

Specialist Press Release

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Demolition in the heart of Munich: Precision work in the tightest of spaces

Munich, Germany – Right in the heart of the Bavarian state capital, in the district of Lehel, you can see the historical symbol of the St. Anna Catholic parish church from a distance. This building, constructed in the neo-Romanesque style, is at the center of the eponymous St. Anna Square and is located directly across from the St. Anna abbey church. Between the two churches is a residential building from the 1950s that is to be removed from the city landscape due to its very poor structural condition. Bauer Umwelt, the environmental division of BAUER Resources GmbH, was tasked with the demolition, excavation pit construction and dewatering.

Over just five weeks, Operations Manager Jan Uhlig and his team prepared for the impending demolition on the 230 m² site, completely gutting the four-story building and removing contaminants such as asbestos, SVF and PCB. In a nighttime operation in early July, the demolition excavator, a Hitachi ZX350 Longfront, was brought in to start with the demolition and removal of the roof truss. For a week, the excavator worked carefully and precisely from floor to floor and generated roughly 3000 t of demolition material in the process. It might sound easy, but this was generally laborious work for machine operator Heiko Gruschwitz, since there was hardly any space to move the Longfront excavator, which weighs 44 t and has an arm length of 24 m. Removal of the demolition material also posed a logistical challenge due to the narrow streets in the old city center. “Every movement has to be correct; you need to plan precisely when to carry out which steps,” says Erwin Resch, senior foreman in the Bauer Umwelt Division, speaking from many years of experience with similar projects. Not to mention that the area around the construction site is busy: Church services in the surrounding churches, a food bank run by the monastery and a weekly farmers’ market – all in the immediate vicinity. Out of respect for residents, demolition was paused for two hours each day around midday.

Other strict precautions were taken to protect the neighbors and the surrounding buildings by minimizing disturbances caused by noise and emissions. “In part, this was possible because the building was demolished from the outside in,” explains Operations Manager Jan Uhlig from the Bauer Umwelt Division. Where it was impossible to maintain a safe distance from the adjacent buildings, for example, a demolition curtain was used. The Bauer Umwelt team used water cannons to minimize the production of dust. “Good preparation and a cautious and neighbor-friendly approach were immensely important both for us and for the builder-owner. Rather, it was even an integral part of the award procedure and ultimately also decisive for our commissioning”, stresses Erwin Resch and adds: “The demolition of a four-story building in the tightest of spaces is not an easy matter.”

And that's not all: Because the groundwater in this area is very high, the excavation pit to be constructed after the demolition must be completely secured by the experts from BAUER Spezialtiefbau GmbH. This is the only way to guarantee stability and impermeability to water. For this purpose, 800 m² of secant pile wall and 400 m³ of HDI underpinning will be installed deep in the ground. After this, the 1,600 m³ excavation pit can be completed. "If everything goes according to plan, and we are assuming it will, we will conclude the project on schedule by the end of the year despite all the challenges involved," states Jan Uhlig confidently.

A video on the project is available at <https://youtu.be/2QAxpR866cY>

Images: 2021-08_Bauer Umwelt_Demolition_Munich ...



(1) The environmental division of BAUER Resources GmbH was tasked with the demolition of a 1950s residential building in the Lehel district of Munich.



(2) Machine operator Heiko Gruschwitz (left) and senior foreman Erwin Resch.



(3) A Longfront excavator weighing 44 t and with an arm length of 24 m was used. In total, around 3000 t of material were demolished and removed in the tightest of spaces.

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About BAUER Resources Group

The regionally organized BAUER Resources GmbH is aligned to projects around the world with its subsidiaries in Germany, Africa, the Middle East and South America and has extensive expertise in the areas of drilling services and water wells, environmental services, constructed wetlands, mining and rehabilitation. With more than 30 years of experience, BAUER Resources GmbH's Bauer Umwelt business division is one of the leading specialists in site remediation, soil remediation and waste disposal, both in the domestic market and internationally. As an expert in pollution reduction, Bauer Umwelt offers a diverse range of services for all environmental issues. Other companies of the BAUER Resources Group are the GERMAN WATER and ENERGY GROUP (GWE) – manufacturers of pioneering products and developers of integrated applications for well-drilling and geothermal – as well the Site Group for Services and Well Drilling Ltd. in Jordan. More at bre.bauer.de

About Bauer

The BAUER Group is a leading provider of services, equipment and products dealing with ground and groundwater. With over 110 subsidiaries, Bauer can rely on a worldwide network on all continents. The Group's operations are divided into three forward-looking segments with high synergy potential: Construction, Equipment and Resources. Bauer profits enormously from the collaboration of its three business segments, enabling the Group to position itself as an innovative, highly specialized provider of products and services for demanding projects in specialist foundation engineering and related markets. Bauer therefore offers suitable solutions to the world's greatest challenges, such as urbanization, the growing infrastructure needs, the environment, as well as water, oil and gas. The BAUER Group was founded in 1790 and is based in Schrobenhausen, Bavaria. In 2020, it employed about 11,000 people in around 70 countries and achieved total Group revenues of EUR 1.5 billion. BAUER Aktiengesellschaft is listed in the Prime Standard of the German Stock Exchange. More information can be found at www.bauer.de. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube!](#)