LD (GI, CP, DS)	VAUGHAN, Bartholomew	D
BROGAN, James	LD(GI,DS)	LEE, Keiron	LD (GI, CP)	WHALEY, Francis	LD(GI,CP RY)
BROWN, David F	LD(GI,CP)	LEGHORN, William	LD(GI,RY) (WW,RY)	WILKES, Oliver	D
BROWN, Donald	LD (GI, RY)	LITHERLAND, Alan	LD(GI,CP, RY)	WILKINSON, John	LD(GI,CP)
BURT, S.F.	LD(GI,CP)	MARSHALL, Greg	D	WILSON, Andrew	LD(GI,CP)
CANNON, Christopher	LD (GI, CP DS,M)	MASON, Shaun	LD (GI, RY)	WRIGHT, Barry	D
COLLINGWOOD, Lee	LD (GI, CP)	McALEESE, Gordon	LD(GI,CP)	YEOMAN, Matthew	LD(GI,CP)
CUNDILL, Gary	LD (GI, CP)	McCULLAGH, Lee	LD(GI,RY)		
CURTIS, Michael	LD(GI,CP)	McHUTCHINSON, James	LD(GI,CP)		
DAGG, Andrew	LD (GI, RY M)	McLEAN, Stuart	LD(GI,RY)		
DAVIES, Richard C	LD (GI, CP)	McMAHON, Brian	D		
DAWSON, Carl	LD (GI, RY)	MEEK, Lee	LD (GI, CP)		
DIXON, Paul	LD(GI,CP)	MELVILLE, Ian	LD(GI,RY)		
DODD, Adam	D	MILLS, Steven	D		
DOHERTY, George	LD (GI,CP)	MOFFAT, Graeme	D		
DUMBELL, John Snr	LD(GI,CP M)	MORGAN, Hugh	LD(GI,CP)		
DUMBELL, John Paul	D	MORTON, David	D		
EVERATT, Nigel	LD (GI, RY)	NAYLOR, Andrew	LD(GI,CP)		
FARMER, Kevin	D	PARDOE, Alan	LD(GI,CP)		
FERRY, Hugh	LD(GI,RY)	PARKER, Carl	D		
FISHER, Thomas	LD (GI, RY)	PATTERSON, Ian	LD(GI,CP)		
FRASER, Alexander	LD(GI,CP)	PATTERSON, Michael	LD(GI,RY)		
GEE, William	LD (GI, RY)	PEARSON, David	D		
GOULDING, Steven	LD (GI, RY (WW, RY)	PEARSON, Mervyn	LD(GI,RY, (WW,D&G)		
GOVAN, John Patrick	LD (GI, CP, RY)	PETERKIN, John	LD(GI,RY)		
GREGORY, Darren	D	PHILLIPS, Grant	LD(GI,CP RY,M)		
HALL, Graham	LD (GI,CP M)	POTGEITER, Gerhardt	LD(GI,CP)		
HART, Gary	LD (GI, CP)	PRESTON, Carl	LD(GI,CP RY)		
HEPINSTALL, Stephen	D	PRICE, Kevin	D		
HERRON, Stewart	LD (GI, CP)	RALPH, David	D		
HIGHAM, Phillip	D	RANDALL, Michael	LD(GI,CP)		
HILL, William Jnr	LD (GI, RY (WW RY)	RILEY, Spencer	D		
HILTON, Martin	LD(GI,CP)	ROSS, Robert	D		
HORTON, Phillip	LD (GI, CP)	RYAN, Gavin	D		
HOTCHKISS, James	LD (GI, RY)	SELKIRK, Lee	LD(GI,CP)		
HUNTER, Peter	LD (GI, RY (WW, RY)	SHIELDS, Andrew	D		
HUNTLY, Alistair	LD (GI, CP)	SHORTLAND, Ian	LD(GI,CP M)		
INGLIS, John	D	SMITH, Michael	LD(GI,CP)		
IVISON, Steven	LD(GI,CP)	SMITH, Robin	LD(GI,CP RY,M)		
JACKSON, Kevin	LD (GI, RY)	SPENCER, Paul	LD(GI,RY)		
		STRONG, David	LD(GI,CP RY,M)		

KEY

- D** Driller
- LD** Lead Driller
- GI** Ground Investigation
- M** Marine
- WW** Waterwell
- CP** Cable Percussion
- RY** Rotary
- DS** Dynamic Sampling
- D & G** Drilling & Grouting

If your name doesn't appear and you think it should, please check whether payment has been made, audit taken place, non-conformances closed out and card received before contacting the BDA Office.

BDA AUDIT INFORMATION

These 3 columns comprise the current list (at time of writing) of all those who have successfully applied for and gained BDA Audit status. There are many more in the pipeline who, for one reason or another, have yet to complete the process and we'll publish an expanded list in later Newsletters.

BDA Audit is the successor to BDA Drilling Accreditation and differs from the former scheme in that all audited operatives possess an NVQ, level 2, in Land Drilling and valid CSCS card in Land Drilling. The only exception to this is that some entered BDA Audit in the very early days whilst only NVQ registered but are fully expected to be NVQ qualified at time of next audit.

BS 5930
Future Amendment 2 continued from Page 1

but if so will it mean that no plastic liners can be utilised? And what about the cost, not only for the product itself but also change in working practices etc. The BDA will approach the manufacturers for their thoughts.

Secondly, how will clients, consulting engineers, contractors and laboratories react to this new challenge? The BDA already knows of some leading consultants that will not accept U100 samples for class 1 testing, and this is before the full implementation of 22475-1. Will genuine thin walled samplers and / or piston samplers have to be used more? Will rotary coring techniques e.g. Geobor S become more widespread? What about pressuremeter in-situ testing - will it have to be adopted more? All these and many more questions will have to be asked and answered.

Quality of sampling is at the root of 22475-1. The new European standard has moved the goal posts, or more correctly defined their width and height. Now the industry has to work through the solutions to comply with this new standard. From a contractor's view, the impact will depend on whether their clients will be fully aware of the changes. There is widespread ignorance of what is contained in this standard and the other new standards being introduced under Eurocode.

B526/3 Committee has welcomed the offer of BDA to prepare an amendment draft of BS 5930 following its report of the conflicts with 22475-1. This draft will be edited by BSI and come back into B526/3 prior to its issue for public consultation (the process by which others can comment). The timescale is short. BDA's draft is required by end of February.

If any BDA member would like a copy of the BDA's September report to B526/3 then please contact the BDA Secretary. Likewise if you would like more information or wish to comment.

BDA Land Drilling Apprentices

Another milestone was reached during November in the BDA's Land Drilling Apprenticeship programme when the first apprentices finished their external training.

The first ever Batch 1 of BDA apprentices attended their last training module in November and it was a time of genuine regret amongst them. This, the 8th of the series of external training courses which began in March 2007, was the last time that the group would be together. They now go forward to finish their internal company training, and be assessed for their NVQ early in the New Year.

Craig Blackett (Norwest Holst Soil Engineering); Richard Edwards (DCE); Robert Horsfield (DCE); Richard Masters (Discovery Drilling); Harry Moore (Drilcorp); John Mullen (Bachy Soletanche) and Aaron Seager (Drilcorp) comprise this first group. Coming from companies with different drilling applications, and mixing as a group, they've benefited from learning from each other's experiences, as well as from the training that's been given. They, their companies and the BDA, can be proud of what's been achieved so far and we stand by to congratulate them further when their NVQs are awarded.

Batch 2 apprentices are still in external training, and we're recruiting now for a Batch 3 to start in February 2009. Contact BDA Secretary for details.

NEW PUBLICATION
Contaminated Land

Guidance for Safe Intrusive Activities on Contaminated or Potentially Contaminated Land

This new document is a complete revision of the BDA "Guidance Notes for the Safe Drilling of Landfills & Contaminated Land" published in 1992. The original document became famous for introducing site categorisation - green, yellow and red - and went on to being republished by Thomas Telford as SISG Part 4.

The new document comprises 52 pages and is in A4 booklet format.

It is essential reading for all who have to specify or carry out intrusive activity on contaminated land and features much on CDM 2007 and how to decide as to the site categorisation.

The document is available from the BDA Office @ £20 + £1.50 post & packing for BDA members. Telephone 01327 264622, fax 01327 264623, email office@britishdrillingassociation.co.uk

You may also like to order the Guidance for the Safe Operation of Cable Percussion Rigs and Equipment at the same price which was published in 2005 or its sister document on Dynamic Sampling published in 2007.

AND FINALLY

Let's forget that the world seems to be in turmoil as we approach the festive season.

The Christmas and New Year break is a time to switch off and be with family and friends.

I hope that everyone has an enjoyable time, comes back refreshed and keen to meet 2009 head on. The BDA most certainly will.

Brian Stringer

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