



Environmental
Geotechnical
Specialists

INSITE 76

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM **ROGERS GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES**



Welcome to Insite, keeping you up to date with industry news and RGS as we celebrate entering our 20th year in business.

ROGERS GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES LTD ARE SITE INVESTIGATION SPECIALISTS offering ground investigation and geotechnical services to developers, builders, structural and consulting engineers, architects, insurance companies, local authorities, piling and foundation engineers, private individuals and other geotechnical consultants.

NEW LOOK RGS!



Have you seen our social media feeds recently?

Did you take a wander through our website?

If you've been checking out RGS digitally for any reason, you might have noticed something different about us. And if not, perhaps you've spotted it for the first time right here in our latest edition of insite!



▲ Introducing... our new logo!

As you can see, it remains similar to our original logo yet with some significant tweaks to the look and feel. We think it better reflects the RGS of today - an established UK leader in Geoenvironmental solutions who is modern, agile and ready for an exciting future!



Since our launch in 2003, we've seen a lot of change - not least going from three people in a garage office to a team of over twenty working from five UK depots! Our business has grown substantially, thanks to our industry experts, keen graduates and young people working hard each day to facilitate that change, adapting our processes and solutions to meet the needs of an evolving world and client base.

You'll be pleased to know absolutely nothing has changed at HQ. We're still the same team, committed to delivering the exact high-quality solutions and services to our valued clients across the UK; if anything, you'll see greater support thanks to our vision to expand our services further in the coming years. The new logo is just the latest step in our journey.

▲ Refreshingly different!

If you think a logo refresh is straightforward, then think again! More than just a design piece, once completed, you need to ensure every instance where the logo features receive an upgrade. That's all digital communications platforms and printed materials, including our fleet livery and branded clothing!

Thankfully, everything has come together quickly and precisely as we had hoped it would, all courtesy of some careful planning and project management led by Tom Farnell and supported by our long-standing partners in creativity, [Orange Circle](#), creators of the original logo, nearly 20 years ago.

Orange Circle's Creative Director, **Andrew Fox**, explains how the logo evolved:

"We **simplified** the RGS fossilised shell and **modernised** the typography. Then it was time to add some colour! The core blue remains intact - which symbolises **water** - as does the grey that reflects the company as a trusted bedrock of knowledge about geology. We introduced **green** and **gold** to bring the ground beneath us and the environment around us into play, both significant to the business.

"The colours and design now show a **trusted** and **dynamic** company focused on **environmental** services."

And our **MD, Emma**, could not be happier with the project and the result:



"It's been a **big deal** changing our logo and branding to celebrate entering our 20th year. **We love our new look** and are excited to see it making its way around our business. A special shout-out to **Tom**, who successfully directed the design, signage, livery, clothing, and stationery branding. It's been a huge job and makes you realise how many places you have your logo - it's more than you think! Well done, Tom, a massive task but also a massive achievement!"

Of course, **none of this is possible without our clients** - those of you who provide us with a purpose. **So, thank you for your continued trust and business** - we're excited for what's to come **and pleased to have you with us for the next chapter!**



RGS has over 50 professional services available to support our customers.

That's 2.5 new services every year since we began!

Of course, this extensive list hasn't grown overnight and it's taken complete dedication from our leaders, staff and customers (and many sleepless nights!) to go from our humble beginnings in a garage office to where we are today - a progressive company leading in site investigations and Geoenvironmental services from the ground up!



If you have trusted RGS in the past for one of your construction investigatory needs, you might think we only provide the service you used. Take a look at our comprehensive list and see how many services can you spot which you had no idea we can help you with!



7 Ground Investigation

- PHASE 1 DESK STUDY
- PHASE 2 SITE INVESTIGATION
- PHASE 3 REMEDIATION STRATEGY
- PHASE 4 VALIDATION REPORT

7 Drilling and excavation

- WINDOWLESS SAMPLING WITH SPT
- DYNAMIC PROBING
- ROTARY OPEN HOLE DRILLING
- ROTARY CORING OF ROCK
- LIGHT CABLE PERCUSSIVE DRILLING
- TRIAL PITS (HAND & MACHINE EXCAVATED)
- CONCRETE CORING
- HANDHELD WINDOWLESS SAMPLING
- HANDHELD AUGERS
- TRL PROBING
- GAS / GROUNDWATER MONITORING
- (STANDPIPES, PIEZOMETERS
- AND INCLINOMETERS)

7 In-Situ Testing

- INFILTRATION (OR SOAKAWAY) TESTING
- CALIFORNIA BEARING RATIO (CBR) TESTING
- PLATE LOAD TESTING
- HAND SHEAR VANE & MEXICONE TESTING
- IN-SITU DENSITY TESTING

7 Engineering Consultancy

- ONSITE ENGINEERING SUPERVISION
- FOUNDATION RECOMMENDATIONS
- SLOPE STABILITY ANALYSIS
- RETAINING WALL DESIGN
- SOAKAWAY DESIGN
- GEOLOGICAL DESK STUDIES & APPRAISALS
- ROCK SLOPE STABILITY
- WORKING PLATFORM DESIGN
- CRANE STABILITY RISK ASSESSMENT

7 Laboratory testing and Gas Monitoring

- GEOTECHNICAL LAB TESTING
- SOIL CLASSIFICATION
- CHEMICAL TESTING
- COMPACTION RELATED TESTS
- COMPRESSIBILITY OF SOIL
- SHEAR STRENGTH OF SOIL
- PERMEABILITY TESTS
- ROCK TESTS
- AGGREGATE TESTS
- CHEMICAL LAB TESTING
- CONTAMINATION TESTING SUITES
- WAC ANALYSIS
- INDIVIDUAL CHEMICAL TESTS
- LANDFILL / MINES GAS MONITORING
- GROUNDWATER LEVEL MONITORING

7 Training, CPD & Expert Witness

- LUNCHTIME CPDS
- SHORT COURSES

7 Surveying and Risk Assessments

- BOREHOLE CLEARANCE USING GPR
- UTILITIES SERVICE - GPR
- CCTV DRAINAGE SURVEY
- TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY
- FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENTS
- COAL MINING RISK ASSESSMENTS



How can our team help yours today? From desk studies and drilling to topographical surveys and training...

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Trips and slips



Every month sees us investigating a workplace Health and Safety issue, providing vital information to help you keep your people safe. Today, we're talking 'Trips and Slips' - and how to prevent them.

Whatever your industry, there's no escaping the potential for injury caused by a fall.

Did you know slips and trips are the biggest cause of workplace accidents? Tens of thousands happen every year, according to the British Safety Council. It's not surprising when you consider how any workspace, regardless of sector, is at risk - not just construction sites but offices, retail outlets, hospitals and restaurants all susceptible.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) wants every business to take safety at work seriously and provides lots of helpful advice about preventing slips and trips on its website. Here's our summary of a few pivotal points of advice they give to ensure your workplace is doing its best to avoid unnecessary accidents and stay a fully intact, fully healthy team.

▲ staying slip-savvy

From slippery floors to spills, there are multiple ways to help PREVENT slips in the workplace.

↗ contamination

Identify and find its origin: a leak, spill, overflow, run-off, from footwear or cleaning

Find a way to stop it from reaching the floor: guard, lid, drip tray, entrance matting

If it can't be stopped entirely, **Control** - with cleaning, new flooring type, and footwear



↗ cleaning

While it's necessary to remove contaminants that cause slips and trips, it can also cause them for example, by leaving behind a wet floor - so it is far from straightforward! These tips can help you:



Restrict access to wet or drying floors – clean when fewer people are present, work in sections (to leave a dry path at all times), always dry the surface and use hazard signs

Choose the right cleaning methods - remove spills quickly, use the correct amount of product and a dry mop or squeegee to reduce drying time

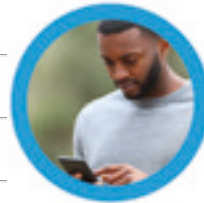
↗ people

Take care while carrying objects

Always walk **without distraction** - no looking down at mobile phones!

Deal with a spill when you find one - only if it's safe to do so

Wear footwear **appropriate** to the conditions



↗ flooring

Floors must be suitable, in **good condition** and without any obstructions

Where frequent contamination is likely, choose an adequate **slip-free surface**



↗ environment

Make sure **lighting** is adequate - too much light on a floor can cause glare and impact pedestrians' vision; while too little light can cause them to miss seeing obstructions

Minimise **loud noises** in the vicinity, which can distract people while walking

Rainwater transferred by footfall can cause slips - install a doorway canopy and a mat

Frost, ice and condensation can all impact the flooring, so make sure walkways are heated



↗ footwear

In areas prone to **wet conditions**, you may want to provide footwear - yet the 'slip-resistant' tag alone is not always sufficient in preventing slips.

Choose shoes with a soft sole and close-packed tread pattern

Check footwear frequently and if worn or damaged, replace it

If slip-resistant footwear matters, look for shoes with a high **CoF rating**



▲ top tips to avoiding trips

Apply this 3 PRONGED APPROACH to trips and have the confidence your employees can avoid them.

↗ walkways

Are they **available**, **obvious** and **suitable** to pedestrians?



↗ housekeeping

Are pedestrian walkways **cleared of obstructions** such as loose wires, rubbish bins or furniture?

↗ design and maintenance

Is the flooring **fitted correctly**? Is the surface level? Are steps or risers **suitable** and fitted with a handrail? Is the lighting **adequate**?

▲ minimising risk

As with most H&S protocols, risk assessment helps us to see the potential for slips and trips long before they happen. You will likely have an H&S Officer in place already; if not, assign a staff member as responsible for assessing the workplace for hazards and look specifically at the following:

↗ reviewing the workplace interior and exterior

What might be a cause of slips and trips? Check all areas, particularly pathways, flooring and moveable objects such as equipment and tools?



↗ considering who is at risk

Staff, contractors, customers and visitors - including those with a disability.

↗ apply sense here

For example, an office only requires a low-level risk assessment, yet a sizeable factory used to more people, machinery and vehicles needs a high-level risk assessment.

↗ act quickly

Make sure you act quickly on any risks detected - from the smallest doormat to the largest drilling rig. If you can remove risk easily, do so immediately. Or, for complex issues, consult an H&S specialist or senior leader and raise your concerns.



▲ HSE: keeping your workplace safe.

Keeping managers and teams in the know is your best bet to avoiding accidents that can cause an injury, and that requires personnel having adequate training.



Why not take a look at the following HSE online training tools:

SLIPS AND TRIPS E-LEARNING PACKAGE [STEPS]

- upskills managers and supervisors about causes and prevention

SLIP ASSESSMENT TOOL

- assesses the slip potential along pedestrian walkways

FLOORING ASSESSMENT TOOL

- identifies the best flooring types with slip resistance

MORE INFORMATION FROM THE HSE

- about slip and trip prevention

RGS prides itself on taking health and safety seriously with monthly support from our resident expert, Health and Safety Dave, keeping the team and our facilities in good shape.

If we can help your team to understand how you can make positive changes to protect your people and workplace, we'd be happy to chat with you.

Whatever your site investigation or Geoenvironmental needs, for guidance and a competitive quote...



CALL OUR HELPFUL TEAM TODAY ON **01484 604354**

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Ask Granny



The one constant in life is change.

It's something Granny Rogers would have said and our current day RGS team certainly agree with her there. Without change, we'd see no new buildings creating evolving landscapes - never mind more efficient construction processes - and no skilled people to complete the job. No green revolution, no women in engineering, no safe workplace practices.

Our brand refresh has left us thinking about change. So, this month, just for fun, we're putting a question to YOU!

Here it is:

“What has been the **greatest change** in your workplace and why?”

Perhaps your company did something significant towards helping the environment. Or, like us, you've had a recent change to your branding - maybe even your company name.

Like with our new logo, we're looking for colourful, creative responses. Be inspirational or be absurd - but please be involved! We can't wait to hear about the changes your company has gone through and the positive impact on your people!

To enter our fun competition, send your answer by clicking below before **August 31st**. We'll feature our favourites in next month's insite!



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Tom Farnell BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT LEAD

How can we help you?



What does your role involve? Describe a typical day.

Since starting at RGS over four years ago, my role has evolved significantly - including the location I started in our Head Office at Huddersfield and now work from our Burton-upon-Trent office, opened to solidify our foundations across the Midlands region.

I have two primary responsibilities at RGS. 75% of the work I do is Business Development and Estimating. All direct calls or enquiries via our company mailbox are sent to myself or Steve to manage. This then kick-starts the process of putting together a response, including research and getting to grips with all aspects of a site to ensure we provide the most cost-effective, 'belt and braces' solution the first time around. As my dad always told me, "measure twice, cut once", not necessarily in the same context but comparable, I'm sure!

The other 25% involves using my background in marketing. I look after the company's social media across Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram, keeping everyone up to speed on RGS happenings and engaging our prospective clients. Additionally, I recently led our brand refresh project, directing the designs, signage, livery, clothing, and stationery branding, which is a very exciting chapter in RGS' journey and helps us develop our future.

How does your role help our RGS clients?

Our team is responsible for showing clients why RGS is their ground investigation company of choice, with a timely, hassle-free service that's value for money. My role puts me at the forefront of all our dealings with clients and prospects. With ground investigation often seen as a grudge purchase, it is up to me to give potential clients an understanding of what we do and why it's fundamental to their project, done via our social media platforms. Similarly, when we receive a project enquiry, I guide our client through the process from start to finish and make it as simple as possible, including the trickier parts like planning permission or dealing with contractors.





What do you enjoy most about what you do?

I've very much enjoyed the recent brand refresh project. It's incredible how much of a difference it has had to our family-led brand, and I'm excited to see how far RGS can go. Also, while it sounds so simple, I love talking to different people. I found Covid a challenging time at work and home because I'm a real "people person" who relishes interaction. It's great to converse with people directly, hear their stories and assist them along their journey, no matter how large or small their project needs.

If money was no object...

What a great question... I suppose this is the part where I dare to dream! I think if ever in this position, I'd end up moving abroad with my partner and our little Westie, Poppy. Where? Well, in my opinion, you can't beat the Spanish sun! I've noticed it looks quite similar to the gold colour in our newly refreshed logo too!



At RGS, we'll admit we're not very good at farewells...

Losing a staff member is always tough for us, being such a small and close-knit team. Everyone plays an integral role at RGS, and it saddens us to see people go. After all, it doesn't happen often!



But... new horizons are only a positive, and we appreciate and fully support our people when they're ready to progress.

So, with the heaviest hearts and the biggest 'best of lucks' imaginable, we say thank you and farewell to two engineers, the Charlottes!

What an incredible contribution Charlotte M has made during her several years (and over two stints) with RGS. The numerous digs, drills and dissections - way too many to mention. Charlotte C has been equally pivotal during her time with us and will be missed when she moves on next month.

Between them, both ladies have helped countless customers to see the lay of the land with clarity and enabled their construction projects to move forward.

To both Charlottes: please don't ever be strangers! Safe travels, and good luck with everything that follows from here!



There's been something of a flurry of feedback emails lately. And you know us, we are huge fans of sharing positivity among the team and showing credit where it's due.

So, here is yet another example of a satisfied customer and their kind words of appreciation for a job well done by RGS, who recently completed a ground investigation ahead of work at his property in Huby, Leeds.

"Please pass on my thanks to the two guys that came out; they were really great and an asset to your company. I cannot fault them!"

Thank you, David! It's a pleasure helping you and our clients to gather the required intellect to form critical decisions about a build.

Proper site investigations matter - don't leave your build at risk!





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Do you have **site investigation requirements?**

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SEAMLESS APPROACHABLE

We'll **definitely** use RGS again!

We'd love to hear client feedback
about our services!

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