

Congratulations to Erith on winning the British Safety Council's International Safety Award

The Erith Group, one of the UK's leading Asbestos Removal, Demolition & Land Remediation contractors, has scooped eight separate prestigious International Safety Awards from one of the world's leading health and safety organisations. The winning projects were completed during 2009 and it is the sixth consecutive year the group has received the award.

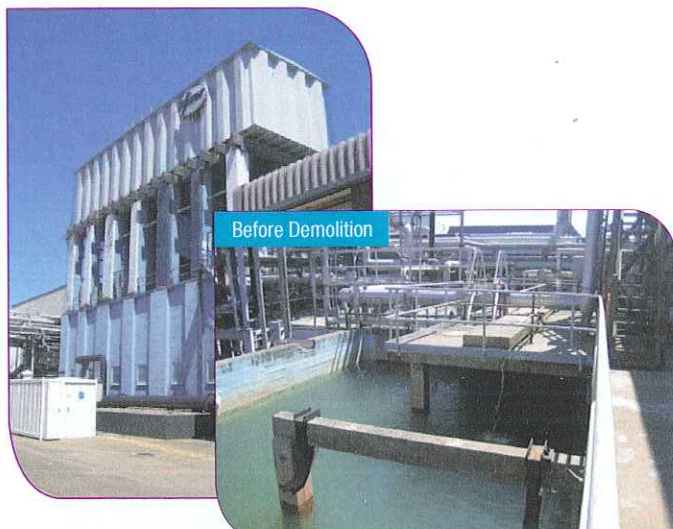
The British Safety Council's International Safety Award is only presented following rigorous and independent assessment of an organisation's health and safety policies, procedures, working methods and site specific initiatives. The British Safety Council's International Safety Award scheme is also supported year on year by the HSE.

For an organisation to win this coveted award it must provide evidence that it has comprehensive health and safety policies in place. It must also show a clear commitment to health and safety from the boardroom to the shop floor and be committed to promoting a positive safety culture throughout the business. It is important that the winning organisations are able to demonstrate the competence of those responsible for the management of health and safety and can provide clear evidence about the improvements they have achieved in health and safety during the year.

Two of the awards received were for projects completed at the Pfizer Pharmaceutical Plant in Sandwich, Kent.

The first project was the former B1 structure located on the west site. Completed in the summer of 2009, the project consisted of former warehouse and storage units. The structure was made up of a steel framework with brick infills and asbestos cement roofs. The biggest risk on the project was structural demolition and removal of asbestos insulation board around and over a live sub-station. The live switch gear with the sub-station had to be protected and kept weather tight at all times.

The second project at the Pfizer site to receive the award was the Utility Demolition Project located on the eastern site. Particular attention to detail was required when undertaking the demolition due to the proximity of neighbouring live plant, equipment and occupied offices.



The Erith Group completed both projects on time without a single lost time incident and to extremely high standards of health & safety that culminated in receiving the BSC ISA awards.

Julie Nerney, Chief Executive of the British Safety Council, says: "For more than 50 years, the British Safety Council has led the way in promoting health, safety and environmental best practice in society. In the 21st century, many organisations worldwide are understandably making health, safety and environmental management their top priority. Through achieving an International Safety Award, Erith Group is helping to make our vision of a healthy and safe working environment a reality."

Gordon Brown added his congratulations to the winners: "I am delighted to send my congratulations to all of those organisations presented with an award by the British Safety Council. These awards recognise the crucial success that those organisations and their employees have achieved in their pursuit of excellence in the management of health, safety and environmental matters at an international level. The event provides an opportunity to recognise publicly the important contribution made by the British Safety Council. The Government would like to place on record its appreciation of the support given by the British Safety Council in raising public awareness of the benefits which effective health, safety and environmental management brings to business, employees, the environment and the economy as a whole".

