

VolkerView

Proud together



Artists impression of University Square, Stratford

VolkerFitzpatrick wins two high profile East London projects

VolkerFitzpatrick has won two high profile contracts in east London to design and build two new, highly sustainable education facilities; a £17.7m contract known as University Square, Stratford and an £8.9m contract for a new library for the University of East London.

Works have already started at University Square to build a new university hub that will meet the growing educational aspirations of local people in the heart of east London. A unique joint venture between Birkbeck, University of London and the University of East London (UEL), the building is designed to be a multi-use academic space comprising 8,600m² of floor space.

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VolkerWessels UK makes multi-million pound investment in new systems

Foreword from the Chief Executive



Alan Robertson

Chief Executive, Alan Robertson, reflects on the last year:

As we close out the 2011 year end, I am immensely proud of our achievements, as we see VolkerWessels UK going from strength to strength.

As a financially stable, strong and cohesive business we make the most of our market conditions, nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit we are known for and encouraging flexible and dynamic solutions to meet our client's needs.

It is this flexibility, our diverse portfolio and our skilled employees that have seen our market position strengthen this year, as well as our orderbook increase year on year.

In these challenging times we will continue to work with our clients and our industry partners to develop new ways of working within the constraints of the market, as well as using our skills to penetrate markets where growth is expected in the coming years.

"As a financially stable, strong and cohesive business we make the most of our market conditions, nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit we are known for..."

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The structure is a five storey reinforced concrete frame, which will incorporate a mixture of finishes that include finished timber surfaces, glazing, granite and glass facades, rain screen cladding and exposed concrete ceilings acting as part of the heating and cooling strategy.

The building, which has been designed to achieve an 'Excellent' BREEAM rating also incorporates sustainable features such as glazed curtain walling and photo voltaic panels on the facades, displacement ventilation that will provide single source heating and ventilation using the raised floors as plenums. There is also 700m² of green roof area, encouraging bio-diversity and reducing rainwater loss, which will provide water for WC flushing.

The new Stratford Library is located about 500m away from the University Square, Stratford site and will provide a new library facility on the UEL's campus in Stratford. The structure will consist of three floors that are reinforced concrete framed with brick and glazed facades.

The library has also been designed to achieve a BREEAM rating of 'Excellent' and will include sustainable features such as photo voltaic panels, green roof areas and rainwater harvesting for WC flushing.

Features such as exposed concrete ceilings constructed using a specific shuttering layout, mechanical ventilation, high



Artists impression of the new Stratford library central atrium

quality fair facade concrete finishes and raised flooring will all provide an efficient strategy for the heating and cooling of the building. A domed glass skylight at roof level will create a stunning central atrium providing a main focal point inside the building and allowing daylight to not only enhance the user experience, but provide natural light to an internal bamboo garden at floor level.

Richard Offord, managing director of VolkerFitzpatrick said: "We are delighted to have been chosen to work on both these prestigious projects and be part of the vision for these two complementary centres of learning, creating more

accessible facilities for higher education in areas of low participation."

"These projects will strengthen our already extensive experience in sustainable building and the higher education sector. After carrying out a large number of high profile projects in the Stratford area we are well versed to the particular challenges of working on this type of project and in this part of London."

Richard Morsley, project and partnership manager for the University Square, Stratford project said: "We are delighted to welcome VolkerFitzpatrick as the building contractor for this exciting and ground-breaking project. The company has an admirable reputation working in the education sector and we feel that they are the right people for the job."

"After carrying out a large number of high profile projects in the Stratford area we are well versed to the particular challenges of working on this type of project and in this part of London."



Exchanging places: Met Police and VolkerHighways team

VolkerHighways retains Hackney term maintenance contract

VolkerHighways has successfully retained its £40m term maintenance contract with the London Borough of Hackney for an additional four years.

VolkerHighways has been providing its specialist services to the streets of Hackney since 2004, and so building upon the success of previous years will continue to carry out footpath and cycleway renewal and maintenance, winter maintenance, gully cleansing and maintenance, road surfacing and street lighting, as well as providing a 24/7 emergency response.

The success of this contract is down to the partnership and collaboration of the VolkerHighways team with the client, the supply chain and the local community. The team has introduced several community safety initiatives as part of the contract. The campaign 'Protect our People' aims to raise the awareness of road and footpath users and partners with community groups such as Disability Hackney and the London



Footpath renewal taking place in the London borough of Hackney

Cycling Campaign to improve roadwork navigation for different user groups.

The team has also taken part in 'Exchanging Places', a campaign initiated by the Metropolitan Police to tackle the problem of cyclist and heavy goods vehicle (HGV) related accidents. VolkerHighways provided HGV's and drivers for the campaign, which has since inspired the company to develop a new CPC approved training programme of its own which provides a mutual appreciation of road space for both cyclists and HGV drivers.

Mark Mascar, project manager for the Hackney Term Maintenance Contract, said: "Our focus in Hackney is to continue to deliver high quality services to the local community and our client, whilst developing new technology and ways of working to reduce both cost and CO₂ emissions.

"We are committed to ensuring the safety of all road users, whether it is our road works or vehicles they encounter. The cycle training and awareness programme is designed to ensure our commercial vehicle drivers obtain a greater appreciation for cyclist road positions, body language and space requirements. It is also important that cyclists have a mutual understanding of what it is like for large vehicles sharing their road space and learn about driver's blind spots. We now intend to launch the programme across the business and supply chain as part of commercial driver training plans, and will support Hackney and the Metropolitan Police in their on-going delivery of the 'Exchanging Places' campaign."

VolkerSteel Foundations grows into a new name

VolkerGround Engineering

VolkerSteel Foundations was renamed and re-branded to VolkerGround Engineering on 31st October, to better reflect the much more diverse range of services it now provides.

The business, which is a subsidiary of VolkerStevin, has been operating for more than 40 years across the construction industry as a specialist in the design, supply and installation of all forms of steel sheet and bearing piles. As the company has grown, so have its products and services.

Rob Coupe, managing director of VolkerStevin, explains:

"For some time now we have been carrying out specialist works that do not fit under the steel foundations banner. For example, we have been carrying out a number of cased CFA retaining walls and other piling techniques, where additional equipment is attached to our existing fleet of rigs, making better use of our versatile plant fleet."

"The name change was a logical next step; helping to better inform both our clients and the market of the geotechnical solutions we now offer alongside the steel piling work."

VolkerGround Engineering also works in conjunction with external partners developing new techniques and introducing them to the UK market. For example the specialist teams can now provide Geotextile Encased Columns (GEC), working in close co-operation with Huesker Ltd.

Colwyn Bay coastal defence project is close to completion

VolkerStevin is close to completion of the first phase of the Colwyn Bay Coastal Defence project, a £6 million pound project that will provide Colwyn Bay in north Wales with a new and improved coastal defence and raised promenade.

The contract to construct the first phase of the coastal defences and raised promenade was awarded to VolkerStevin by Conwy County Borough Council in January 2011 and has taken 39 weeks to complete. The works consisted of the demolition of the existing wall and promenade, which is over 100 years old, and the construction of a new raised promenade that includes a road, cycleway and car parking, tying in with the new sea wall.

The construction of the reinforced concrete retaining flood defence walls consists of 900t of concrete encased sheet piles along the 400m length of promenade and utilised 80,000 tonnes of imported materials into the new rock armour revetment and groynes. The concrete encased sheet piles were installed by VolkerStevin subsidiary VolkerGround Engineering and the steel twin wallings and formwork for the concrete walls were manufactured by VolkerBrooks, another VolkerStevin subsidiary. The works also included the construction of a new slipway, pre-cast concrete steps, a stepped revetment, piped culverts and associated headwalls.

Third party liaison and stakeholder engagement have been key considerations with regard to diversions, access to public spaces and properties and service protection. An experienced full time public liaison manager was appointed to the scheme and a public information drop in centre was set up on the beach front to aid public engagement.

Ian Cussons, VolkerStevin project manager, said: "VolkerStevin is pleased to have been involved in such a transformational project to the coastline of Colwyn Bay. It is estimated that £100m of infrastructure is located behind Colwyn Bay's frontage and so the project has ensured that this infrastructure is now protected from the Irish Sea."



Installation of piling and tie rods at Colwyn Bay



Coastal defence and raised promenade close to completion at Colwyn Bay

Conwy County Borough Council's waterfront project manager, Hywel Jones, said: "Since being awarded the contract to deliver the first phase of this important local project, VolkerStevin has actively engaged with all the key stakeholders as well as the public in general. It is testament to the approach they adopted that the works have been delivered successfully with minimal disturbance to the community, despite the relatively short contract period."

"VolkerStevin is pleased to have been involved in such a transformational project to the coastline of Colwyn Bay."

Linkflote demand in the Antarctic!

VolkerBrooks has seen a marked increase in enquiries for its Linkflote pontoon floatation system from across the globe in recent months. The company has regular customers in Europe but has recently received enquiries from Africa, South America, North America, and the Middle East, as well as an enquiry from the Antarctic, which have led to some far away deliveries of the Linkflote pontoons.

Most recently eight new Linkflote pontoons were exported out to a bridge and tunnelling contractor in New Hampshire USA and four Linkflote units exported to a regular customer from Italy. Whilst the latest order to come in for the pontoons is for six scow end units for export to Africa.

Steve Holt general manager at VolkerBrooks, said: "We're obviously delighted to be receiving these enquiries and are pleased the pontoons we manufacture are proving to be the systems that people want to work with wherever they are in the world. As the only manufacturer of Linkflote pontoons in the world we are able to offer a comprehensive service from manufacture and design through to delivery and installation."



Linkflote pontoon being manufactured in the VolkerBrooks workshop

Linkflote is a versatile and easily handled modular pontoon floatation system that is fully compatible with Uniflote pontoons. The pontoons are manufactured at the VolkerBrooks facilities in Morecambe, Lancashire, where the company also holds the largest stock of Linkflote and Uniflote pontoon hire equipment in the United Kingdom. Special units and configurations

can be manufactured to a client's specific requirements.

VolkerBrooks also holds an extensive range of hire equipment for use with the Linkflote system comprising of mooring winches, spud poles, ramps, workboats propulsion units and manufacture a wide range of accessories for use with Linkflote and Uniflote units.

VolkerLaser triumphs at British Parking Awards

VolkerLaser together with Brighton and Hove City Council have been awarded The Safer Parking Scheme Best Refurbishment Award at the 2011 British Parking Awards for the major refurbishment works completed on one of Brighton and Hove City Council's car parks. Organised by Parking Review magazine, the awards seek to identify and reward well designed and managed parking facilities.

The Lanes car park is a 347-space, pay on foot car park which sits in the centre of the city at the heart of the Lanes shopping area. For many visitors, the car park is the front door to the city creating their first and last impressions of Brighton and Hove. The VolkerLaser team worked with Brighton and Hove City Council to transform the car park's look and feel, create a safe and secure environment, improve access links and ensure the car park met sustainable efficiency requirements. The team also helped to develop a distinctive brand and co-ordinate with a new, citywide wayfinding strategy, whilst delivering excellent value for money.



VolkerLaser and Brighton and Hove City Council being presented with the award

Mike Weaver, managing director, said: "VolkerLaser always strives for excellence. This award is the result of hard work and commitment by our project team which, through collaborative

working, radically transformed this underground city centre car park from a dark, gloomy and intimidating environment into a high quality, bright and secure car park."



USA Olympic Team trialling the new BMX track at Cyclopark

VolkerFitzpatrick nearing completion at Cyclopark

VolkerFitzpatrick is nearing completion at Cyclopark, a £3 million pound contract in the north of Kent to create an extreme outdoor sports activity park. Appointed by Kent County Council, VolkerFitzpatrick is the principal contractor on the project.

The works comprise of the creation of 10km of cycle, walking and horse riding routes, 20 hectares of public open space and wildflower grassland and five hectares of woodland habitat. VolkerFitzpatrick has also laid an all-weather asphalt road racing circuit and BMX track, created play areas and a concrete skateboard park and developed a mountain bike trail route. VolkerFitzpatrick, supported by specialist consultants, designed the BMX track, skateboard park and mountain bike trails and throughout the development stages involved local user groups and biking enthusiasts.

The earthworks were built using 3D modelling and GPS guided plant. Using GPS guided plant meant that any changes to design could be put into effect quicker as the team could agree changes on the computer screen and then transfer the design into the GPS machines. It also helped the site to save costs

as works started sooner, due to having no requirement for setting out in the works area.

The mountain bike trail road and racing circuit involved the construction of two underpass box sections and steel deck bridges to take the trail road underneath the racing circuit. The contract also included the construction of all access infrastructure, permanent and overspill car parks including surface water drainage and street lighting.

Mid-way through the works during August 2011 the park received a visit from the USA Olympic BMX team who test trialled the new BMX track with a crowd of excited onlookers.

Alex Elderton project manager at VolkerFitzpatrick, said: "Having a successful history of similar projects in the past, VolkerFitzpatrick has relished the opportunity to be involved in such an exciting project. We are pleased with the works that have already taken place and hope that Cyclopark provides a first class facility for sporting champions of the future."

Laurence Tricker project manager for Kent County Council, said: "VolkerFitzpatrick,

have done a great job for us and our partners and worked hard to complete the works right on time. The VolkerFitzpatrick site team undertook this contract with real enthusiasm and have provided a high quality facility for Kent."

The aim of Cyclopark is to bring first class cycling, running and extreme sports facilities to north Kent and be one of the leading multi-sport centres in the south of England. Cyclopark will offer an exciting range of activities for everyone from the enthusiastic beginner right up to the seasoned pro and will provide a hub for the local community, whilst bringing regional and national events to the area.



Constructing the concrete skateboard park

VolkerRail signalling division triples order book

The signalling team within VolkerRail has had its most successful year to date tripling the strength of its order book in 12 months, following a restructuring programme and a recruitment campaign to strengthen its experienced team.

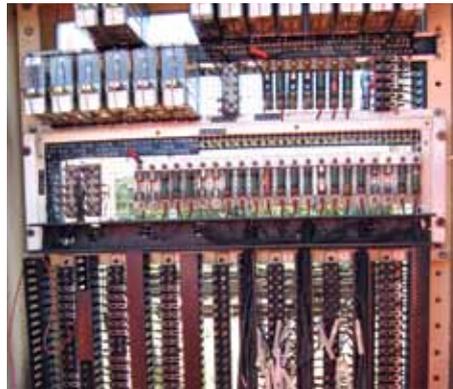
Over the last 12 months, VolkerRail has recruited 16 members of staff to its signalling team, to enhance the existing in-house skills and develop a growth plan for the future. This started 18 months ago with the recruitment of Ken Robinson, director and Steve Sorby, general manager for the Signalling, Power and Communications (SPC) Division.

This new team has successfully delivered projects consistently throughout the year, which Steve Sorby believes is the key to the team's continued growth: "Each project we've undertaken has lead on to a new project, which is testament to our teams, who prove to clients again and again that we can exceed their expectations in project delivery. Repeat business, happy clients and team motivation are definitely key to this increase in turnover."

The division's recently completed Peterborough Lineside Renewals Project is one such project, which has received compliments from all partners and led on to

new contracts at Immingham, Gosberton and Tallington St Neots.

This Network Rail project was undertaken to maintain the integrity of the signalling system by renewing the life expired signalling infrastructure to current requirements with the abolition of redundant routes and equipment where possible. The work included the renewal of 650v lineside distribution, location case renewals, signal renewals with LED heads and all lineside multi core and tail cables. The planning of each stage was extremely complex due to the nature of the working area which has 15 running lines including the East Coast Mainline.



New wires run in existing location case ready for terminating during commissioning stage

An integrated project team, focussed communication channels, good community relations and safe construction techniques were just some of the things VolkerRail's team were complimented on for North Staffordshire Renewals project. This project was undertaken to improve reliability and maintainability of the infrastructure by renewing the life expired level crossing to current standards. Steve continues: "The fact that for the last three years we have delivered all of our projects accident free is also a fantastic achievement."

Services that VolkerRail's SPC Division provides include Signalling and Overhead Line design, installation and commissioning.



New location case

VolkerLaser achieves high standards at Blackfriars Bridge

VolkerLaser is nearing completion on the second phase of works at Blackfriars, a £3 million pound contract to refurbish Blackfriars Bridge in London. The 125 year old wrought iron bridge, which is being refurbished as part of the Thames Link programme running until 2015, will allow for the provision of greater rail movements through the centre of London.

The works, taking place in two phases over 80 weeks, consists of 9,000m² of concrete and steel surface preparation which is then being applied with 10,000m² of spray waterproofing and 1,000m² of sheet waterproofing. VolkerLaser is overlaying the waterproofing with 4,000m²/900t of Laserphalt high modulus mastic asphalt and installing 50m of bespoke expansion joints together with applying 25,000m of sealant to joint gaps.

Due to adverse weather conditions VolkerLaser designed and erected bespoke tenting to cover the works and operated day and night to ensure that each stage of programme was completed on programme. Andrew Welsh, VolkerLaser associate director, said: "Blackfriars Bridge is one of London's most congested sites where rigid timescales and health, safety and environmental standards are of paramount importance."

"The VolkerLaser team continue to work around the clock to achieve the clients key performance indicators. This scheme is an excellent opportunity for VolkerLaser to demonstrate the strength of their specialist construction skills in the waterproofing, strengthening and repair arena."



Works taking place on Blackfriars bridge

VolkerStevin Marine starts works at the DIO Ammunition Facility

VolkerStevin Marine, a permanent joint venture between VolkerStevin and Volker Construction International, has started construction of the £18 million pound contract to design and build the Defence Infrastructure Organisation's ammunition facility in Portsmouth. The specialist marine facility will be used for loading ammunition at Portsmouth Harbour.

The facility will consist of a 15 metre by 85 metre jetty, two mooring dolphins, two small vessel pontoons, and will provide docking and loading facilities for the Type 45 frigates; a key component of the UK's future defence strategy. The jetty is self-containing and will have generators and welfare facilities based upon it.

The design stage of the project has been completed and the team has now started the structural works on site. A total of 58 steel piles have been placed in advance of overwintering birds and the team have installed pre-cast concrete pile-caps and beams, which will eventually form the deck. The team are currently completing the in-situ concrete works.

The facility has no land connection and so transferring concrete mix can prove to be a logistical challenge, with this in mind VolkerStevin Marine is maximising the use of pre-fabrication and pre-cast methods of construction to minimise the movements required, as the transport over water may influence the concrete.



The Dina M carrying out piling works at Portsmouth

Gerrit Smit, project manager for VolkerStevin Marine, said: "Throughout the design phase of the project we have worked with the MOD operational teams and have adapted techniques to include specialist plant and equipment; in particular cranes which are designed to safely handle ammunition for these vessels, which are the most advanced class of frigate in the world. We have also adapted our construction methods, plant selection and material logistics to take account of the sensitive nature of the environment we are building in."

DIO project manager, Paul Simmonds said: "DIO's top priority is to support our Armed

Forces as they prepare for operations. We are pleased to have awarded the contract to VolkerStevin Marine after a rigorous and competitive tendering process.

"We look forward to the construction of a high quality facility that will contribute to the on-going support of Royal Navy surface vessels for many years to come."

The works are expected to be on-going until summer 2012, before the existing facility is demolished by the project team.

"DIO's top priority is to support our Armed Forces as they prepare for operations. We are pleased to have awarded the contract to VolkerStevin Marine after a rigorous and competitive tendering process."



Piling work being undertaken at Portsmouth



Artists impression of the complete DIO ammunition facility

VolkerRail MD climbs Kilimanjaro

In October 2011 Steve Cocliff, managing director of VolkerRail, took part in the Railway Children's charity climb up Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa. At 5,895m (19,340ft) Mount Kilimanjaro is one of the largest volcanoes ever to break through the earth's crust and the challenge for everyone involved was to reach the summit.

The seven day trek, which started in the rainforests of Lemosho Glades, saw Steve walk and climb through all weather conditions, tough winds and even during the night in an attempt to reach the summit.

The highlight of the trip for Steve however was not the summit climb but two days later when he was able to visit one of the projects supported by the Railway Children charity. After the visit he commented: "The sponsorship money is going to a worthy cause and is making a big difference to the



Steve Cocliff, managing director of VolkerRail at the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro

lives of the children supported by the Railway Children."

The Railway Children became the chosen charity for VolkerRail after Steve was moved by the plight of children, who were the same age as his own, begging and sleeping on or around the railways of India. Live rail networks can be fatal and Steve felt compelled to do something to raise both money and awareness for this amazing charity.

Also this year, eight members of staff from VolkerRail managed to raise over £13,500 by completing the London to Paris Cycle Challenge in aid of the Railway Children, cycling a total of 178 miles over three days and two countries.

Steve is still able to receive sponsorship, if you wish to donate to this charity please visit www.virginmoneygiving.com/SteveCocliff

The merry digger dance - VolkerStevin completes challenging river crossing

VolkerStevin has completed the construction and installation of a 132m long, 609mm diameter pipeline across the River Lune, Lancaster, between the west embankment at Mainway, Skerton and the east embankment at Riverside, Kingsway.

Appointed by United Utilities, VolkerStevin completed the most technically challenging section of the works under a 14 week programme. The works consisted of the temporary installation of navy mats and rock armour to create an access track in the River Lune. The pipe was then installed in one piece by six tracked excavators manoeuvring the pipe into a pre-dug trench. The pipe was secured into place using precast pipe ballast units made by VolkerBrooks and the excavated material was then placed back over the pipe. The pipeline will now help United Utilities to improve the quality of the River Lune.



VolkerStevin completing the construction and installation of a 132m long, 609mm diameter pipeline during low tide across the River Lune, Lancaster.

Due to the working limits of the plant the works had to be completed within both a tidal and weather window during low river flows and at low tide. The VolkerStevin site team, which included a site based ecologist, worked in conjunction with the Environment Agency and the Maritime Management Organisation (MMO) to mitigate against the ecological impact on fish migration in the river.

Contracts manager Stuart Newby, said: "This was a technically challenging piece of civil engineering and due to having to be accomplished within a time period and unpredictable tidal and weather windows, complete commitment from all parties was required to ensure completion. Works carried on into the late evening and once in place great cheers erupted around site."

VolkerLaser completes work at Eastgate Shopping Centre

VolkerLaser has completed works at Eastgate Shopping Centre, Inverness, a £2 million plus project to repair and enhance the existing multi storey car park linked to the shopping centre. The contract, awarded to VolkerLaser by Eastgate Unit Trust, took place between July 2010 and November 2011 over a total of 58 weeks.

Over many years traffic had carried road de-icing salts into the car park resulting in corrosion of reinforcement and deterioration of large areas of the concrete decks. The works involved the removal and replacement of 12,600m³ of concrete; the top 60mm layer over two of the three car park levels. Removal of such significant

areas of concrete required the design and installation of a temporary propping system to maintain the structural integrity of the slab. The removal was carried out by making over 200km of saw cuts into the top of the decks, with the cuts close enough together to allow the concrete between adjacent cuts to be mechanically removed using hand held breakers.

Following replacement of the existing reinforcement, a corrosion inhibitor and a bonding aid were applied. The reinstatement of the slab was carried out using a fibre reinforced concrete. Once the structural repair works were complete, a new waterproof membrane was also



Completed works at Eastgate Shopping Centre car park

applied to prevent future deterioration and to enhance the aesthetics of the car park.

In addition to the main repair works, VolkerLaser also carried out improvements to the drainage system and redecoration works.

Andy McGovern, VolkerLaser contracts manager, said: "It was initially envisaged that the concrete removal would be carried out by hydro-demolition; however this method proved impractical in a shopping centre environment due to the noise, fumes and vast quantities of water required. Working closely with the client and shopping centre management team, site trials were carried out to enable us to come up with a new method of concrete removal, which still allowed the proposed works to be carried out but with far less disruption to the centre tenants and the nearby houses."

Jackie Cuddy, Eastgate Shopping Centre manager, said: "Despite the complicated nature of the works VolkerLaser carried them out with minimum disruption to the shopping centre. The works were completed on time and the car park now looks refreshed and ready for the rush of shoppers."

The close proximity of the busy shopping centre meant that a large proportion of the works were carried out at night to limit disruption to local residents.



Completed works at Eastgate Shopping Centre car park

VolkerRail wins seven year contract with Network Rail

VolkerRail's plant division has been awarded a seven year framework contract with Network Rail's National Delivery Service team for the supply of 11 on-track machines under the National On-Track Machine Contract.

The contract, which is worth c£67 million over the next seven years, provides Network Rail with nine tamping machines, two ballast regulators, experienced machine operators

and the management services of the plant division's support services team.

This seven year framework in the London North East Territory replaces the previously shorter contracts for track alignment and ballast formation, allowing for longer term delivery strategies taking in to account investment in people, equipment and year on year efficiencies.

Steve Cocliff, managing director of VolkerRail, said: "This is a very important contract for us and builds upon the successful collaborative approach adopted by both Network Rail and VolkerRail in the delivery of continued improvement.

"The award builds on the high performance of our outgoing contract with Network Rail, which has been delivered in a safe, reliable

VolkerFitzpatrick takes on central London refurbishment projects

Bentinck Street,
London



VolkerFitzpatrick has long been known in the building industry for the construction of large distribution centres and industrial buildings, but 2011 has seen the business make a successful move into central London office refurbishments.

In January a specialist team started work on the extension and refurbishment of a four floor office block in Southwark Street, close to Waterloo in central London, which will provide 68,000sqft of office space and 3,000sqft of retail space.

This project involved the floors being stripped back to the structural frame with the central core and end elevations completely demolished and re-built. An additional two storeys were then added to the building using a new steel frame to

ensure there was no additional load imposed on the existing structure.

At Bentinck Street in the west end of London, the VolkerFitzpatrick team has demolished an entire office building behind an impressive façade, which is being underpinned to support it during construction.

Behind the façade, the team will build 40,000sqft of office space and three luxury apartments with the aim to achieve a BREEAM 'Excellent' rating.

John O'Grady, director at VolkerFitzpatrick, commented: "As with all building companies, we have experienced a turbulent market over the last three years, but we are seeing a definite rise in opportunities. Whilst we continue to win contracts for education

projects and industrial buildings, our in-house capability to design and construct specialist refurbishment projects is in demand.

"Our extensive experience in sustainable construction is of particular interest to clients, who are refurbishing space to a much higher environmental standard than ever before, whilst requiring the high quality finishes expected in central London office space. This experience with new environmental technology and building materials is vital when taking on these projects.

"The building market is definitely changing and whilst we will continue to construct the industrial buildings and education facilities that we are most known for in the market, the refurbishment market is definitely an area for further expansion."

and efficient way and provides recognition for the hard work our plant division has put in and is a credit to the business."

VolkerRail was awarded this contract following the previous contract awarded in 2009 and extended to 2011. This award has the potential to provide over 1 million man hours of work and 20,000 machine shifts.

"This is a very important contract for us and builds upon the successful collaborative approach adopted by both Network Rail and VolkerRail."



VolkerRail's B45 Beaver Tamper

VolkerHighways nearing completion at The Quadrant



Works taking place at the Quadrant in Piccadilly, London

VolkerHighways is nearing completion at The Quadrant in Piccadilly, London, a £1m project that includes highway improvements and enhancements to the public realm. These works are being carried out concurrently with a larger public realm enhancement scheme set to improve facilities in the Piccadilly area.

The works include the installation of granite setts and kerbs, yorkstone paving, below ground drainage, carriageway surfacing and street lighting improvement works on Regent Street, Glasshouse Street, Air Street and other surrounding roads.

VolkerHighways has worked to strict environmental and sustainability targets set by the construction manager (Sir Robert McAlpine). Recycled Type 1 sub-base used at The Quadrant is site-won material from the VolkerHighways Term Maintenance Contracts in London. The site won material is processed at the VolkerHighways recycling facility in Enfield and delivered to The Quadrant for re-use.

All granite products have been responsibly sourced and ethical certification has been issued. VolkerHighways has also only used FSC timber pallets, which are returned for re-use and ultra-low sulphur diesel for all plant to minimise emissions. Currently 80% of kerbs have been re-used at the project and there is a minimum 25% recycled content of replacement cement and aggregate in all concrete delivered.

Lawrence Upton, VolkerHighways operations manager, said: "Works have required the permanent closure to vehicular traffic on parts the project and the reversal of traffic flow on Denman Street. The project team have already faced many challenges within this busy area of London and have worked hard to build good relations with all stakeholders involved. I would like to congratulate the team on all their hard work up to now."

VolkerView is a publication of VolkerWessels UK. There are five VolkerWessels companies in the UK; VolkerFitzpatrick, VolkerHighways, VolkerRail, VolkerStevin and VolkerLaser.

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 **VolkerWessels UK**


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VolkerWessels UK makes multi-million pound investment in new systems

In 2010 VolkerWessels UK undertook an in depth analysis of the systems and procedures in each of its five companies to better understand efficiencies and improvements that could be made both internally and for its business partners.

This analysis led to a significant period of development resulting in a suite of new and improved systems, which are currently being rolled out throughout the five businesses.

Naomi Connell, chief finance officer for VolkerWessels UK, explains: "The aim of this investment was to improve our systems so that our businesses can work hand in hand together as part of integrated project teams, as well as making improvements and efficiencies to our processes, which is simply an on-going process as we grow and develop as an organisation.

"As well as an integrated finance system and a works order management system, a significant piece of this investment was a new security system, which was designed by our in-house ICT team in collaboration with partners Union Square. It has enhanced our in-house data management system, Workspace, to provide secure and reliable access to our JV partners, clients and suppliers.

"This allows us to work in truly collaborative teams where information is readily available to all parties wherever they are in this country or abroad. The most important issue being that each of these teams requires different levels of access to the records and documents held, which is what our new system does so well."

William Yandell, director of Union Square, the Construction Management Software provider, said: "The deployment of Workspace to more than 1,300 users and the use of the system by 200 external users is testament to the impressive achievements of the implementation team at VolkerWessels UK. No one should underestimate the challenge in changing behaviour on this scale and overcoming the cultural and technical challenges of sharing data with external team members. The achievements of both the ICT team and the business should be recognised in the wider context. Well done to everyone at VolkerWessels UK!"