SKANSKA

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National Grid - Skanska Gas Alliance (North London)

Project overview

Client:

National Grid

Value:

£400 million over an eight year period

Project objective/details:

- Design
- Project management
- Service installations, connection and metering
- High, medium and low pressure main installation and replacement
- Emergency response and repair
- Turnkey gas infrastructure in-fill projects









Our gas network replacement scheme is an eight year alliance contract (under the NEC Option C form) on behalf of National Grid.

The contract involves delivering National Grid's gas mains replacement and abandonment programme by replacing around 400km of gas main per annum in and around the North London area. The project scope includes design, project management, programme management and construction.

The contact has adopted an integrated management approach, where we work seamlessly with our client in co-located offices. This approach sees both companies providing complementary skills and resources, sharing risks and reward whilst focussing on the common objectives to deliver a safe, quality output for our client National Grid.

The contract involves constant liaison with our client, local authorities and the local community. We have developed a "Customer Information Centre" which drives to the location of works and provides the local community with up to date information on the works going on in their area. This has proven to be a major success.

A key factor in the continued success of this contract has been work visibility with no hand-offs or duplication of processes, simplified decision processes and incentivised performance. The continuous improvement approach across the Gas Alliance can be evidenced in what Skanska have helped National Grid achieve in the first three years of the contract.

Key facts:

- The first three years annual programmes delivered on time and in gain position.
- Significant net reduction in mains replacement unit cost as compared with previous contracting models.
- Increased productivity per operative achieved in an employment market exhibiting a shortage of skilled resources.
- Successful integration of new industry recruits via schemes such as the Offenders and Ambition Energy initiatives.
- Significant reductions in electric cable strikes and lost time injury frequency rates.
- 100% recycling of PE pipe.

The programme is managed within a performance framework based around a 'Sustainability Scorecard' which is comprised of health and safety performance, quality and standards, delivery performance and people performance.

Skanska have a track record of developing systems to meet the needs of its clients. We have implemented a suite of IT solutions on this contract that maximised the benefits, capabilities and experience of the team working on the contract.

The project has been recognised for its performance through various awards from National Grid covering the environment, health and safety and customer service. Recognition by the wider construction and utility sectors has come from the 'Management and Process Innovation Award' at the Quality in Construction Awards in 2006.