From The Beginning

In the late 1980's, the Company was founded by James Brogan in London. The aim was to become a strategic supplier in contract scaffolding to the major UK contractors. The first major clients were Balfour Beatty and Sir Robert McAlpine. Early contracts included The Victoria Coach Station and the Farringdon Street development. A good reputation was established from the outset for service and performance, earning the respect and ongoing business relationships with key management figures in those companies and subsequently in others also.

As a start-up private Company without funding, profits from the business were re-invested in equipment (which continues to the present day) as a scaffolding business, unlike many other specialist companies, needs to acquire vast quantities of scaffold materials in order to compete with the major nationwide companies in larger projects.

The second and most important requirement is people. The Company enticed and gradually acquired key personnel who were (and are) well respected in their own right in the industry and continue to play a pivotal role in Brogan Scaffolding’s ongoing success story.

The Company continued to grow in the mid to late 90's doubling its turnover year on year on a number of years, steadily gaining an excellent reputation within its core client base, which provided repeat business. Its client base expanded slowly to include many well known top 20 companies including Higgs & Hill (now BAM Construct UK), John Sisk & Son, John Laing (now Laing O’Rourke) and others. Projects included Virgin megastore in Oxford Street, London and Tesco in Hammersmith, London for Higgs & Hill. They also included a large housing development in Richmond for Bryant Construction and numerous projects for Balfour Beatty and others.

By the end of 1996, the Company was working for contractors such as Bilfinger + Berger, Costain, Fitzpatrick, John Sisk, Shepherd Construction, Tarmac and Wates on various projects in London and the South East. It had successfully tendered for larger projects, for example the redevelopment of the former MI5 headquarters on Curzon Street, London by Sir Robert McAlpine and working on prestigious projects such as the National Gallery for Wates and Richmond College for Tarmac (now Carillion).

During 1997, the Company committed itself to using system scaffolding extensively as an alternative to traditional tube & fitting. The first project it was used on was the Harrods Village Development for Berkeley Homes followed by a second project at Buckingham Palace Road also for Berkeley Homes. The first project the Company used the Cuplok System on was the University of East London development by Tarmac (now known as Carillion), which comprised amongst other structures, a large number of circular student accommodation buildings for which system scaffolding was designed for.
With turnover exceeding £3m and now comprising over 50 site based employees, the Company embarked on a number of large projects in London during the period of 1998-1999. These included a redevelopment of Woolgate Exchange for a German bank by Balfour Beatty, Marks & Spencer’s new headquarters on Fenchurch Street by HBG and the Blackfriars development by Sir Robert McAlpine. Additionally a specialist project was undertaken for Carillion on the redevelopment of the Royal Opera House.

Brogan Scaffolding worked on many projects during 2000 such as the Natural History Museum for Shepherd, and a number of mixed use developments including Premier Place and Cayenne Court for Carillion, Poland Street for Ballast Whiltshier and at Roland House for John Sisk.

By the turn of the millennium, the Company had accumulated large stocks of plant and equipment and developed mutually beneficial client relationships that would continue to prosper for years to come. Brogan Scaffolding was becoming a leading specialist access supplier to the construction industry.

**Expansions**

The Company first expanded into Ireland, opening a branch there during 2001 offering its contract scaffolding services to major contractors in the Dublin area. Initial projects included the Halfpenny Bridge Restoration Project for IrishEnco (now part of Carillion), Shelton Abbey, an open prison for CLG Developments, a redevelopment of the former Tallaght genTallaght-Ireland-p-823.htmleral hospital into residential complex by Michael McNamara and a number of special bridged scaffolds for high level access were required at Sandyford for John Paul Construction.

In the summer of the same year the Company became a full member of the NASC (National Association of Scaffolding Contractors) trade association and later in the year, joined the CIF (Construction Industry Federation (CIF) trade association as well as their specialist scaffolding association, the National Association of Scaffolding and Access Contractors (NASAC).

In the UK, Brogan Scaffolding was working with Balfour Beatty on the redevelopment of the Grade I listed Cabinet Offices and at the Romford Shopping Centre development. The Company started work on the third and final development of luxury apartments of the Butlers Wharf estate for Carillion, Tea Trade Wharf.

The Company expanded further into Europe during 2002, opening a branch in Kaunas and later in Vilnius, Lithuania, offering a specialist access supplier to the Baltic region for the first time. One of the first projects worked on was the refurbishment of Lithuanian Railways Office for Veikme using the Layher Allround scaffold system.

In the UK, Brogan Scaffolding was working on a number of large inner city projects including the massive Regents Quarter Redevelopment at Kings Cross, London for both HBG Construction and Balfour Beatty. Another large inner city redevelopment worked on was the Westminster Hospital conversion into Westminster Apartments by Laing. The Company became a preferred supplier to Grosvenor Estates working on the refurbishment of Eaton Square with Balfour Beatty and also started on the
‘South Porch’ project at Royal Albert Hall with HBG Construction.

In Ireland, the Company was working for many of the top 10 construction companies on numerous projects, including the Roche's Stores (Mary Street) shopping centre redevelopment for G and T Crampton, the refurbishment of Tolka Railway Bridge for Mowlem as well as the university development, NUI Maynooth, for Michael McNamara.

With the success of the Dublin operation, Brogan Scaffolding expanded into the Cork region, the first project being the construction of an Almagamated Maternity Unit at Cork University Hospital for P.J. Walls Ltd. In the early stages, the Company’s first large project in Ireland was the massive Smithfield development for G & T Crampton, along with a large freestanding scaffold at Greenwest, also for G & T Crampton. The Company also began its relationship with Pierse at the Riversdale development in Dundrum.

Group employee numbers were approaching 150 and in the UK, Brogan Scaffolding was working at Kensington Village for Carillion, which involved working around the live London Underground railway adjacent to the site. Works also began on a large temporary roof at the University of Westminster for Morrison and a large gantry and lifting rail were erected for John Sisk at Lancaster Gate, London.

Diversification

During 2004, the Company started on its largest Irish project to date with an access package of €4m at the Elm Park development for McNamara and Seele Austria. It is a large commercial and residential development located within 14 acres of parkland, developed to be highly considerate and complementary to the surrounding environment. Work also began on St Mary’s Abbey, founded in the 12th century and was our first job in Ireland working with Laing O’Rourke.

The Layher Allround System Scaffold was used for the first time in Ireland on the Forbes Quay development at Sir John Rogerston’s Quay for P.J. Elliott. Along the banks of the river Lee in Cork’s city centre, the Lapps Quay and Lavitts Quay developments for Bowen also started.

Meanwhile, in the UK, work on the large Kings Cross development continued to progress, work on a large hotel in Hemel Hempstead started with Balfour Beatty, and the Bishops Square Development in Spitalfields began with Sir Robert McAlpine.

In 2005, the Company expanded its operating region to include the north of England, and introduced mastclimbers as another access solution to its range of services. One of the first mastclimber projects undertaken was the Piccadilly Place development in Manchester for Carillion. It comprised a new HQ for Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive and a stunning new bridge to provide a pedestrian link to Piccadilly station. We also became members of IPAF (International Powered Access Federation) around this time. In Ireland, work started on Kileen Castle, Co. Meath, for Cleary & Doyle to redevelop a 12th century castle into a luxury hotel, with works including a large temporary roof over the entire castle. During the year, The Ilac Centre renovation development by G & T Crampton also started which involved working in a live shopping centre and was our largest commercial/retail project in Ireland at the time.
Other projects included working on a number of DART (Dublin Area Rapid Transit) stations with CLG developments who were refurbishing the stations and with Permasteelisa on the AIB Headquarters development in Ballsbridge, Dublin.

The Company worked with Carillion on the two tallest buildings in the north of England, constructed between 2005 and 2007. The Beetham Tower, Manchester standing at 171m high, is the tallest building outside London and has the highest living space in the UK. From the 24th floor, the building dramatically juts out a further four metres from the floors below with a cantilever. West Tower, Liverpool, was completed in late 2007, and is Liverpool’s tallest building standing at 140m. Mastclimbers were used for this project, and due to obstructions could not based out at ground level, so instead had to be supported from a specialist gallows bracket at second floor level.

The Company further expanded its access solution offering to its clients with the introduction of hoists during 2006, among the first of which was in Dublin at the prestigious Shelbourne Hotel redevelopment at St. Stephens Green for Michael McNamara.

In 2006, the Company started working on the largest of three developments being built by Carillion in the UK for News International at Broxbourne. At the time, it was the largest UK industrial scaffold contract in the UK. Valued at £4m this project involved the use of 2,600 modular beams and erecting an internal fully boarded mobile scaffold, weighing in excess of 3 tonnes with a stair access. It was suspended from permanent structural steel rails, bridging a span of 15m across the print hall. Work on a number of schools across the country also progressed in the UK for Barratts.

In the same year, work on the Cork Airport development continued with Michael McNamara and in London, work commenced on the redevelopment of 55 Baker Street for HBG; a large mixed use development running almost 8% of the length of Baker Street. 2007 saw the development of the Darwin Centre at the Natural History Museum for HBG. Works included providing a fully boarded Cuplok independent scaffold, which was cantilevered and bridged to follow the unique eight storey high cocoon shaped contours; the largest structure of its kind in the UK.

The Company worked on a number of airports, including Heathrow Airport and Dublin Airport. Works at Heathrow for main contractor Carillion were at the Heathrow Terminal 5C project, involving the construction of the second satellite building to Terminal 5, due for completion in the summer of 2010. The Company worked for Michael McNamara at the Dublin Airport Terminal 1 extension.

Late in 2007, the Company started providing access for the prestigious Point Village development in Dublin’s docklands area which is scheduled for completion towards the end of 2009. The development includes Dublin’s first 120m residential skyscraper, known as the Watchtower, a 300,000m2 shopping centre and the O2, a 14,000 seat amphitheatre.

The Company supplied a large number of single and twin mastclimbers as well as hoists at Central Park, Leopardstown, Dublin development in 2008, for Sisk and G & T Crampton. Central Park is a large mixed use campus development consisting of
mainly commercial, residential and leisure space. Later in the year, work at Leverton Gardens, Sheffield was under way for Alumet Systems which involved a large number of mastclimbers and hoists.

In the UK, work at 20 Gracechurch Street was coming to an end. For this BAM (formerly HBG) restoration project we had provided a full scaffold and steelwork solution including a complex freestanding access and temporary roof to the 7th floor vaulted roof which required extensive buttressing, with bridged hanging access and weatherproofing to enable the client to remove and replace the existing roof panels.

Towards the end of 2008, the Company became certified to the Occupational Health and Safety Management System, OHSAS ISO18001:2007. This accreditation along with our certification to the Environmental Management System, ISO 14001:2004 in May 2009, demonstrates our continuing commitment to improving our business processes and providing confirmation to our clients that the service we provide is of a very high standard. In 2010 the Company celebrated its certification to the Quality Management Standard, ISO 9001:2008.