A member of the North Holland Provincial Executive has unveiled the golden cock on the Grote Kerk (church) in Edam, marking a festive end to the restoration work by Schakel & Schrale. The BAM Utiliteitsbouw restoration company worked on the interior and exterior of the sixteenth-century building, the largest hall church in Europe.

Leeds Arena handed over

BAM Construction has handed over the completed arena to the client for fit-out. Positioned in the heart of the city, the new £60 million Leeds Arena will be a world-class music venue with a capacity of 13,500 people. Designed to maximise the quality of live music performances, its unique fan-shaped interior will optimise sight lines to focus every seat at centre stage and bring the public closer to the show. The multi-purpose facility has been designed so that the space can be easily modified to meet the changing requirements of a diverse event schedule, which could also include theatre and sports. Pop star Sir Elton John will stage the opening concert at the Leeds Arena on 4 September.

Steel span sails in

The ‘Stadsbrug Nijmegen’ is in place! Amidst great public interest, the 285-metre long and 60-metre high main steel span was sailed in on 20 April. The operation of sailing it in by Bouwcombinatie Stadsbrug Nijmegen (BAM Civiel and Max Bögl) ran flawlessly. Navigation on the Waal was shut down at seven in the morning and the two pontoons carrying the bridge left the specially dredged docks. Using winch cables, the bridge was then manoeuvred across the river, following which the pontoons were moved to the bridge piers. Water level, river velocity, visibility and wind ... all conditions were perfect on that day. At five in the afternoon – exactly as planned – the shipping block on Europe’s busiest inland waterway could be lifted. At that moment, the anchor cables were lowered to the river bottom, but the operation was not over yet. In the hours following, the pontoons were sunk, so that the bridge could be lowered onto temporary support points on the piers. During the weeks following sailing in, the steel auxiliary towers in the bridge were removed and all guy cables tensioned.

http://nijmegenstadsbrug.nl

Golden cock unveiled

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PPP contract Arklow/Rathnew

BAM PPP PGGM Infrastructure Coöperatie, the investment joint venture between BAM and Dutch pension fund service provider PGGM, together with BAM Contractors has reached financial close for a roads PPP contract in Ireland with the National Roads Authority, for the design, build, finance and maintenance of the N11/N7 Arklow/Rathnew PPP contract. The capital value of the project is approximately €282 million. Construction work will begin in July with completion scheduled for November 2015. BAM Contractors will maintain the roads throughout the 25 year contract.
Dutch trainees in London!

Ten Dutch BAM trainees recently got an eyeful in London while visiting two high-profile projects by BAM Nuttall. In the busy heart of the city, they got a clear idea of the size and complexity of the Tottenham Court Road tube station project. The group also visited the converted Olympic Park in the district of Stratford. The participants described their trip as interesting and instructive.

BAM World Wide Safety Day 2013: Take control!

On Tuesday, 22 October 2013, the fourth annual BAM World Wide Safety Day will take place. Royal BAM Group leaves no stone unturned to ensure that safe and healthy working conditions are in place. But safe working is something every BAM employee is partly responsible for. Therefore, all employees are asked to take control – literally: make a film about safety and share it with all BAM colleagues. All safety films will be joined into one international BAM Safety movie, which can be shown and discussed on the Safety Day. These meetings will take place at building sites and offices. ‘BAM Safety: The Movie’ will be available in four languages as from 22 October on www.bamsafety.eu. The assignment: make a film not exceeding one minute in length using your smartphone, a camera or another device, about, for instance: a safety issue, a safety example, a concern about an unsafe situation, a demonstration of a safe solution, a personal safety message or safety mission. Upload the film to www.bamsafety.eu between 15 May and 15 July. First prize to win: a trip for two to Hollywood!

The Netherlands

Pile-driving rig lifted

For the widening of the A4 motorway near Leiden, a 110-ton BAM Speciale Technieken pile-driving rig was recently placed on a mobile gantry bridge using a mobile crane. For the deepened section of the motorway some 4,200 GEWI piles will be sunk from the rig into the soil. The sonic drilling method will be used. Using a special boring engine, a high frequency vibration will be introduced to the drill pipe, which will allow the closed soil displacement GEM piles to be put in place relatively easily and quickly. The piles will prevent the concrete floor of the construction from rising.

100high!

Happy faces among the project team.

The views from project ‘100hoog’ in Rotterdam centre are phenomenal. ‘100hoog’, designed by Klunder Architecten and built by BAM Woningbouw, consists of a residential tower with 112 homes alongside an elongated building with 40 apartments, parallel to the port. This has five floors located above two storeys used for parking cars, and commercial premises. Each apartment has a balcony or loggia. The lower building will have a green roof, while the top of the car park will be made into a roof garden. The project has been developed by Port au Vin cv, a joint venture of AM and LSI. The apartments are expected to be ready in September, and the residential tower in November. www.100hoog.nl

Switzerland

New contracts BAM Swiss

Priora Generalunternehmung has awarded the contract for the core and shell construction of the ‘Werk 3’ residential and shopping complex in Winterthur, north of Zurich, to BAM Swiss. The real estate division of the Swiss military procurement organisation, Armasuisse, has awarded BAM Swiss the contract for the structural and mechanical refurbishment of an army barracks in Bülach near Zurich, acting as main contractor. A further reconstruction project of BAM Swiss is at a secondary school in Embrach, near Zurich. Aspects of this reconstruction project are to make the building earthquake-proof and to enhance the energy performance. In the heart of the city of Basel BAM Swiss has been selected by ProWinko to construct the core and shell of a residential and shopping building.

Gravity based foundation

With a new type of self-floating gravity based foundation, BAM and Van Oord have their feet ‘firmly on the ground’ in the deeper areas (averaging 45 metres) of the North Sea. Building offshore wind farms in shallow coastal waters is no longer an option. There is hardly any room, and resistance against them is growing. BAM Energie, part of BAM Civel, has taken BAM Nuttall on board in the development of its plans. The result is a floating ‘parasol foot’, thirty metres in diameter. Including the cone-shaped roof structure, the 6,000-ton foundation is eighteen metres high. A steel shaft seven metres in diameter and 65 metres in height is placed in the concrete caisson on shore. Van Oord will be responsible for transporting and installing the foundation.

PPP

Progress on Schools Bundle 3

Over the past five months construction by BAM Building, of the eight schools, on seven sites in Ireland, has made good progress. Relationships with the Authority and Schools are going well. In Athlone, there is a live school on site and in February BAM’s staff welcomed their construction studies class on a site visit giving them a presentation of the project and a tour of the site followed by a safety presentation aimed specifically at schools. A school in Letterkenny is due to be handed over in November 2013, with four more following in early 2014.
United Kingdom

2000th tunnel ring

At new Bond Street station in London, Crossrail’s tunnelling boring machine Phyllis builds her 2000th tunnel ring as she approaches the halfway mark on her 6.8 kilometre tunnelling journey to Farringdon. The tunnelling team of joint venture BFK (BAM Nuttall, Ferrovial Agroman, Kier Construction) is very happy with this milestone! At the end of this year Phyllis reaches her destination.

Collaboration in action

In March BAM Nuttall hosted a lean showcase at the M62 Managed Motorways project, where BAM is working with the Highways Agency. The day was organised by head of quality, David Anderson in conjunction with the British Quality Foundation to demonstrate the use of lean practices to drive collaborative working. The day provided a view on how organisations involved in construction can work together to balance the needs of a wide group of stakeholders. Discussed were the productivity benefits gained by working with the supply chain, the lean strategy tools and techniques in use to deliver the M62 project and the use of advanced project thinking which resulted in significant savings during the refurbishment of the Blackwall Tunnel.

Catering award

Henbury pupils are ready to dish up in the cafeteria of Henbury School in Bristol. BAM FM won a catering award for the healthy food it serves at this school and three others it manages in Bristol. The schools were built by BAM Construction. Third from left: Claire Mansri, catering service manager at BAM FM.

Africa House

BAM Construction is extensively renovating Africa House in the centre of London for Daejan Investments, part of the Freshwater Group. BAM will transform the original 1921 trade building into a 21st century office that will meet the norms of the BREEAM Excellent sustainability rating system. The project will increase the space available for letting, including constructing an additional storey which involved installing steel construction throughout the building and new pile foundations. Driving the new piles required pinpoint accuracy, because of the presence of underground tunnels.

Old mines filled with mortar

BAM Ritchies is pumping many hundreds of cubic metres of fluid limestone mortar into the ground at a small residential area in Hemel Hempstead, just north of London. Andrew O’Donovan, contracts manager at BAM Ritchies explains: ‘Centuries ago in this area mine galleries were dug for chalk extraction and then, in 2007, a front garden disappeared into a collapsed mine gallery.’ Prospecting by means of test drilling/probing, laser surveys and camera inspections were used to map the voids. ‘We are dealing with an area of 150 by 250 metres. Large voids can be filled quite simply, but at the location of collapsed mine galleries we need to inject limestone mortar under high pressure.’ BAM Ritchies will complete the activities by mid 2013.

Jewish Community Centre

The new Jewish Community Centre in north London is being built by BAM Construction. The four level project in Finchley Road consists of two parts: the community centre proper and a residential tower with fourteen two bedroomed apartments. Much glass is used, both in the face of the building, which adjoins a sunken piazza, and the building itself. ‘The apartments have a high-quality finish and have already been completed. The official opening of the community centre will be in September. The building meets the criteria of the BREEAM Excellent sustainability certification’, says senior site manager, Daniel Williams.

Facility management contract

German department store Breuninger has concluded a three-year facility management contract with BAM Immobilien-Dienstleistungen. BAM is responsible for the management and maintenance of mechanical and electrical installations and for building and facility services in the Erfurt, Freiburg, Ludwigsburg, Nuremberg and Sulzbach stores.
Eco-friendly and safe

The Premier Inn project at Abu Dhabi International Airport, completed in April by BAM International, is rated among the most eco-friendly in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. The facility is the first in the Emirate to recycle used wash basin, bath and shower water. Additionally, solar collectors and an evaporative pre-cooler to the air conditioning chillers further reduce energy costs. As part of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi’s ‘Plan 2030’ to green the built environment all new projects must obtain at least a basic ‘Pearl’ rating. According to the Pearl Building Rating System (PBRS), the Premier Inn Hotel will achieve Pearl 2 status. End of January all staff and workers posed together forming ‘BAM’, celebrating its first one million man hours without time lost as a result of incidents.

Heavy bucket!

The things you can use a steel pipe pile with a diameter of 142 centimetres for! For the construction of a jetty in Pepel, Sierra Leone, for African Minerals, BAM International used a concrete bucket, or truck mixer, with a capacity of six cubic metres. This colossus weighed 21 tons when full, which called for some careful manoeuvring of the Manitowoc crane on the Marlin crane pontoon.

BAM International – with BAM Speciale Technieken for all the pile driving and crane operations – and partner Stefanutti Stocks have recently completed the mooring facility. The contract had a value of thirteen million euros.

Reverse parking - Safety initiative

Always conscious of promoting health and safety initiatives, BAM Contractors have introduced reverse parking at all offices and sites. It is safer and easier to exit a parking bay and, in the case of an emergency evacuation from the offices, it is easier to exit the car parks quickly. The environment will benefit, because reversing out of a parking space when the engine is cold uses around 20 to 25 times more fuel in the first seconds than it does when warm.

Back to school

As part of Engineers Week 2013 a team from BAM Contractors Ballymore Water Treatment Scheme headed back to school. The aim of Engineers Week is to celebrate the engineering profession, to grow awareness of engineers in the community, and to showcase engineering as an exciting and diverse career option for students. The young budding engineers got an insight to the various types of engineering professions out there and how they contribute to everyday life. To round up everyone was presented with a hi-viz vest to keep them safe and to tie in with the campaign to encourage children to be active and where safe, to walk or cycle to school.

Battling away at Waterloo

Balteau will shortly be entering the battlefield at Waterloo, south of Brussels. In order to attract more visitors, the Walloon government is investing in the development of this historic location, at which the army of the French emperor Napoleon was defeated for good in 1815 by an alliance of English, Dutch, and Prussian troops. The plans include renovating the facilities and building a new museum. To prevent the view of the battlefield from being obscured, the museum will be largely underground. Balteau is responsible for all electrical engineering work, including the audio and video installations. The work will be completed by mid 2014.

www.waterloon815.be

High-level care

Comfortable and carefree living – that is the Militza philosophy. On behalf of healthcare provider JRCI, CEI-De Meyer is building this residential building with 132 sheltered accommodation apartments on the outskirts of Bruges; the first residents will arrive in the middle of this year. The whole complex will be ready in October.

In a development by Immo BAM, project developers of BAM in Belgium, and in part with ING Real Estate Development, the operating company has since 2008 erected five buildings on the site of a former concrete factory. Above the underground car park are six storeys housing the apartments and care amenities. The ground floor is taken up mostly by the entrance and lobby, a restaurant and piano bar, a swimming pool with gyms and office spaces.

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