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**BENCHMARK SCAFFOLDING LTD** 

Setting the Standards

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# BENCHPRESS

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## WE CELEBRATE

# 15 GLORIOUS YEARS

On 1<sup>st</sup> March 1995, Benchmark Scaffolding Ltd was born.

We were conceived on 9<sup>th</sup> January, when the Certificate of Incorporation was issued by Companies House, and 7 weeks afterwards, we were up and running and started to trade.

Boasting a staffing contingent of 3, and yard, driving and scaffolding operatives of 3, we commenced our first contract for Stonewest Ltd at Inner Temple in London.

The office was an upstairs flat above a video shop in Lansbury Drive, Hayes and the back garden doubled for a working yard. Within weeks we had secured contracts for the likes of Bowmer & Kirkland, Overbury and Mansells and our 16<sup>th</sup> job at Riverwalk House on Millbank was our first contract with Bovis Lend Lease which has since proved to be a long and successful relationship.

Success doesn't come easily though and we soon found ourselves working 12 hour days, 7 days a week, but we were happy then!

The story since then has been the tremendous success you are all familiar with, which is no doubt the envy of the scaffolding industry. A successful foundation which has proved vital in sustaining our business through these turbulent economic times.

#### Contact Numbers & Offices

##### West London Office

**Waterside Trading Centre, Trumplers Way, Hanwell, London W7 2QD**  
Tel: 020 8867 9977 Fax: 020 8867 9900  
Email: [info@benchmarkscaffolding.com](mailto:info@benchmarkscaffolding.com)

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CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION  
OF A PRIVATE LIMITED COMPANY

Company No. 3007892

The Registrar of Companies for England and Wales hereby certifies that  
BENCHMARK SCAFFOLDING LIMITED

is this day incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 as a private  
company and that the company is limited.

Given at Companies House, Cardiff, the 9th January 1995

For the Registrar of Companies



COMPANIES HOUSE

HC007A

Issue 12  
Spring 2010



These are just some of the major and prestigious projects Benchmark Scaffolding has undertaken in 15 years of trading within the London Region



Morton Hall  
Mormon Temple  
Kings College  
Palace of Westminster  
Parliament View  
Gracechurch Street  
Battersea Power Station

Midsummer Place Shopping Centre, Milton Keynes  
Mayfair Place

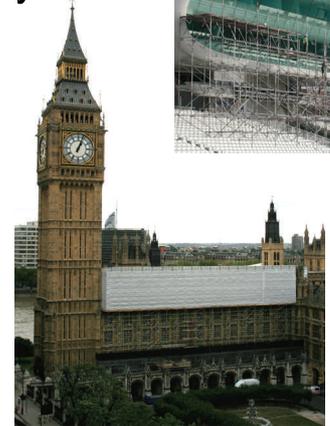


Duke of York HQ, Kings Road

New Tate Gallery  
Kew Gardens



Royal Court Project  
Royal Opera House  
Telecom Tower  
Windsor Castle



Lords Cricket Ground  
St Mary's Hospital, Isle of Wight



London Coliseum  
Empress State Building  
Stowe School  
New Romford Hospital  
Bankside 123



Finsbury Circus  
Great West House, Brentford  
The London Guildhall  
The Old London Stock Exchange  
Project SLAM



East London Line  
More London  
51 Lime Street



Westfield Shopping Centres, White City and Stratford  
The Café Royal



Selfridges, Oxford Street  
Dickens & Jones, Regent Street

Craven Cottage FFC  
St Barnabus Church  
Piccadilly Circus



## SAFETY AWARDS

### December

**Brett Davis** won the Northern award. When he was dismantling a scaffold and where the balconies did not have guard-rails, he checked the doors and found them to be unlocked. He went to the Principal Contractor who could not find the keys so proceeded to place handrails in front of the door preventing accidental opening.

**Dale Gourlay** won the London award. When steel erectors were working through the scaffold creating holes that could not be repaired immediately, Dale made sure the signage was in place informing people of the hazard and excluding non essential works on the scaffold until safe.

### February

**Jonathan Wilkins** and his team on the **NUSA** site (Carillion) won the Northern award for having run a near perfect job and winning several site safety awards.

**Ray Gray** won the London award for attending a serious road accident and using his skills as a first aider to stop a heavy head bleed and prevented others putting the victim in the recovery position. Which if done would have caused further serious injury, as the victim had a broken pelvis.



# *SLIPS, TRIPS & FOOLS*



*THE MOST COMMON ACCIDENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRY ARE SLIPS & TRIPS  
(10,000 EVERY YEAR)*

*YOU ARE MOST LIKELY TO HAVE A LOST TIME ACCIDENT FOLLOWING A  
SLIP OR A TRIP*

*MORE THAN LIKELY, YOU WILL HAVE CAUSED YOUR OWN SLIP OR TRIP*

*TO PREVENT SLIPS & TRIPS:-*



*ONLY WORK IN AREAS WHERE THERE IS SUFFICIENT LIGHTING*



*ENSURE THAT YOUR WORK AREA IS FREE FROM OBSTRUCTIONS*



*SEE THAT YOUR ACCESS & EGRESS ROUTES ARE CLEAR*



*REMOVE RUBBISH OR LOOSE MATERIALS AFTER WORKING*

## *DO.N'T BECOME A FOOL*

# BENCHMARK SCAFFOLDING LTD



## Setting the Standards

Waterside Trading Centre, Trumpers Way, Hanwell, London, W7 2QD  
Tel: 020 8867 9977 Fax: 020 8867 9900 Email: info@benchmarkscaffolding.com

4<sup>th</sup> September 2009 (Updated 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010)

To: - All Operational Staff

## **TG20:08 /EN12811-1 – WORKING REQUIREMENT UPDATE BASIC** **SCAFFOLDS. ISSUE 2** **March 2010**

### **1. Scaffold Ties:-**

Basic Scaffolds should be tied every other lift (4.0m) and every other bay which means for 1.8m upright spacing ties will be 3.6m centres, 2.0 centres of uprights would be 4.0m tie centres and so on up to 2.7m bay which will allow 5.4m tie spacing.

Sheeted or Netted scaffolds must always be tied at the top lift level.

Unbraced pavement lifts up to 2.7m max must be tied in accordance with section 6.2.2 of TG20:08 and this is attached for information.

On netted and sheeted scaffolds ties must be 2 fitting value and unsheeted scaffolds must be 1 fitting value.

Fischer type ties are not to be used under any circumstances,

Reveal ties are subject to design approval and may only be used for up to 50% of the total when the scaffold is not sheeted or netted.

It should also be noted that it is not permissible to sheet or net systems such as Haki unless they are tied at every node point or specifically designed.

(See D/BM 2342/2 for Further Tie information).

### **2. Face Bracing:-**

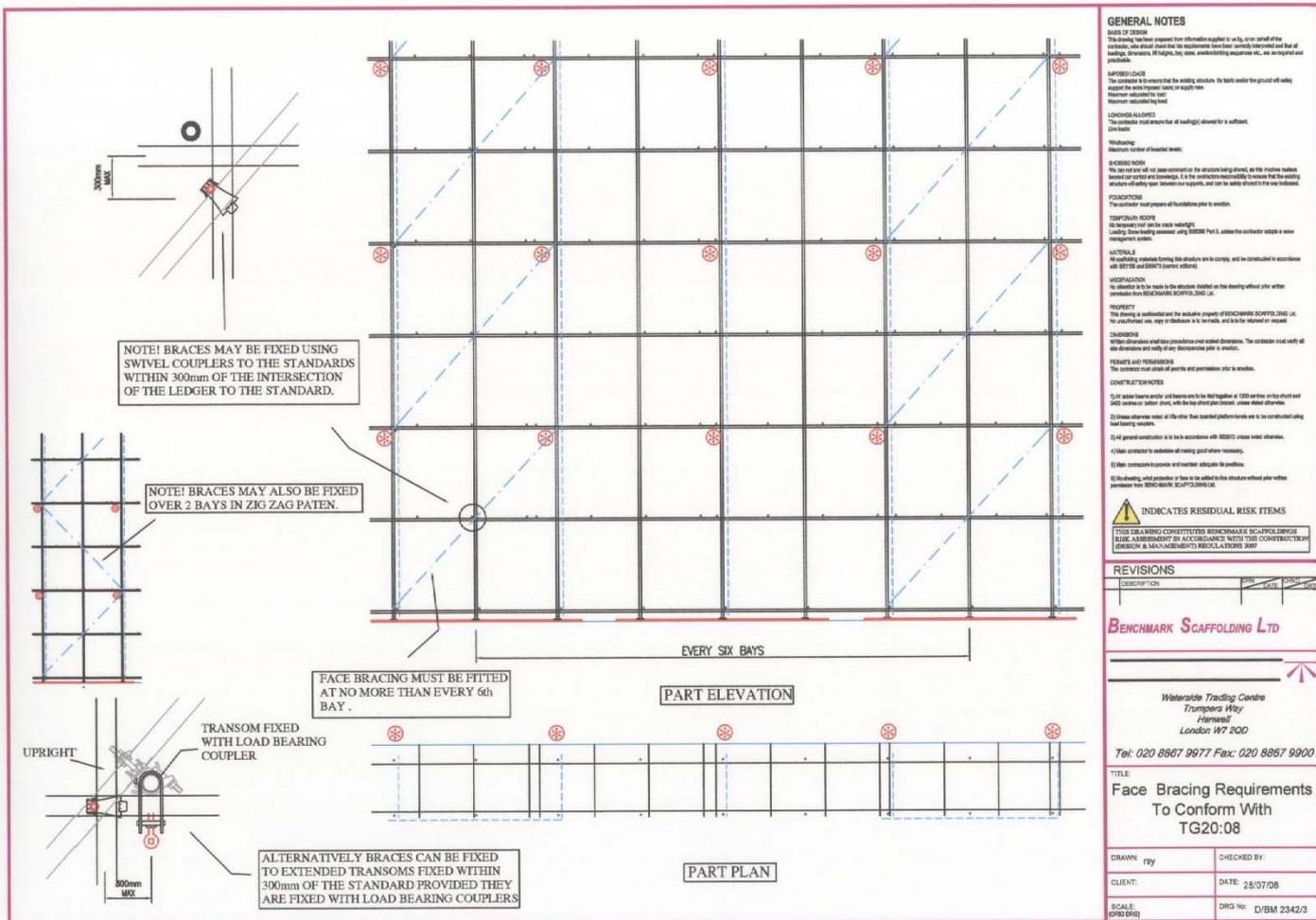
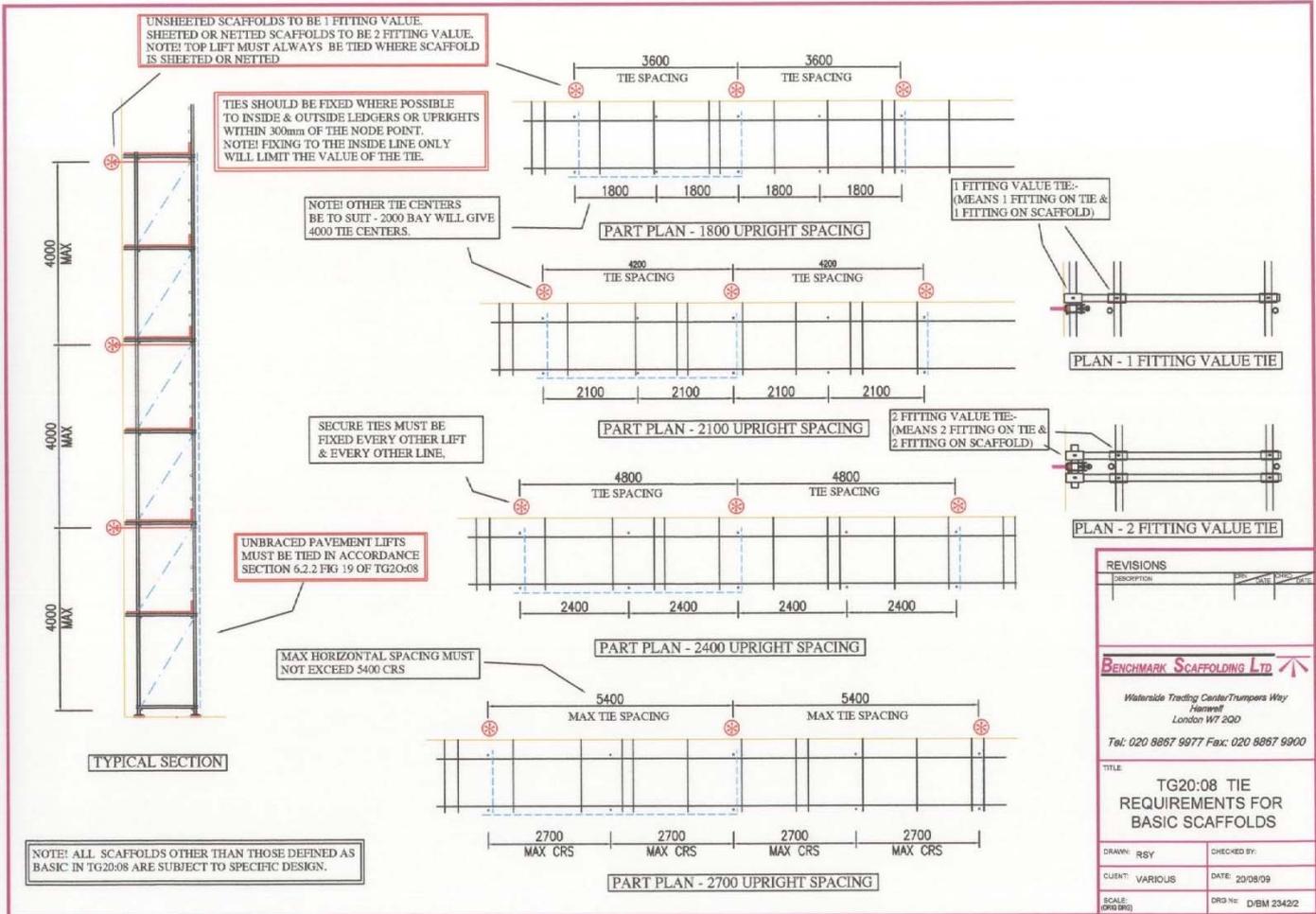
Face or Façade Bracing should be fixed full height to the outside of the standards every sixth bay and must now extend over two bays between ledger braced standards. You should always have one full height section of face bracing for every six bays of scaffold.

(See D/BM 2342/3 attached for further Face Brace information)

If anyone does need any further information please do not hesitate to contact Technical services or your Contracts Manager.

Regards

Bob Young  
Technical Director



# Westfield Stratford

Westfield Stratford were under pressure to have an area ready for hand over to a hotel company by the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010, this included the podium level of a building to be watertight.

On Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010 the BSL site team at Westfield Stratford received a call from the construction manager in charge of building D1 saying that due to the heavy rain at the time and the forecast for more all week could we fix a tarpaulin over an area 52m long x 15m wide. When we explained that we did not have tarps that big they then suggested to do it in smaller areas, but it was then explained that the water would just run from the covered area to the uncovered.

Westfield then made the call to super MD who flew to site (lucky for us he was in the city at the time) did a quick survey of the area to be covered, went back to the Westfield site offices and explained in detail the quickness and efficiency of Benchmark's Haki roof system.

We were told to go ahead and we started to mobilize, this was at about 2.30pm. We had a lorry from Beckton at 4.30pm with 450mm Haki beams and fittings which were fixed to the steel columns and formed the ledgers which took the 750mm haki roof beams, some of these came from Hanwell that night along with some roof cassettes.

A team of scaffolders stayed to 10pm that night and fixed all the 450mm beams.

The next day the team started to erect the roof beams and crane them in to position and then fix the roof cassettes, by 10pm that night Westfield had a section of roof covered and the next morning the roofers started to asphalt.

By Thursday the roof was complete and at 4pm on the Friday we started to dismantle working through to 10pm again.

The roof was completely dismantled on the Saturday and all the materials were cleared and gone by 1pm Sunday.

The members of the team are too numerous to mention and to single any one out would not be fair on the other members of the team, but this could not have been achieved with out Rob's initial input to have the men and materials on site on the Monday night, and his enthusiasm and belief was infectious.

The team experienced long hours, foul weather virtually all week with heavy rain, snow and high winds and the dedication to the task by all concerned was admirable.



# Wentworth Castle ROTUNDA Barnsley

This fascinating monument was built in the 18th century. Thomas Wentworth began the construction of the Rotunda in 1739 and was finished by William Wentworth, his son, in 1742.



The ground floor of The Rotunda is believed to have been used to entertain guests and the cellar below is where servants prepared the food and drink for the functions.

Benchmark Scaffolding Ltd have erected scaffolding around the Rotunda so Linford-Bridgeman Ltd can re-build the roof and consolidate the existing stone structure.



If you've recently had a new addition to your family,  
 or a birthday coming up  
 send us a photo to the Barnsley office  
 and we'll make sure we show them in the next edition  
 or you could email us  
**[barnsley@benchmarkscaffolding.com](mailto:barnsley@benchmarkscaffolding.com)**

Our **mission** is to not only "Set the Standards" but to progressively and continuously raise them across all aspects of our business.

Our **vision** is to be the scaffolding contractor of choice to our customers and employer of choice to our people.



On the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2010 Simon Reece, from the Northern Region, proposed to Jill Wilkinson with intent to marry.

**Congratulations**



Meet Keith Lawson's Granddaughter



**Miley Jay born 5th January 2010**

Northern Region

**Diesel**



**Half Alsatian  
 Half Rottweiler  
 Aww bless**

Mark Knitter—Estimator/  
 Surveyor  
 Northern Region

