



RMD
KWIKFORM

10 YEARS OF GROUND SHORING:

BEN WHELAN



Ben Whelan, Project Engineer, discusses his 12-year journey within Altrad RMD Kwikform and how ground shoring's geotechnical offering helped reignite his passion for civil engineering.

I joined Altrad RMD Kwikform 12 years ago, originally working within the above-ground design team which specialises in Formwork & Falsework Solutions. In 2018, three years after the launch of our Ground shoring division, I was given the opportunity to join the team and jumped at the chance as geotechnics had become an interest of mine during my studies at university.

Ground shoring brought fresh challenges that reignited my passion for civil engineering, ensuring the safety and stability of the earth so that construction can happen safely above, which can be a significant task, and is typically more challenging than it looks! However, with high challenge comes high reward, making the successful design & construction of each unique project incredibly fulfilling.

From the start, it was clear that Altrad RMD Kwikform wasn't just entering the market, we were aiming to raise the bar, innovate & set new standards. The investment in equipment, our engineering expertise and the drive for excellence really helped us to push the boundaries in what we do, as we weren't just providing shoring solutions; we were redefining how they were designed, implemented, and supported.

One of my proudest moments was being the lead design engineer on the HS2 Euston TSS Box, where we utilised a bespoke, state-of-the-art approach to thermal load modelling. The scale and complexity of the

job was a significant challenge for the team but I'm incredibly proud of how we approached it. Using effective, meaningful collaboration alongside our innovative approach allowed us to not only meet the design brief but far exceed its expectations.

The project went on to win the award for Ground Shoring Technical Excellence at the Ground Engineering Awards, a testament to the dedication and expertise of our team. For me personally, it was the most rewarding moment of my career, and for us collectively, it was a moment that showcased exactly what sets Altrad RMD Kwikform apart: innovation, dedication, and a commitment to continuous improvement via engineering excellence.

As we celebrate a decade since entering the ground shoring market, it's exciting to look ahead at what the next ten years hold. Technology continues to transform the way the industry works, and I like to think that Altrad RMD Kwikform is at the forefront of this shift. We're looking to embrace automation as much as we can, invest in new design and analysis software to streamline our design process as well as investigating how we can take advantage of AI to enhance our project delivery even further.

For more on Altrad RMD Kwikform, please visit
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