



Press Release:

Ref: PRS012.FPS – FINAL

Date: 21st May 2015

Joint FPS – Crossrail Conference “Lessons Learnt”

The Federation of Piling Specialists (FPS), together with Crossrail, is holding a one-day Specialist Foundation Construction Conference focusing on ‘Lessons Learnt,’ on Tuesday 10 November 2015 at London’s Living Room, City Hall.

This one-off, invitation-only event will discuss issues and knowledge gained during the installation of deep foundation elements and other specialist foundation techniques on this important and much publicised rail infrastructure project.

A large-scale project, Crossrail was extremely challenging and required the use of many different specialist foundation construction techniques, often to significant depths and in many demanding locations and ground conditions. With most of the foundation solutions now in service and the tunnelling elements of the project substantially completed, it is important that the lessons learned locally are understood and shared on a much wider basis.

A number of solutions-based papers have been submitted across a variety of foundation topics, which combining together with keynote speakers, formal presentations and discussion sessions, will provide a platform for lively debate and the opportunity for delegates to both learn and share knowledge.

Martin Blower, Chairman FPS said: “With large-scale infrastructure projects such as HS2 on the horizon, it is important as an industry we look to learn from the challenges encountered during our member’s work on Crossrail. Immensely challenging as it was, Crossrail tested the deep foundations sector enormously, but at the same time pushed our knowledge and experience to a new level as problems were solved and issues overcome. It seems only right and proper for the sector that we come together now to share this more widely.”

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Papers submitted and presentations will be made available shortly after the conference and those wishing to know more should register their interest with the FPS by emailing their details and interest to fps@fps.org.uk.

About the FPS:

Established in 1964, the Federation of Piling Specialists (FPS) has proactively worked with its members to drive up standards within the industry. From a handful of members back in the days when rotary techniques were coming into use and crane-mounted and hydraulic equipment was in its infancy, the FPS represents most of the leading piling and geotechnical specialists in the construction sector.

Its independent auditing process, which all prospective members need to go through ensures the highest standards are met, and this audit is repeated every three years to ensure standards are maintained and continually improved.

The FPS works closely with its members to establish standards and provide guidance across all piling and geotechnical areas as well as on wider construction related issues that affect the sector such as Building Information Modelling (BIM). Safety and training are the highest priorities.

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Martin Blower, Chair of The Federation of Piling Specialists (FPS)