Crossrail has completed the construction of its first of several train tunnels under London. The tunnelling team of joint venture BFK (BAM/Ferrovial/Kier) has finished the project’s first train tunnel, seventeen months after commencing the 6.8 kilometre journey of tunnelling machine Phyllis from Royal Oak in west London to Farringdon in central London.

BAM Nuttall recently began the excavation of 34,000 tonnes of earth for a new rail underpass at Acton railway station, to clear the way for Crossrail services from 2019. The £20 million dive-under is needed so that trains leaving the Acton freight yard do not delay passenger trains heading towards Acton Main Line and on to central London.

Karl Wiggins can start packing his suitcase! The BAM Construction safety coordinator has won first prize – a trip to Hollywood – with his safety film entry, ‘Take control’, in BAM Safety: The Movie. The film premiered during the international BAM Safety Day at building sites all over the world.

Over 120 films were entered for the film project, all of which can be seen on our safety website www.bamsafety.eu.

The list of prize winners can be found there, too. In his entry, Karl Wiggins referred to the importance of taking responsibility for your own safety and the safety of colleagues.

‘It is fantastic to win the Best Safety Film award out of so many excellent entries. I am glad my message about looking after each other reached across Royal BAM Group, and I am looking forward to my trip to Hollywood.’

As Top woman of the year Thessa Menssen opened the Amsterdam Stock Exchange NYSE Euronext with a gong.

Thessa Menssen, BAM CFO was named ‘Top Woman of the Year 2013’. This annual award ceremony in the Netherlands recognises successful and inspiring women in business. Thessa Menssen came out on top and was praised by the judges for her clear and transparent leadership style and a relentless commitment to issues she considers important.
The use of the SnagR app is now standard procedure for BAM Utiliteitsbouw. BAM Woningbouw, BAM Civiel, and BAM Techniek also use SnagR. Digital reporting is in keeping with BAM's aims to manage every process effectively. Piles of drawings, folders full of photos and Excel lists with hand over deadlines are now things of the past.

With the help of an iPad, BAM can identify defects and place them in a central web environment. The complete process is managed from this central database: reports, managing subcontractors, and gaining an insight into the further continuation of the process. SnagR safeguards the entire process and saves time and manpower.

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The Netherlands

Down she goes!

Centimetre by centimetre, the second steel 440-tonnes aqueduct recently disappeared below the surface of the Oude Rijn river near Leiderdorp, south of Amsterdam. The operation of joint venture A4 (BAM/Van Oord) went without a hitch. The aqueduct had previously been placed on the water from pontoons, using four heavy mobile cranes, after which five hundred tonnes of concrete were poured to protect the ground. Following the completion of the work, the process of deepening and widening the A4 motorway will continue, which will be ready at the end of next year.

Power to the streets

Electric charging stations are popping up all over The Hague. Midway through the year, BAM Infratechniek Mobiliteit, together with supplier Alfen and service provider The New Motion, were commissioned by The Hague City Council to place and operate three hundred charging stations. By setting up the network, the Council is responding to the increasing number of electric vehicles in its area, and the corresponding increased demand for charging facilities. Working with HABO GWW, a subsidiary of BAM Wegen, BAM Infratechniek Mobiliteit is installing an average of four charging stations a day. BAM Infratechniek Mobiliteit is also responsible for operating and maintaining the network.

Ready for take-off

No fewer than nine asphalt paving machines of BAM Wegen, fed by 123 asphalt trucks, were called into action for the application of a new top layer on the main take-off and landing runways at the Royal Netherlands Air Force Base in Leeuwarden (northern Netherlands). The operation was planned with military precision. The top layer of the three-kilometre long take-off runway was replaced over a length of 2,140 metres. Another 660 metres of the secondary runway, where it crosses the main runway, were also treated. A total of 36,000 tons of asphalt were applied: 14,000 tons of which were used in the two-day operation for the top layer, after which an anti-skid layer was applied by third parties.

Group News

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PPP

Light prison

Just west of Antwerp, alongside the E17 motorway, Interbuild and Galère are putting the finishing touches to a new star-shaped prison, a BAM PPP project. BAM PPP is also responsible for its management and maintenance for 25 years. ‘The prison, which can house three hundred people, consists of four sections: the reception building, the service building with the visitors’ area and administration, the logistics building including the workshops, and finally the cell complex’, says Interbuild project manager Adelin De Block. ‘The four buildings are linked via long corridors. A large amount of glass has been used, allowing in light and outside air, which leads to a more pleasant climate. All the materials and products in the complex must meet strict standards in terms of security.’ The greenery is in the hands of Mostert De Winter, part of BAM Wegen.

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Bypass opened

Surrounded by contestants for the Rose of Tralee International Festival, the Irish Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Jimmy Deenihan TD (pictured in the centre) opened the Tralee Bypass in County Kerry. The 13.5-kilometre bypass, consisting of dual and single carriageway sections, was constructed by BAM Contractors. On the right is Theo Cullinane, CEO of BAM Contractors.

Clinical and Translational Research Facility

BAM Contractors has started construction on a €20 million Clinical Research Facility and Translational Research Facility with open and flexible lab spaces (CRF-TRF) for NUI Galway (National University of Ireland). The four-storey 5,345 m² building will facilitate cutting-edge medical research side-by-side with patient care in University Hospital Galway. This sharing of medical expertise and accommodation including HSE in-patient facilities will help inform new strands of clinical research. The CRF-TRF building is located on the grounds of University Hospital Galway.

Construction Manager of the Year Awards

BAM won five medals at the prestigious UK Construction Manager of the Year Awards 2013. BAM Construct’s Stephen Roome, the CIOB’s Construction Manager of the Year 2013, achieved the top award in his field for managing the technically challenging £25 million remodelling of Derby’s Council House. Roome also won the Gold medal in the £19-26 million category. Daniel Brenchley, project manager of Hilden Grange Preparatory School, also won Gold in the new build and refurbishment between £4-7 million category. Ewen Hunter, contracts manager for the Western Transit Shed, Kings Cross, took home a Silver Award in the £26-40 million project category. There were three BAM finalists in the £100 million + project category, a fantastic achievement marking the outstanding quality of the high-profile projects BAM is involved in. Tony Grindrod, construction manager, took home a Silver medal for 1 Angel Square, the BREEAM Outstanding Co-op Headquarters in Manchester. Well done to all the managers and project teams involved!

Network Rail operating centre

BAM Construction has won a £30 million scheme to build an operating centre for Network Rail. The three-storey building in Basingstoke will act as a signalling control centre for the Wessex region. The 13,600 m² facility will also include internal and external training facilities, as well as office space for rail staff. BAM Nuttall will install a sixty metre-long pedestrian bridge that will be built over the railway line to improve access routes. BAM Plant is providing temporary accommodation. Project completion is scheduled for November 2014.

New Aero Engine Controls site

Aero Engine Controls, part of the Rolls-Royce Group, marked the beginning of construction of its Advanced Manufacturing and Technology Facility at Solihull with a groundbreaking ceremony conducted by (from left) Richard Dakin, regional director BAM Construction, Ken Meeson, leader of Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, Simon Burr, CEO of Aero Engine Controls (AEC), Councillor and Colin Smith, chairman of Aero Engine Controls (AEC). BAM will construct the 28,000 m² building which will incorporate technology, design, development, manufacturing and testing capabilities, with associated expansion space. When operational, the facility will produce engine control systems for a range of applications, including the Rolls-Royce Trent family of aircraft engines.

United Kingdom

Ireland

Bypass opened

Clinical and Translational Research Facility

Network Rail operating centre

New Aero Engine Controls site

Construction Manager of the Year Awards
Worldwide

Blast from the past

Project in Australia, Henk-Jan Berkhoff used drawings that he made for a BAM Nuttall project in 1987 as reference. The advisor to the Marine Construction department of BAM Infraconsult has been seconded to BAM International for three years now. He is involved specifically with designing various pieces of equipment, such as the cantilever bridge that was used for the LNG jetty in Papua New Guinea. This has now been adapted for the construction of the LNG jetty on the Ichthys project. The pile frame is being used for the building of the cell wall of the module unloading facility. This is a platform to which ships can moor for unloading modules for the LNG factory. The platform walls consist of fourteen cells with a diameter of more than seventeen metres. The cells are interlinked by intermediate cells and then filled with gravel. As the construction of the cells progresses, the consortium can fill up the ground from the bank and continue building the concrete roof of the platform.

Almost there

Some 6,060 inspections are needed before the BAM Clough consortium is able to transfer the LNG jetty in Papua New Guinea to its client, Chiyoda JGC joint venture. BAM Clough was responsible for the construction of the 2.4-kilometre long jetty, including the pipelines and electrical equipment.

The demobilisation of the building site is now underway. ‘After working there for two years, we are introducing natural slopes to the site again which will then be covered with a layer of topsoil and sown. Part of the cabin area has been removed, and a part transferred. This is because we still need office space before all the paperwork is done’, says Mark Huizer who, as the BAM International cost controller, is responsible for the demobilisation.

Xbloc to Tahiti

With the Xbloc BAM Infraconsult has set foot on the tropical island of Tahiti in the South Pacific. Xbloc is an interlocking armour unit designed to protect breakwaters and shores over the long term and in extreme conditions.

Local contractor J.L. Polynesie, part of Vinci, will produce 2,700 Xblocks under licence, and place them on the northern side of the island in order to protect a coastal road.

BAM Sports has also been awarded the contract for the complete renewal of Stadion an der Gellertstraße for 15,000 spectators in Chemnitz, near the border with the Czech Republic. Both stadiums were designed by architect Stefan Nixdorf of agn Niederbergerhaus & Partner GmbH.

Germany

From palace to parliament

On 22 January 2014, the parliament of the German federal state of Brandenburg will meet for the first time in the new building in Potsdam that BAM PPP and BAM Deutschland have completed. The complex will be opened on 22 January 2014. The parliament of the German federal state of Brandenburg will meet for the first time in the new building in Potsdam.

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Belgium

Floating bridges

CEI-De Meyer and Betonac have successfully sailed two railway bridges over the Albertkanaal in Antwerp, in two weekends. During the past year, two 117-metre long steel arch bridges have been built on the northern bank of the canal, between a high-speed railway and the Antwerp ring road. The abutments have also been built on both banks. The new bridges are needed to allow the Albertkanaal to be widened. Betonac site agent Jasna Kersemans: ‘The bridge was moved onto a pontoon using multi-axle platform vehicles, or SPMT’s, after which it was lowered onto the abutments. Trains will be running over the first bridge from January next year, and the whole project will be ready a year later.’