



**AMS**  
INDUSTRIAL  
SERVICES  
GROUP

# Update

## Six of the Best



### Pedersen Contracting Services have added 6 new Bobcats to their existing fleet.

The machines consist of 3 new Bobcat 553 and 3 new Bobcat S220 skid steer loaders.

Pedersens operate in the poultry industry and now have a fleet of over 40 Bobcat skid steer loaders.

Managing Director Mike Pedersen said;

**“The Bobcats we run are an integral part of our operation. We need a machine that can perform in a harsh environment and the Bobcat fits the bill perfectly.”**

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Dick Blanchard (AMS No-Dig - Plant Fitter)



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# M1 Motorway Widening

**No-Dig are currently midway through a large contract to install over 100 trenchless motorway crossings** between

junctions 6 and 10 of the M1 at Luton. Each installation consists of multiple ducts providing cable routes for communications, street lighting and electricity diversions.

Mickey Spooner AMS Manager said **“Logistically the works are proving to be very demanding with**

**much of the drilling works being carried out during the night... To travel from one side of the motorway to the other can mean a trip of up to one hour depending on traffic.”**

But thanks to the dedicated team on site the works are progressing ahead of programme.

This much publicised widening scheme has been commissioned by the Highways Agency with Balfour



Beatty Skanska JV the principal contractor. AMS were awarded the work following a competitive tender which included assessment of the companies HSE&E procedures and records. The AMS works are due for completion in Autumn 2008.

## Gravel is No Match for Powerbore 70 T

**Ground conditions consisting of medium dense gravel provided a stern test for No-Dig engineers on a recent scheme to install a high pressure gas pipeline by HDD.**



The contract was commissioned by Murphy Pipelines and consisted of a single drill of 8" steel for 340m under the River Severn and two of its tributaries.

Preliminary investigations carried out by Murphy Pipelines identified

the presence of gravel down to 11m below ground level which by nature cause problems with stabilisation. Following consultation it was decided to opt for ground stabilisation using thixotropic drilling fluids with the option of running casing pipes down through the gravel as a contingency measure.

No-Dig Engineers designed a drilling mud consisting of high yield bentonite, Pac and Macrofil to combat the gravel layers and ensure fluid loss into the surrounding formation would be kept to a minimum.

John Moss, AMS Ops Manager stated that under certain conditions it is possible to remove gravel and maintain hole stability using a combination of high yield bentonite with additives to give thixotropic

qualities to the drilling mud. However It is essential that detailed geotechnical analysis is available to allow an informed assessment of the ground before feasibility can be determined.

It is fair to say the gravel did cause problems during construction, primarily severe wear on down hole tooling, but with the co-operation of our client Murphy Pipelines the shot was successfully installed and overall the **scheme was deemed a huge success.**



# Another First for AMS

AMS No-Dig Ltd have recently purchased the new Vermeer D100/120 Series 11 Drilling System.



Being the only system of its kind in the UK the D100/120 offers power and efficiency at its best. Powered by a John Deere 6068 engine, the D100x120 Series II features 12,000 ft-lb (16,270 Nm) of rotational torque and 100,000 lb (45,359 kg) of pullback. This commanding combination results in ease and efficient installation of larger diameter pipes. George Aitkenhead, AMS Group Managing Director said;

**“This new 45 tonne machine will complement our 50 and 70 tonne**

**rigs and will provide the necessary reliability and backup which is a must in the often demanding HDD market.”**

## But it doesn't stop there

When you need a mid-sized drill with big features, look no further than No-Digs new Vermeer D36x50 Series II Navigator. With the highest power-to-size ratio in it's class the D36x50 Series II is powered by a 140 hp (104 kw) engine and delivers 4928 ft-lb



(6681 Nm) of rotary torque and 33,000 lb (14,969 kg) of thrust with 36,000 lb (16,329 kg) of pullback.

Its narrowly designed rack and pinion helps to maintain a small footprint for access into congested areas.

## Prize Draw

Alan Cornall, Operations Manager with Bethell Power Services Ltd. was the lucky winner of the latest AMS draw. John Moss AMS Operations Manager presents Alan with his prize, a £250 ipod MP3 player.



## By Appointment of Her Majesty



Bobcat S160

**AMS Bobcat hire department had a request from Her Majesty the Queens Royal Stud Estate at Sandringham for a Bobcat skid steer loader and operator to clean out the stables.**

Our operator Lee Whitham was on site for 2 days where his duties included cleaning out all the stables as well as the training areas.

Joe Grimwade the stud manager was very impressed with our service and says he will make another booking for later this year.

Contact **AMS** now for a full quotation: **01724 289009**

# Inner Dowsing and Lynn Offshore Windfarm

Work has commenced on the Inner Dowsing and Lynn Offshore Windfarm.

Acting as specialist contractor to Alfred McAlpine Infrastructure Services, AMS No-Dig's scope of work is to install 400mm HDPE cable ducts across the North Shore Golf Club and under the sea defences, to the beach by Horizontal Directional Drilling. The remainder of the cable runs will be carried out by sub sea trenching machines. When completed the windfarm will be the largest of its kind in the world.



No-Dig have recently replaced all plant location equipment. Advances in technology and reliability were the main driving forces for replacing existing equipment, and the C Scope plant avoidance tool fitted the bill perfectly. The units were supplied by Zenith Survey Equipment Ltd.

Peter Guillatt Project Manager takes delivery from Emily Tiffin, Zenith's area rep.

## Employee Focus: Dick Blanchard

(AMS No-Dig - Plant Fitter)

**Q:** Tell us about your family

**A:** Married for 36 years to Carol, we have 2 daughters, 3 grand children, 5 Labradors, 1 King Charles and 4 Collies.

**Q:** What is your role at AMS

**A:** 12 years as a Service Engineer responsible for all of the drilling machines. I travel around the country either attending a break down or on standby during pipe pulling operations.

**Q:** How did you get to where you are

**A:** I liked to play with motorbike and car engines and so got an apprenticeship at Apex Garage rather than going into the family business, joinery.

**Q:** Why did you join AMS

**A:** I knew people who worked for AMS and when I was made redundant I heard they required a fitter. I was originally self employed working on Bobcats and 3 HDD drilling machines, but as the No-Dig arm of the business expanded I was offered a permanent position.

**Q:** What would be your dream job

**A:** I am happy where I am, alternatively I would have gone into my uncles business, undertaker, which would have been less stressful, but a 24/7 job leaving less time for my hobby.

**Q:** What is your hobby

**A:** Training the dogs in agility, qualifying for Crufts the last 5 years and member of the Scunthorpe Steelers for 10 years. No-Dig have been kind enough to sponsor me for the last 2 years.



## Annual Golf Day

The annual AMS group golf day was held at the Lincolnshire Golf Club. The competition was won by George Aitkenhead, AMS Group Managing Director. Kevin Barrowcliffe last years winner presents George with the trophy.

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