

S&B Herba Foods Fulbourn, Cambridge



These reinforced concrete silos were originally constructed in 1940 by the War Office as part of their Strategic Food Storage Programme, to hold wartime emergency supplies of wheat and barley.

In 1986, Vogan Limited, part of the Banks Group, took over the facility and refurbished it for continued grain storage – particularly malting barley.

Today Vogan is part of S&B Herba Foods Limited and the plant handles the milling of rice, plus the splitting and polishing of dried peas and lentils for most of the UK supermarkets and food processors.

Apart from some limited patching in the 1986 refurbishment, the 22m high silos with walls 150 to 180mm thick had proved extremely durable and a testament to the quality of their original construction.

However, after more than 60 years exposure, carbonation had finally reached the level of the reinforcement in many areas. Therefore major refurbishment was required to prevent further deterioration and any possibility of water ingress to the insides and their foodstuff contents.

Because of their experience and the successful completion of many similar structures, Folcrete Restoration Services Limited were contacted for advice.

Following a full Condition Survey, Folcrete proposed a full concrete repair and protection system from Remmers.

The first operation was to clean and prepare the concrete surfaces using high pressure (4000 psi) water jetting, to mechanically break out the damaged and deteriorated concrete. They then blastcleaned any exposed and corroding steel reinforcement. The clean steel

was primed and the damaged areas reinstated with Remmers polymer modified repair mortars.

Overall the entire concrete surface was finally sealed and protected against future carbonation and water ingress with Remmers Concrete Acrylic Coating.

Project Details

Application:

Concrete Repair and Protection

Market:

Manufacturing - Food Industry

Client:

S&B Herba Foods Limited

Contractor:

Folcrete Restoration Services Limited

