

SCHEME**Quarry Lane, Birmingham****CLIENT****Barhale****CONSULTANT****Severn Trent Water Services****PIPE APPLICATION****3 m diameter 9 m length Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) chamber**

WEHOLITE pipe brings a ray of hope for residents of a Birmingham suburb

A £1.8 million investment into the infrastructure of two Birmingham suburbs is making use of the most innovative construction materials available on the market, ones that prevent residents suffering from floods caused by sewers overflowing during periods of heavy rainfall.

The two projects form part of Severn Trent Water's programme to improve 83 CSOs in the Birmingham area, undertaken as part of AMP4. This is set to improve the environmental quality of the River Tame. The project also received a silver award at Severn Trent Water's Quality Working Day. Undertaking two groundbreaking installations at Quarry Lane and Stratford Road in the Northfields and Sparkhill suburbs of the city, main Contractors Barhale used the latest large diameter WEHOLITE (HDPE) water management solutions.

The works were undertaken on behalf of Severn Trent Water as part of AMP4 upgrade of projects in the area. The works were conducted over a six month period. Quarry Lane was completed in March and Stratford Road completed August 06.

Already being used successfully in other sites for both clean and wastewater projects, the HDPE water management solutions, manufactured in the UK by ASSET International Ltd., helps contractors complete the work in less time. It minimises the disruption to



local residents and reduces the need for expensive heavy lifting equipment. The pipes are strong, light, flexible and are available in longer lengths than many other materials.

Site agent, Dave James, said: "This is the first time this material has been used in Birmingham for a combined sewer overflow (CSO) chamber and it will be carefully monitored throughout its lifespan,

THE ESSENTIAL SOLUTION FOR PIPE USERS NATIONWIDE

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to measure how effective it is. Other successful installations across the UK have proved that it is more than capable of doing the job. "The decision to use WEHOLITE was taken because it is so easy to work with. Using the LiteSpeed CSO chamber at Quarry Lane turned a 12 week job into an 8 week job – reducing our time on-site by a third. This not only helps to reduce the cost, but also minimises disruption to local residents." Dave continues.

WEHOLITE was used to manufacture the 3 m diameter and 9 m long prefabricated LiteSpeed CSO in Newport, South Wales, and then transported by road already complete and ready for installation at the Quarry Lane site.

One of the four new CSO chambers installed across the Northfield area is LiteSpeed, and the numbers are increasing as other infrastructure companies and engineering contractors across the UK use the

material more often. The chamber houses a sophisticated screen mechanism that skims solid waste from the sewer system during flood conditions. This was preceded by the installation of a WEHOLITE attenuation tank at Stratford Road that takes the excess water from the sewer system at times of high demand. The 2.1 m diameter and 300 m long overflow tank can store up to 1 million litres of excess water from the system and release it when the infrastructure is able to cope with it better.

WEHOLITE is so light that even larger tanks can be fabricated off-site and delivered ready for installation, making further timesavings at the construction stage. A CSO chamber can be supplied complete and installed into the sewer system in a fraction of the time it takes to fabricate a tank on site.

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