

# Specialist Press Release

June 28, 2023

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## **Official recognition: Pilot project of Bauer Spezialtiefbau receives DGNB Certificate for Sustainable Construction Sites**

**Berlin, Germany** – The topic of sustainability for specialist foundation engineering is ubiquitous in the construction industry. This was demonstrated once again at the German Construction Industry Day in Berlin, which the Federation of the German Construction Industry (HDB) held on June 14th. After a statement from HDB President Peter Huebner, guests were able to hear construction policy opinions from Federal Minister of Construction Klara Geywitz (SDP) and Federal Minister of Finance Christian Lindner (FDP) as well as the opposition (CDU).

For the 75th anniversary of the Construction Federation, this year's industry conference awarded specialist foundation engineering projects with a DGNB (German Sustainable Building Council) certificate for sustainable construction sites for the first time – recipients included a project executed by BAUER Spezialtiefbau GmbH. Michael Kellner, Parliamentary State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, handed over the certificate to Frank Haehnig, CEO of BAUER Spezialtiefbau GmbH. "We are very proud to actively participate in this crucial development for specialist foundation engineering and feel very honored to receive this award," remarked Frank Haehnig. The overarching goal of the certification is to make the sustainability of construction activities measurable and assessable using recognized and verifiable criteria.

Bauer Spezialtiefbau kicked things off back in November 2020 as part of a webinar in Berlin on the topic "Construction needs sustainable concepts – specialist foundation engineering sets new benchmarks". Dr. Christine Lemaitre, CEO of the DGNB, participated in that panel discussion as a guest – thus the idea of DGNB certification as a benchmark was born.

### **Four criteria as the basis for certification**

"If we are serious about protecting the climate and conserving resources in construction, it is crucial that we don't get stuck on regular construction – instead, we also have to focus on infrastructure-related construction projects", explained Dr. Christine Lemaitre in a DGNB press released on June 15. The DGNB certification for specialist foundation engineering is oriented on the regular DGNB system for sustainable sites and includes the four points of construction organization, resource conservation, health and social elements as well as the quality of construction work. As part of the criteria, measures taken by the site to prevent an impact on the local environment are reviewed, taking into account the use of construction and transport equipment along with the degree of earth movement and the resulting possibilities for reuse and recycling.

With a view to conserving resources, the clear focus is on reducing emissions and saving resources in the area of energy and drinking water as well as reusing and recycling construction materials. In the area of health and social aspects, the primary concern is the health and safety of employees as well as internal project communication and external communication with the public. In contrast, the quality of construction work encompasses site management, quality assurance for the construction products used and as-built documentation.

To receive DGNB certification, a number of these criteria must be fulfilled. These make up 35% of the evaluation, while various variable factors make up 30%. Thus a total fulfilment of at least 65% must be achieved overall in order to receive a DGNB certificate for a specialist foundation engineering project.

### **Bauer Spezialtiefbau project in Munich recognized**

This new system for awarding certificates was developed in collaboration with various companies – including BAUER Spezialtiefbau GmbH – and was tested during pilot projects for the first application of the system. In this process, Bauer Spezialtiefbau's project involving the new construction of a residential building with underground garage on Chamissostrasse in Munich received positive attention across the board and was recognized by the DGNB during the Construction Industry Day.

Apart from demolition and dismantling of the existing building as well as dewatering, the work by Bauer on this project included certified specialist foundation engineering works in the form of two retaining structures. What makes them unique: They were constructed using anchoring work and geothermally activated Mixed-in-Place walls (MIP) with embedded beams and tie-backs. During the geothermal activation of the foundation elements, they were equipped with geothermal probes. Using solar collectors, for instance on rooftops, energy can be obtained in the summer months, fed into the ground via the installed geothermal probes and stored. In the winter, this energy can be extracted from the ground again and used to heat buildings, for example. Bauer carried out the work on Chamissostrasse in Munich from March to June of this year.

### **Photos: 2023-06\_bauer-specialist-foundation-certificate-dgnb-sustainability...**



Recognition for the first pilot projects of the DGNB system variant for specialist foundation engineering – Frank Haehnig (4th from right) is thrilled to receive the certificate on behalf of Bauer Spezialtiefbau. © TBI Dirk Bleicker



(2) Pilot project of Bauer Spezialtiefbau in Munich: New construction of a residential building with underground car park. © BAUER Group

### **About BAUER Spezialtiefbau Group**

BAUER Spezialtiefbau GmbH, the original parent company of the BAUER Group, has been a major driving force in the development of specialist foundation engineering. It carries out all of the customary processes of foundation engineering, primarily for excavation pits, foundations, cut-off walls and ground improvements on a worldwide basis. In doing so, BAUER Spezialtiefbau GmbH works closely together with their over 50 subsidiaries and branches across the globe. Regional networks around the world allow for the quick and flexible application of machines, teams and expertise. Bauer Spezialtiefbau offers their customers individual, creative and economical specialist foundation engineering solutions for demanding construction projects, from planning through to execution. More at [bst.bauer.de](http://bst.bauer.de)

### **About Bauer**

The BAUER Group is a leading provider of services, equipment and products dealing with ground and groundwater. The Group 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. The BAUER Group was founded in 1790 and is based in Schrobenhausen, Bavaria. In 2022, it employed about 12,000 people and achieved total Group revenues of EUR 1.7 billion worldwide. BAUER Aktiengesellschaft is listed in the Prime Standard of the German Stock Exchange. More information can be found at [www.bauer.de](http://www.bauer.de). Follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#)!