

THE CHALLENGE

ADP Group were engaged by Soiltechnics, to drill two boreholes on a tight site in central London. The first borehole was to penetrate 5m of Thanet Sand at around 55m and the second was to reach the top of the chalk at around 65m.

Good core recovery was key to the work.

Standard penetration tests were to be required at 3m intervals and there was three days of pressuremeter testing planned throughout the works.

Upon completion of the drilling, the boreholes were to be installed with vibrating wire piezometers.

THE CONSIDERATIONS

The site was surrounded by occupied buildings and cleanliness was of paramount importance.

Core recovery was important to our client and therefore, considering the formations that were expected (London Clay, Lambeth Group, RTD, Thanet Sand & Chalk), our team had to pay particular attention to the methodology selected.

THE SOLUTION

ADP Group's GI team assigned a Comacchio GEO305, DR10, under the control of lead driller Jack, and assistant driller Baillie. DR10 was selected as it is a compact and yet powerful GI rig, capable of operating both dynamic sampling and Geobor-S wireline coring techniques, allowing for good recovery and class one samples throughout. DR10 is fitted with a rig-mounted, automated trip hammer, allowing standard

penetration tests to be undertaken at instructed depths, with zero manual handling of a traditional, manual trip hammer.

ADP's team drilled with recirculated water flush, via the onboard, triplex mud pump and contained all flush in recirc. tanks.

THE FEEDBACK

Working with ADP at a project in central London was a very good experience.

Both drillers, Jack and Baillie, were very professional and managed to overcome all the challenges. The drilling equipment and the rig where in a very good condition, even though there was a failure with the clamping system ADP's mechanics sorted it in no time.

Always happy to work with ADP knowing that their attitude and attention to detail matches our own philosophy.

Nick Iliadis M.Sc., GMICE Geotechnical Engineer

