



Hope hospital, Salford

Hanson EasyPile[®] concrete system

Sika[®] concrete system:	Hanson EasyPile [®]
Client:	Salford Royal Hospital NHS Trust
Piling contractor:	Stent
Contractor:	Balfour Beatty Construction
Architect:	Ryder HKS
Engineers:	Haden Young

Hope hospital, Salford

Hanson EasyPile® has been successfully utilised by Stent, the piling and foundation division of Balfour Beatty Construction, in the redevelopment of the Hope hospital site in Salford. The £200 million scheme by Salford Royal Hospital NHS Trust involves the replacement of outdated Victorian wards and replacing them with modern, bright areas and buildings to provide up to date facilities and services.

The five year development is being completed in phases, and the design of the new link from the recently opened Mayo building and the main clinical building, which has recently completed, incorporated continuous flight auger (CFA) cast piles for the foundations. This method was chosen as it caused minimal disturbance and thus reduced the risk of any damage to the adjacent buildings.

A major problem for Stent was that the ground was very dry, literally sucking water from the concrete mix as it was being placed. This made the placing of the reinforcing cages extremely difficult, with a high risk of damage to the cages. In the case of a cage being damaged or failing to insert, the only solution was to remove the cage and concrete and re-drill the piles.

To overcome this problem, **Hanson EasyPile®** was successfully used on the project. It is a unique



product from **Hanson Concrete** that has been developed with **Sika® Limited**, incorporating the admixture system **Sika® PilePak**, and has been specially formulated for CFA piling concrete to improve cage placement in dry and dense ground conditions. It gives improved cohesion properties and pumpability as well as reducing water loss, segregation and bleeding from the concrete.

Nigel Brockman, CFA Operations Manager UK at Stent Foundations, said: "The ground conditions at the site were glacial till overlying typical weathered Sherwood sandstone. By using **Hanson EasyPile®** on the project we found the cage installation time was cut in half and the need for mechanical assistance was significantly reduced. In some instances it was not required at all. Clearly this had benefits not only to the efficiency of the process but also in reducing the health and safety risk of excavator assisted cage installation. Consequently, it was more efficient and effective with **Hanson EasyPile®** than with the traditional mixes we have used. With no cage failures we not only minimised wastage but also ensured our production schedule remained on time."



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