Providing safe demolition in and around a running plant

ABB were awarded the demolition project management (after competitive tender) of a number of buildings, plant and equipment at the Bayer CropScience site in Norwich.

The project entailed the full and partial demolition of a number of buildings and removal of process equipment, working predominantly in live plant areas.

The project had to be delivered to high standards of safety, with minimum off-site disruption and to a challenging timescale.

ABB were engaged to manage the project which included acting as CDM coordinator, project managers, consulting engineers and providing a full time site presence.

“We awarded the project to ABB after a competitive tender exercise, they were the only company who gave us the confidence to achieve the demanding timescales and ensure that the work would be undertaken safety. ABB exceeded our expectations in all areas, delivering a complex project on time, in budget, with no impact to on-site operations and most importantly not compromising Health and Safety.”

Tony Batten, Project Group Leader, Bayer CropScience, Norwich
The challenges
The project was very complex with the following issues:
- A number of buildings needed partial demolition
- They were situated in live plant areas
- Residual products in tanks and pipe work
- Asbestos present in all forms in a number of areas
- Some areas with contaminated soil
- High disposal costs
- Restrictions due to live plant operation that could be impacted by vibration, noise and dust.
- Co-ordination of simultaneous demolition and ongoing site projects
- Challenging timescale, having to hit a ‘window of opportunity’ on a number of packages of work

Solution
ABB followed its proven five stage decommissioning process based on experience of large scale projects over a number of years. ABB staff have expert working knowledge of the latest demolition and remediation techniques, current legislative requirements and working within both redundant and live plant environments.

ABB provided the following services during the life of this project:
- Overall project management and coordination with Live plant operations
- Acted as CDM coordinator
- Full time on-site management / supervision
- Procurement support, including production of the commercial bid documents, bid tab review etc
- Leading Hazards of Demolition (HAZDEM) studies
- Leading feasibility studies on proposed demolition and methods
- Prepared Pre-Construction Information Pack (PCIP)
- Completed structural assessments
- Waste management advice
- Safety auditing and monitoring
- Planning and progress meetings and reporting
- Cost management

The project was completed ahead of programme, within budget, without reportable incident or injury and to the satisfaction of the HSE, Environment Agency and the client.