

BAC CORROSION CONTROL LTD CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SUCCESS



BAC Corrosion Control Limited is celebrating 50 years of experience as a cathodic protection company in the international industries of Oil, Gas, Water, Power, Marine and Construction. Having undergone many changes throughout their history, the company endeavours to maintain their high standard of workmanship, and improve on their already successful services.

In 1954, MAPEL (originally Metal and Pipeline Endurance Limited) was formed by William Press & Son Ltd. As a division of the civil engineering firm specialising in cathodic protection. MAPEL later became part of the AMEC Group.

In 1957, Bergsøe Anti Corrosion (BAC) was formed in Denmark, specialising in the production of Zinc and Aluminium anodes for the marine industry.

In 1978, Global Cathodic Protection was formed, which was later taken over by BAC in 1986.

Following this, in 1994, Global Cathodic Protection Limited changed its name to BAC Global and acquired the cathodic protection division of MAPEL from AMEC.

Group reorganisation resulted in the creation of BAC Corrosion Control which is a part of the Midroc group a Major international industrial organisation with over 1500 employees.

BAC Corrosion Control Limited is now a

market leader in the field of Corrosion Control, specialising in Cathodic Protection, Coating Systems, Anti Fouling and Monitoring Systems, and also Pin Brazing. The company has a turnover of approximately £5 million, with a workforce of 30 employees, working in over 25 different countries.

In December 2003, the board of BAC Corrosion Control Limited announced the appointment of Mr Tony Gerrard to the role of Managing Director, promoting him from his current role as General Manager, with effect from 1st January 2004 in time for the 50th anniversary celebrations. Mr Gerrard will be taking over from the existing Managing Director, Mr John Hall, who has been at the company for the last five years.

Mr Hall will be semi retiring as of the beginning of the year, however he will be staying with BAC in a reduced role as Director and company secretary.

Tony Gerrard has progressed through BAC starting as an engineer, continuing on to Engineering Manager and then to General Manager. Mr Gerrard has been at BAC for a number of years, or as it was previously called MAPEL, and as a result of this has a sound understanding of the business which combined with his past experiences, gives a firm background to the industry, which will stand him in good stead for his new role.

BAC WIN NEW CONTRACT ON THE LIBYAN GREAT MAN MADE RIVER PROJECT

BAC has been awarded a one million Euro contract to provide expertise and specialist materials to retroactively fit cathodic protection to a section of the Great Man-Made River in Libya.

The contract, awarded by Energoinvest of Sarajevo and signed in early July is to carry out site survey works, installation supervision for the anticipated 2 year contract and to commission the system prior to providing maintenance services for a further 12 months.



Džemail Vlahovljak, General Manager and BAC Sales Manager Steve Goring putting pen to paper with witnesses Bisera Hadžialjević, Commercial Manager, and Muhamed Skrijelj, Project Manager.

The bulk of the contract value is to supply specialist components, which are due for delivery to site during 2003 and comprises control boxes, splice kits, test and survey equipment and electrical ancillaries.

The Great Man-Made River project, described as the "eighth wonder of the world" by the Libyans is a 4000 km pre-stressed cylinder concrete pipeline (PCCP) which will eventually bring 4 million cubic feet of water from the aquifers in Sarir, Kufra, Tazerbo and Fezzan in the southern Sahara desert to the coastal areas in the north where agriculture, industry and the majority of the population are located.

The section of the network that is to be protected under this contract runs approximately 200 km between the reservoirs located at Tazerbo and Sarir further north.

The cathodic protection system is designed to protect the steel cylinder and prestressing wire in each of the 80 tonne 4.2 metre diameter pipe section. BAC have been supplying equipment for various sections of the project, now in its 5th phase since 1991.

NEW LAMINATED ZINC TAPE CORROSION PROTECTION SYSTEM

ISOZIN laminated zinc tape from BAC Corrosion Control comprises a layer of 99.99% pure zinc 80 microns (0.08mm) thick with 25 microns (0.025mm) of adhesive protected by a removable siliconised paper. It is available in 50 metre long rolls in widths ranging from 10mm up to 300mm.

A feature of the new laminated zinc tape is its electrically conductive adhesive which, as well as securing the tape to the steel substrate ensures a positive electrical connection to the zinc so that it can act as a sacrificial galvanic anode. This is achieved by incorporating a percentage of powdered zinc into the adhesive during manufacture.

The corrosion protection system is designed to be applied to uncoated, mainly above ground iron and steel surfaces to provide protection for the lifetime of the pipe and virtually eliminate maintenance re-painting costs.

The laminated zinc tape can be applied manually or by machine for larger components.

BAC are currently seeking approval from the Water Research Council in order to prove the products high standard of function and durability, and also to increase attractiveness to possible future customers.



BAC ENTERS JOINT VENTURE WITH ARAB CORROSION CONTROL COMPANY

Following more than forty years of experience in the Gulf, BAC has opened an office in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, with a company local to that area called Middle East Engineers & Corrosion Control (MEECC).

MEECC has served as an agent to BAC in the Middle East for some time and as both companies have plans to expand the relationship has naturally developed to the next level, which was to form a partnership.



(CORROSION CONTROL & CATHODIC PROTECTION)

The office, being successfully open for 6 months, has followed approximately 12 months of negotiations. The principle objective for each company is to benefit from the other in the most valuable way possible. BAC-MEECC can offer local engineering expertise with materials and equipment from BAC as an internationally recognised cathodic protection company.

It is hoped that the new base will be used to register with locally based companies of differing types, in order to generate additional business, and grow into a respected locally based company. As a result of using the new location and also by utilising more cost effective local labour and expertise, BAC are proving to be more successful in securing contracts.

BAC MANAGEMENT SAYS...

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the fifth edition of our Corporate Newsletter "Protection and Connection" which has been published in early 2004. 2003 produced another set of good sales figures and 2004 has started with a strong order book. Our Pin Brazing range remains strong and new additions to the range are planned for 2004. We also have 'high hopes' for our Zinc Tape "galvanising on a roll" product. Both of these should be available for demonstration at the exhibitions we plan to be at (see back page) or by individual request. We thank both existing, returning and new customers for your business and look forward to working with you during 2004 and beyond.

Tony Gerrard
Managing Director

BAC AND MOTT MACDONALD AWARDED RESEARCH PROJECT CONCERNING ALWC

The Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA) is a UK-based research association concerned with improving the performance of all involved with construction and the environment. CIRIA works with industry to develop and implement best practice, leading to better performance.

A CIRIA research project has been awarded to BAC Corrosion Control Limited, in Telford, in partnership with Mott MacDonald, the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST) and John Martin Construction. The title of this project is "Management of Accelerated Low Water Corrosion", project number P2044.

The overall objective for this research project is to prepare documentation that can be used for consultation and as a recommendation tool at sites affected by ALWC.



Inspection of Accelerated Low Water Corrosion.

Accelerated low water corrosion (ALWC), also known as lowest astronomical tide (LAT) corrosion and concentrated corrosion, is an accelerated form of corrosion that can occur on inshore, tidal or marine steel structures at or around the low water level. The consequences can be serious, requiring costly remedial repair works at a surprising early stage in a structure's life. With ALWC becoming a growing problem, it is hoped that this research project will provide a broad spectrum of issues faced by port and harbour authorities, and also endeavour to provide answers to relevant questions surrounding the subject.

Following nearly five years of working together in order to develop new products and services, BAC and Mott MacDonald have now spent the last few months developing the research project plan and structure.

TRAINING TO ENSURE PIN BRAZING STAYS ON TRACK

To ensure electrical continuity on rails for all types of track-bound transportation systems a technique of bonding - pin brazing - was developed over fifty years ago. It is now a fully proven technique able to withstand the elements in countries all over the world, from the sub-zero temperatures in arctic Europe and North America to the tropical humidity in Africa and the Far East.

As well as track bonding for signalling purposes the technique is used extensively for the connection of heater strips. Earth connections may also be attached to pylons carrying overhead electricity lines for railway locomotives and tramway systems. Pin brazing has also been a great success in the Cathodic Protection sector, bonding cables to pipelines carrying oil, natural gas and water throughout the world.

In practice, a specially designed brazing pin is inserted into a brazing pin and a ceramic ferrule is placed over it. The gun is applied to a cable lug and after a few simple adjustments the trigger is depressed. A full bonding operation for brazing two cable lugs takes less than a minute, a saving of nearly twenty minutes per bond when compared to the more conventional methods of track bonding. Tests have shown the bonding to still be intact after more than 5 million wheels have passed over it.

There are two main types of Bright-Bond unit, the popular BB3 with the capacity to produce approximately 150 connections per charge, for long stretches of rails or pylons and the portable BB2 unit, for service and maintenance operations, giving approximately 50 connections per charge. Both units can be tailored manually to suit user's specific needs. A wide range of ancillary equipment is also available including several types of brazing gun, specially designed bonds and cables, batteries and accessories. Bright-Bond units and equipment are available for sale, lease or hire.



The Bright-Bond technique is safe, fast, durable and all weather. Due to its high mechanical strength, Bright-Bond Pin Brazing is an extremely effective and efficient form of electrical bonding.

Due to the expense of downtime caused by faulty or broken equipment, in terms of lost revenue, disruption and other hold backs, it is of paramount importance that the appropriately trained staff are on hand to ensure efficient management of the systems. Bright-Bond provides the necessary training service to ensure that end users are fully qualified and capable of using Bright-Bond pin brazing equipment, and to perform maintenance and repair services of the equipment itself should it be called upon.

The training course is highly recommended by not only Bright-Bond, but many of the present customers who successfully utilise pin brazing products year after year. On completion of the course, attendees become fully certified with full health and safety awareness, the ability to evaluate finished work, and perform servicing on the installations to reduce unnecessary costly repairs.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

In 2004, BAC will be exhibiting at;



- Water, Sewerage and Waste – Stand number 44, Lancashire County Cricket Club, Manchester, UK. 11th March



- NACE Expo 04 – Representatives will be at stand numbers 401 and 1337, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. 28th March-1st April



- Civils 2004 – Stand number 17F68, Hall 17, NEC Birmingham, UK. 27th-29th April



- 9th China International Exhibition on Surface Engineering & Anti Corrosion – Stand number A269, 19th-21st May, Shanghai International Exhibition Centre