

The staff newsletter of AJ Engineering and NEWCo

NEWCO GIVEN THUMBS UP FOR COVID SAFETY MEASURES

NEWCo has been praised for implementing procedures to ensure that workers and visitors to the site are kept safe with regard to Covid-19.

The Fort William premises were visited by the Health and Safety Executive in August and general manager Neil Worsdall said he was delighted with the report.

He said: "The health and safety executive visit went very well and we were able to show that we have successfully implemented procedures which ensure that we have a safe environment for our employees and visitors alike. Employee and customer cooperation and assistance has been vital in achieving this and we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help."

He added: "The inspector was happy with our preventative virus control procedures which include having hand sanitiser stations at reception and throughout the premises, social distancing and the implementation of a one-way system, and digital thermometer checks on arrival for visitors."

NEWCo has also employed a specialist cleaning company for daily deep cleans, has staggered start and finish times for employees, has dedicated welfare units for site work, non-contact collections and deliveries and has additional site vehicles.



MORE WATER WORKS IN PIPELINE

Further works on water schemes has seen the team design, manufacture and deliver a new stainless-steel chlorine contact tank.

The tank is part of improvement works for the Water Treatment Plant in Uig, located on the west coast of the Isle of Lewis near Loch Suainbabhal where the existing works are.

The work on this project began just before lockdown, but as project manager Wilson Burnett explained the AJE team were able to continue to work on the tank which was deemed as an essential project: "We were able to complete this tank using just one member of staff so it was low risk and meant that we could continue to provide a good service to our customer."

"The tank is 7.2 m long x 2.2 m wide x 0.53 m deep with a central baffle, five access lids and roof support steel for site flooring."

"Following manufacture, the tank was filled with water and pressure tested to check for leaks before being fully cleaned and disinfected internally. We also sweep blasted the outside of the tank rather than use chemicals to clean it as we were conscious it was destined for a water treatment works."

Ordinarily a team from AJE would have delivered the tank directly to site, but being mindful of Covid 19 restrictions, Wilson spoke with MacAulay Askernish Ltd, the main contractor.

"The main contractor was carrying out the build extension for these improvement works and are already based on the island," explained Wilson, "we decided to reduce risk to both AJ Engineering staff having to travel to the Western Isles and to the local area, by agreeing that MacAulay Askernish Ltd would take the tank to site and lift it into place once we had delivered it to their yard in Stornoway."



Modified containers for hazardous substances

Corrie Construction on behalf of their customer Scottish Water are now in receipt of two storage containers which have been completely modified to provide regulated storage for control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH).

The NEWCo team procured the two 20ft containers on behalf of the customer.

They removed the end doors, re-folded new ends, designed and fabricated new doors which fully open and laid GRP flooring and insulated the wooden walls.

One of the containers was completely halved in length to the client's requirements and every aspect of the transformation was completed by the NEWCo team including design, fabrication, joinery and painting.



Boyd used the force

AJE was delighted to finally award Boyd Miller with his prize of a £50 Mackenzie & Cruickshank voucher after he won our lockdown STEM competition back in March.

At the start of lockdown AJE launched a competition to help families with home schooling. AJE value the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects and asked that people post a picture or video of any STEM related home projects.

Boyd and his dad Ricki were chosen as winners by general manager Graham Alexander. Graham said: "We were delighted with the competition entries and the variety of experiments that people tried. There are some future engineers out there! What we liked about Boyd's experiment was how simple it was, by testing the force of friction using old phone books, simple but effective."

Boyd plans to spend his voucher on something special: "We have just got a kitten, so I hope to buy some toys and treats in the M&C pet department. I enjoyed doing the experiment with my dad, but I am glad to be back at school."



OUT IN THE COLD FOR AJE!

AJ Engineering is working on another project steeped in history, this time with Grange Hall Estate to restore their old cold store.

The cold store was dug out in 1876 and the estate house would fill and compact it with snow in winter and it would be used to keep food cold and fresh throughout the summer. Business development representative Lee Binks has been working on the project.

He said: "The current estate keeper discovered the old cold store and with a bit of history behind it they have decided to restore it. AJ Engineering was delighted to provide a number of rolled flat bars that will be used in re-building the curved roof of the store."

He added: "We will also be involved in providing some more solutions for the cold store including potential civils work to further strengthen it once the crops to the right hand side of it have been dug up by the farmer."



Join MD Alan James at virtual award ceremony

Managing director Alan James will find out next week if he has scooped an award which will recognise his leadership skills.

Alan has been nominated for an award by The Institute of Directors in Scotland and is one of six finalists in the director of the year category for small and medium size businesses.

The winners are set to be announced in a virtual ceremony on Tuesday,

September 8th and anyone wishing to watch on the night is being asked to register to receive their own link to the live ceremony.

Registration closes at midnight September 6th and can be done by following the link below: <https://www.iod.com/events-community/regions/scotland/director-of-the-year-awards>
Good luck Alan!