

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

RAM Utility Solutions Ltd

RAM Utility Solutions UK Ltd are a confined space and drainage specialist company experienced in working with various industrial and commercial sectors including the water and effluent utilities along with manufacturing and facilities management operations.

Our main operations and head office function are situated at our facility along Pitt Street in Widnes and within a large and well established industrial and commercial area. Surrounding properties and activities include warehouses, units and production sites with occupants such as cement manufacturers, haulage and logistics, vehicle garages with some of the surrounding developments dating back to the Victorian era.

A core activity of the business is the unblocking and clearing of effluent drainage systems removing items such as grit, leaves, litter and solidified fats. This debris is jetted back through drainage systems to gully pots and manhole chambers where its removed using vaccumation with captured material stored in one of tankers that make up the fleet in readiness for off-site removal. Historically this material was taken directly to distant disposal facilities. The subsequent development of the waste transfer infrastructure at our Pitt Street facility allows this material to be suitably dewatered and 'bulked up' making it a more sustainable and cost-effective waste management approach.

In order to undertake this activity, the following infrastructure exists at our Pitt Street Facility:

- Head office function such as accounts, transport, QES (quality, environmental, safety) management, human resources and senior management.
- Maintenance function including vehicle repair, servicing, fabrication along with planned preventative and reactive maintenance.
- Fleet storage yard and depot.
- Waste transfer bays consisting of concrete block bay walls, concrete hardstanding and sealed drainage linked to an underground silt containment interceptor and discharge pipework to the public foul sewer network.

On return of the road tanker fleet to the Pitt Street facility, each vehicle will enter the site from the main Pitt Street entrance. The vehicles will then enter the centre of the main yard and then reverse into the waste transfer bays located in the south east corner of the site. Reversing operations will be undertaken under the control of a banksman or supported with vehicle reversing sensors and cameras.

The vehicle waste tank will be tipped into the concrete transfer bays. Only non-hazardous waste will be enter/stored at the facility and these will not exceed a maxim mass of 250 tonnes at any one time. The waste inputs will within one of the following waste codes:

- 17 05 04 – Soil and stones other than those mentioned in 17 05 03
- 17 05 06 – dredging spoil other than those mentioned in 17 05 05
- 20 03 03 – Street cleaning residues
- 20 03 04 – Septic tank sludge
- 20 03 06 – Waste from Sewage cleaning

Due to the potential for high water content in the waste, the waste transfer bays and its concrete base are designed to capture any water runoff emanating from the base of the waste stockpiled. The water will flow following the concrete base slope towards the permeable cover of the silt containment interceptor. The solids/suspended solids will sink to the bottom of the interceptor with water remaining at the surface. Part way up the silt containment interceptor is an outfall pipe where the de-silted water is transferred to the public foul sewer and ultimately Widnes Wastewater Treatment Works.

When the level of solids approaches the base of the outfall pipe, the silt containment cover will be lifted with the solids removed using a RAM Utility Solutions Ltd tanker. The solids captured will then be placed back into the waste transfer bay in readiness for bulk transfer and disposal.

Dewatered waste material is expected to be removed from the waste transfer bays on a 1 – 2 week rotation. The waste will be loaded into suitable bulk waste road haulage vehicles for onward transportation to a suitable waste disposal facility. Prior to the off-site removal of the waste it will be classified in line with the Environment Agency Technical Guidance WM3 – Waste Classification supplemented with appropriate analysis followed by full conformance with the waste 'Duty of Care' Obligations.