

NEWS RELEASE

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Flood Defence Scheme is crowned Overall Winner 2006 in the Environment Agency's Project Excellence Awards

At the Environment Agency's first annual **Project Excellence Awards**, on 5th December 2006, May Gurney was in the winning project team for two categories out of the four awarded. The project team also received the accolade of Overall Winner 2006, for the Fordingbridge Flood Defence Scheme.

The 2006 Project Excellence Awards are devised to recognise the excellent work that is undertaken during the past twelve months on behalf of the Environment Agency (the EA) by the project teams made up from the National Engineering and Environmental Consultancy Agreements (NEECA2), National Contractors Frameworks (NCF), National Cost Consultancy Framework (NCCF) and the EA's own staff.

May Gurney is part of 'Team Van Oord', who are one of the existing NCF contractors, together with Mackley and Van Oord.

From the original 98 entries detailing schemes undertaken across England and Wales, a short-list of twelve were considered. An eminent judging panel was assembled to consider these final twelve projects, including senior representatives from the Institution of Civil Engineers, Alfred McAlpine, the EA and the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management.

The **Management of Health, Safety and Environmental Risk** category saw the judges looking for teams that showed "the application of best practice in relation to the management of either H&S and /or environmental risks to avoid accidents or environmental incidents'. The winning Project Team for the £2.95m project at Greylake Sluices comprised Team Van Oord, WS Atkins, and teams from the EA, which included NEAS, NCPMS along with the local area officers.

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The ***Sustainable Construction and Environmental Enhancement*** category, where the judges were looking for schemes that 'demonstrated positive actions to ensure either the environmental impact of undertaking the work has been minimised, and/or it delivered significant environmental enhancement'. The £6.5m Flood Defence project at Fordingbridge, was undertaken by a fully intergrated Project Team comprising Team Van Oord, Halcrow (NEECA2), EC Harris (NCCF) and teams from the EA, including NCPMS, NEAS and the local Area Officers.

The judging process included the Project teams making detailed presentations to the judging panel and answering questions about their projects. In making their final judgement of the category winners and overall winner, the panel sought to identify those Project Teams who had worked in a way that could be held up as an example of how to work in the future.

Commenting on our Project Team's winning campaigns, the judging panel said, "We were particularly impressed by the highly professional approach to delivering projects effectively and efficiently, which was evident throughout, together with the passionate commitments to integrated team working, making peoples lives better and improving the environment."

Tim Read, May Gurney Utility Services Managing Director said, "It was a pleasure to work as a member of Team Van Oord and we are delighted to have won as part of the overall delivery team two categories out of a possible four. Winning the accolade of Overall Winner 2006 for the Fordingbridge Flood Defence project is excellent recognition of the whole team's dedication and commitment to teamwork."

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Notes to editors

May Gurney is a dynamic integrated support and construction services company providing maintenance and enhancement services to the highways, rail, utilities and general infrastructure markets, primarily with public sector and regulated sector customers, across the UK. The company focuses on long term relationships, has 3,200 employees and delivers solutions through two primary business segments - Maintenance Services and Engineering & Project Services.

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The **Maintenance Services** segment is focused on the core markets of highways and utilities. Activities include highways maintenance under long term partnerships with Local Authorities and network improvement and maintenance services provided to major UK utilities networks under long-term framework contracts.

The **Engineering & Project Services** segment serves public and regulated sector clients across a broad range of industries. Core services include the enhancement of road and rail infrastructure, waste management, flood protection, ground remediation, foundations, geotechnical engineering and building.

For further information on May Gurney please go to www.maygurney.co.uk.

Photo caption: Humphrey Temperley, Chairman of the Regional Flood Defence Committee and a South West Regional Assembly member, presenting the Overall Winner Project Excellence Award 2006 to members of the Fordingbridge Delivery Team that include Team Van Oord, the Environmental Agency, EC Harris and Halcrow. Steve Ashman of May Gurney (part of Team Van Oord) can be seen accepting the award on behalf of the whole project team.

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