



Case Study – Tails Management Facility, Capenhurst

Introduction

In 2010, URENCO received regulatory and planning approval to develop a Tails Management Facility (TMF) at its UK site for the storage, processing and de-conversion of depleted uranium hexafluoride (UF₆), or 'tails'. Once complete, the TMF would enable the recycling of circa 5,000 tonnes of hydrogen fluoride (HF) a year for industrial use.

URENCO ChemPlants Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary, was responsible for the build and operation of the TMF which will process URENCO's European inventory of depleted uranium by-product. They awarded the civils and mechanical works to Kier and Jacobs, both of whom appointed Rainham as access contractor.

Scope

Internal and external Scaffolding and Access services in support of the construction of TMF Tails management facility at UCP's Cheshire Nuclear Licensed Site. Due to the complexity of the site almost every scaffold erected required a bespoke solution not available from the company's standard approved design catalogue and in order to keep pace with the vast construction programme Rainham deployed two full time design engineers and a co-ordinator for the duration of the build.

Access Used

- ATPAC Proprietary System Scaffold
- Conventional Tube and Clip Scaffolding
- Rope Access
- MEWPS

Key Facts

- 185 scaffolders (peak)
- 200,000 man hours
- £10,000,000 (per annum)
- 0 LTA's

Innovation

Possibly the most cost effective innovation is the embedding of a MEWP Coordinator into the delivery team. The Scaffold Coordinator would plan a daily and 7 day work-cope and using his experience identify potential MEWP access and pass relevant information to the MEWP Coordinator. From there the optimum plant was identified, considering factors such as access, reach, overhead restrictions etc and the relevant item then assigned from site stock or called forward from the local depot. At Capenhurst a total peak workforce of 1,800 was supported by a peak scaffold number of 185 and 130 MEWP's.