The North West site is one of the client’s pharmaceutical sites in the UK. This site opened post World War II and is involved mainly in the prevention of infectious diseases. It is primarily involved in the bulk production of antibiotic products and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API).

After production ceased on the Western section of the site the client wished to decontaminate and separate the redundant plant from the working part of the site. All known chemicals within the redundant plant had not been removed and the equipment and vessels were not all free from process contamination.

The area was within a working site with both occupied offices and active manufacturing facilities which would remain throughout the project. Therefore, there were live services and processes close to the demolition site boundaries throughout. The site is situated in a residential area with a number of schools close to the site.

After a competitive tendering process, the client engaged ABB to provide project management, Construction (Design Management)(CDM) support and act as client’s engineer, for the demolition of its West site. This also included a full time presence throughout the work.

ABB also worked alongside the client’s own team to safely decommission, isolate and demolish pipe bridges, cooling towers, tank farms, lab buildings, processing plant / buildings and an incinerator building, along with the identification and removal of all asbestos and hazardous waste.

Solution
Prior to any contractor being awarded the West site demolition project ABB had a presence on site to provide guidance and produce documents such as:

- Undertook the role of the Construction (Design Management) Coordinator (CDMC), as required by CDM regulations
- HazDem and HazMat studies - full report and summary of remaining hazardous materials
- Supported procurement of demolition and refurbishment asbestos survey
- Advised on isolation locations to help design for demolition
- Produces pre-constructed information as required by the CDM regulations
- Full suite of commercial documents; including: technical scope of work, form of tender, pre-qualification of suppliers and tender evaluation
- Provided support during the demolition process; including: review of method statements, and risk assessments, auditing compliance with agreed safe systems of work and project management

Providing safe decontamination and demolition of a redundant pharmaceutical plant within their active manufacturing facilities.
ABB carried out daily site walks and a minimum of 2 weekly audits. All method statement risk assessments were looked over by an experienced ABB field engineer and accepted after all safety issues had been addressed with higher management overseeing any high level RAMS. The client was kept up to date with progress through a weekly progress meeting chaired by ABB.

During the project there was an unscheduled visit from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). The inspector was in the area and wanted to look at some asbestos work activities. The report praised the safety culture on site and its management. Method statement risk assessments, training records, the site set up, waste routes and segregations of other ongoing activities were noted to be of a very high standard.

Early project cost projections by the client were in the region of £1M; however through the involvement of ABB, the client received £2M+ credit from the demolition phase.

**Benefits**
- The plant was decontaminated and demolished with no accidents
- Demolition costs were reduced with significant credits paid to the client
- No disruptions to neighbouring active manufacturing facilities and occupied offices
- Assurance that the client’s interests were being protected throughout the process