

Specialist Press Release

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Back to the future: Soil replacement in Magdeburg

Magdeburg, Germany – From valves and gate valves to taps: In the past, more than 6,000 different products were manufactured in Magdeburg’s traditional fitting plant. At one time, more than 8,000 employees worked here. But production stopped in 1996 for economic reasons. The 220,000 m² site remained empty for almost 20 years until it was redeveloped into a commercial area. The Bauer Umwelt Division of BAUER Resources GmbH is now preparing the ground there by means of replacement boring to ensure a successful new start.

The preliminary work began in July 2022, financed by the State Office for Brownfield Rehabilitation of Saxony-Anhalt and the State Office for Construction and Property Management of Saxony-Anhalt, in the center of the industrial site in the former workers’ district of Stadtfeld West. Here, around 5,600 m³ of soil first had to be excavated and roughly 870 m³ of building foundation had to be removed. After that, a BG 28 rig was brought in to work on the soil for the replacement. “The soil contained clay, which made it difficult to process,” reports Thomas Switalla, Site Manager at BAUER Spezialtiefbau GmbH. Meter by meter, the experienced machine operator worked down to a depth of 9 m below ground level. There, roughly 3,350 m³ of contaminated soil had to be drilled out with a drilling diameter of 1,500 mm and then replaced with new material.

What sounds easy was for the most part hard work for his team, explains Site Manager Lutz Hupfer from the Bauer Umwelt Division of BAUER Resources GmbH: “Due to the degree of contamination, work was carried out in the black zone. This requires lots of experience and absolute safety for the operator and the environment.” For this reason, employees were equipped with special suits, shoes and gloves including face masks and respiratory masks. “Limited working phases and subsequent breaks had to be followed precisely,” continues Lutz Hupfer. At the same time, a special exhaust air purification plant ensured that the contaminated air was extracted permanently during drilling.

At the end of the replacement boring, roughly 20,000 t of contaminant remain, which will be transported to a soil treatment center in gas-tight and impermeable containers. Furthermore, a groundwater treatment plant is used to clean roughly 110 m³ of polluted groundwater.

The site is planned for commercial use by next year already. Then life will finally return to this brownfield site where Magdeburg’s history was once written.

Photos: 2022-10_BAUER_Umwelt_Austauschbohrungen_Magdeburg...



(1) Since July 2022, Bauer Umwelt is rehabilitating the grounds of the former Magdeburg fitting plant.



(2) A total of approximately 5,600 m³ of soil are being excavated and 3,350 m³ of contaminated material are being replaced to a depth of 9 m.



(3) The soil replacement is carried out using large-scale drilling. Special protective suits and an exhaust air purification plant ensure the safety of employees and environment.

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About BAUER Resources Group

The regionally organized BAUER Resources GmbH is aligned to projects around the world with its subsidiaries in Germany, Africa, the Middle East and South America and has extensive expertise in the areas of drilling services and water wells, environmental services, constructed wetlands, mining and rehabilitation. With more than 30 years of experience, BAUER Resources GmbH's Bauer Umwelt business division is one of the leading specialists in site remediation, soil remediation and waste disposal, both in the domestic market and internationally. As an expert in pollution reduction, Bauer Umwelt offers a diverse range of services for all environmental issues. Other companies of the BAUER Resources Group are the GERMAN WATER and ENERGY GROUP (GWE) – manufacturers of pioneering products and developers of integrated applications for well-drilling and geothermal – as well as SPESA Spezialbau und Sanierung GmbH and the Site Group for Services and Well Drilling Ltd. in Jordan. More at bre.bauer.de

About Bauer

The BAUER Group is a leading provider of services, equipment and products dealing with ground and groundwater. The Group can rely on a worldwide network on all continents. The Group's operations are divided into three forward-looking segments with high synergy potential: Construction, Equipment and Resources. Bauer profits enormously from the collaboration of its three business segments, enabling the Group to position itself as an innovative, highly specialized provider of products and services for demanding projects in specialist foundation engineering and related markets. Bauer therefore offers suitable solutions to the world's greatest challenges, such as urbanization, the growing infrastructure needs, the environment, as well as water. The BAUER Group was founded in 1790 and is based in Schrobenhausen, Bavaria. In 2021, it employed about 12,000 people and achieved total Group revenues of EUR 1.5 billion worldwide. BAUER Aktiengesellschaft is listed in the Prime Standard of the German Stock Exchange. More information can be found at www.bauer.de. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#)!