



GEA 2H Water Technologies Ltd

Power Station refurbishment fits into bird nesting

Northampton, UK 21st September, 2009 - GEA 2H Water Technologies Ltd have enabled E.ON to complete an outage (major refurbishment project) at Connaught Quay Power Station on the Dee Estuary against a series of potentially hugely disruptive circumstances including the nesting of a protected rare bird which meant closing the site.

Power Station outages are major projects requiring long term logistics planning to ensure minimum downtime of the plant. For this project the original order for GEA 2H Polypropylene (PP) Media Pack was placed in March for the scheduled refurbishment from 20th June to 17th July. The PP foils were manufactured in Germany and shipped to the UK for final assembly and storage ready for installation by Promanex, E.ON's Cooling Tower Services Provider. Scheduled transfer of part of the media order to the Connaught Quay site commenced in April, but E.ON requested a change to the plan and to accommodate this GEA 2H agreed to store the balance and reschedule production.

Then in May it became necessary for E.ON to reduce the size of the June project so GEA 2H agreed to store the additional balance of the order until 2010.

However, on the 28th May all change again. A rare Plover bird had set up a nest in the media pack already on site. The area was sealed off to prevent disturbance. This then meant that all the media being stored by GEA 2H now had to be transported to the Connaught Quay site so that the outage of the Cooling Towers could be completed in the scheduled refurbishment timetable.

GEA 2H's, Managing Director Richard Manning said "*Connaught Quay, as with all power stations, invest a great deal of time and money to reduce their environmental impact. The station is sited on the Dee estuary which is a site of international importance for wildfowl and waders and designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).*"

Cooling towers such as those at Connaught Quay are considered the most efficient way of cooling process water. The construction and operation of these require the use of efficient fill pack, drift eliminators and air inlet louvres. GEA 2H PLASdek™ plastic fill pack solutions have been utilised over several phases of the plant's life as the unique nature of the cross fluted structure of the PLASdek™ fill facilitates an efficient air/water interaction.

The use of media constructed from PP is also of environmental importance as GEA 2H's unique welding manufacturing process means that it does not use solvents needed for the traditional gluing assembly method.

Promanex (Construction and Maintenance Services) Ltd, the UK's largest independent cooling tower services provider, were appointed by E.ON to execute the refurbishment project which was completed on time despite the difficulties experienced.

GEA 2H Water Technologies Ltd (GEA 2H) is the UK's leading manufacturer of plastic media for water management plant. Its applications are for utilities, such as electricity generation, water supply and waste water; general industrial water cooling and commercial and domestic storm water control and attenuation. GEA 2H sell direct and indirectly via agents and builders merchants and work closely with specifiers, architects and civil engineers in the design and installation of a wide range of industrial projects.

During its 30 years in business, GEA 2H has built an outstanding reputation for quality products and services. GEA 2H comprises the former Environmental Control Division of Munters, Ranik and 2H Aqua operations. GEA 2H supports customers in the UK, Eire and Middle Eastern countries.

GEA 2H Water Technologies Ltd is one of 250 operating companies in the GEA Group AG. GEA is a leading global technology group with core competencies in speciality mechanical engineering and plant engineering. Its annual sales in 2007 were €5 billion and it employs 20,000 people in 50 countries

Promanex, Construction and Maintenance services have been providing integrated construction and engineering support services for over a decade to the power generation, process, water treatment and petrochemical industries. The specialist services include mechanical construction and installation and the repair and maintenance of industrial plant including steam generation, cooling systems and rotating equipment. (For information contact Jeroen Bouten (Jeroen.bouten@promanex.com) on +44 (0)1332 810 999

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