

Slabstress

Whitmore High School, Harrow



FREYSSINET
SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY

Client
Harrow Council
Principal Contractor
Kier
Structural Engineer
Curtins
Frame Contractor
Stephensons
Contract Duration
March to Sept 2009

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The project will provide not just new facilities, modern classrooms and state-of-the-art equipment, but also allows for an extension of the already strong community use of the school in the evenings and at weekends. Harrow Council has made a significant contribution to the facilities originally proposed so that there will be a large sports hall with spectator seating, as well as an extensive main hall and much enhanced dining facilities. External sporting facilities will include a football pitch and a running track

The new 9,550m² secondary school building is being constructed in the grounds of the existing school, which is occupied throughout the construction period.

Freyssinet are undertaking the supply and installation of the 3S13 bonded post-tensioning system. The three storey structure has 300mm thick PT slabs. Structurally, some of the areas would have worked at 225mm depth but 300mm had been specified as the minimum depth for acoustic reasons.

The building's footprint resembles a crab's claw and the two main wings are consequently curved. Freyssinet used their 3-strand bonded PT system which fits into a 20mm deep by 46mm wide galvanised steel duct. This is flexible enough to follow the curvature of the slab and proved more economic than adopting unbonded tendons, the conventional way of tackling high lateral curvatures.

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