

A big success for a small team



Pictured are Brian Cole, resident site manager, FW (front row fifth from left), and John Morris, general superintendent, FW (front row second from left), surrounded by some of the construction workforce that numbered around 70 at peak.

We recently completed a very successful project for Merck Sharp & Dohme at its active pharmaceutical ingredient facility at Ponders End in North London.

The central key element of the project is a thermal oxidizer, which has been installed to clean any potential process vapors that would otherwise be discharged to atmosphere.

Solvents are an essential ingredient of pharmaceutical manufacture and from now on minor vapor traces will be collected and scrubbed clean of solvents before discharge.

Firstly, this has been a very safe project, with no safety accidents or incidents at all. Secondly, the quality of finish was excellent and the project was completed below budget. Last, but by no means least, the project was also fun to build, with a strong team spirit and comradeship between the client's team, Foster Wheeler and the subcontractors. This is reflected in the views stated by some of the team members now that the project is complete, that *"it will feel like leaving friends and family"*.

The plant will guarantee that Merck Sharp & Dohme is well ahead of potential European Union legislation and continues to be a good neighbour in Ponders End. The small Foster Wheeler team, led by Brian Cole, has again successfully demonstrated that Foster Wheeler puts just as much effort into getting a small project right as it does for large projects.

This project was linked to a similar facility built at the same time by Foster Wheeler's Paris office for the Merck Sharp and Dohme site at La Vallée in France.