



Awards judge Henrik Bonnesen (left) shares the joy with AR Demolition's Richard Dolman and Patricia Sloneczny

SAFETY & TRAINING

WINNER AR Demolition
COUNTRY United Kingdom
Also shortlisted

Aecom, Envirocon, Lloyd's Construction Services, Sabre Demolition (all USA); Aurecon Group (New Zealand); Erith Contractors (United Kingdom); Liebherr Group (Germany); Priestly Demolition (Canada)

If there is one category of the World Demolition Awards that underpins all the entries, safety and training is it.

AR Demolition's motivation for entering the awards is to promote industry best practice and to learn from the experience. Its objective is to build a high quality, sustainable business where reinvestment and team work come together to deliver projects on budget, on schedule while embracing a high measure of health and safety excellence across more than 150 projects in a 12-month period.

Training continues to be at the core of AR, ensuring all employees are continually refining their competence and building their confidence.

The company recently invested in two CAT 320s with attachments for its four plant apprentices, allowing them to undertake their apprenticeship with the most advanced equipment on the market. It held an Apprentice Day in June, which gave the apprentices the opportunity to see the machines for the first time, they were also presented with their own vans and all associated equipment required for site, an investment of more than £400,000 (US\$500,000).

Commitment to the United Kingdom's National Demolition Training Group Specialist Demolition Apprenticeship Programme continues with three AR Demolition apprentices currently enrolled.

Each year the company sets down its aims and these are currently as follows:

- Accommodating work experience students
- Forging links with local schools and colleges regarding regeneration projects
- Bespoke in house environmental and remediation training
- Ongoing industry specific courses for all demolition operatives and engineers
- Developing desktop software for downloading to site managers' Ipad to assist in project management.

For the judges, John Woodward said: "All the shortlisted companies demonstrated a commitment to a fully trained workforce but the winners stood out by their desire to review training regularly to ensure that all employees realise their full potential in a well run team."

CONTRACT OF THE YEAR UNDER US\$1 MILLION

WINNER Liberty Industrial
COUNTRY Australia
PROJECT Dismantling of Duck River Bridge

Also shortlisted

Despe (Italy); Downwell Demolition (United Kingdom); Priestly Demolition (Canada); Protranz Earthmoving (New Zealand)

The two Contract of the Year awards have always been the subject of healthy competition and though Liberty Industrial – winner of the Explosive Demolition Award in 2015 – had to fight off a number of rivals to win the under \$1 million category this year, it was a worthy winner.

As judge John Woodward commented: "The winners demonstrated how a difficult demolition could be achieved in a very tight time scale by meticulous planning and execution."

The project involved the removal of a redundant 70 m (229 ft) single span pipe bridge at the former Clyde Refinery. The bridge had been out of service for some years and required removal due to extensive corrosion and some missing steel members. The bridge was lifted onto a barge, floated down Duck River and landed at the refinery wharf using a combination of mobile cranes.

There was a significant level of scrutiny placed on the works given the environmentally sensitive location; the Duck River is lined with mangroves, which in New South Wales are protected by legislation. The proposed demolition activities within this zone were referred to the NSW government authority, Roads and Maritime Services for review. Approval was granted for the bridge removal on the condition that the mangroves on either side of the river were not removed or damaged under any circumstances.

Initially the bridge had to be structurally assessed and measurements taken to establish its strength and integrity. To gain safe access for the structural engineers from GHD, a specialist rope access team was engaged. It devised an elaborate system of ropes and harnesses to facilitate safe access throughout the full length of the bridge. GHD carried out both a visual and non-destructive testing regime to develop

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Liberty's Simon Gill (left) receives the award from judge Patrick Frye as his colleague Clinton Dick looks on