



The Anchorator



Background notes:

The Anchorator

The Anchorator is a suction excavator. A suction excavator acts like a giant Hoover to dig holes without the need for mechanical diggers. It is a far safer excavation method and produces smaller and neater excavations.

The Anchorator is designed primarily for work in towns and cities. Its compact size means disruption to the general public and traffic flows is minimised. It can also work in areas that would be out of bounds to larger machines.

Further information is included at the end of these notes (20 reasons to choose The Anchorator)



The Designers

The masterminds behind the name and livery of The Anchorator are:

The name: Lexi Morrison, Crombie Primary School

Rainbow and hills: Beth Pirie, Skene Primary School

Thistle: Jesika Rupinska, Westhill Primary School

Creativity: Niamh Cavanagh, Elrick Primary School

All four contributions come from girls. A victory for 'girl power'!

Bryce Thomson from Platform2Events and Exhibitions took the key elements from the girls' designs and created a hand drawn composite image (platform2.com)

Bryce's image was turned into finished artwork by graphic design agency, eatsleepthink (Mike Marshall, eatsleepthink.com).

The graphics were printed and applied by The Write Image in Peterhead (Marshall, see Facebook page for more details)

Marketing support and project management was provided by Bluejohn Marketing (John Batty, bluejohnmarketing.com).





Nicol of Skene

Nicol of Skene has supplied civil engineering and specialist contracting services throughout North-East Scotland for over thirty years.

Located in Westhill, Nicol of Skene is active in directional drilling, domestic hard and soft landscaping, civil engineering, utilities infrastructure and, of course, suction excavation.



Friends of Anchor

Friends of ANCHOR is a charity that raises funds to make North-East Scotland's cancer and haematology care the best it can be.

ANCHOR stands for Aberdeen and North Centre for Haematology, Oncology and Radiotherapy.

For further information contact:

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20 reasons to choose The Anchorator

Why choose The Anchorator, Nicol of Skene's unique suction excavator?

- You care about the impact your decisions have on your organisation's operational efficiency and profitability.
- You care about the impact your decisions have on the safety of your colleagues and sub-contractors.
- You care about the impact your decisions have on the general public's quality of life. The Anchorator's compact size makes it quieter and less intrusive. It reduces traffic and pedestrian disruption.
- You care about the impact your decisions have on the built and natural environments. Nicol is able to immediately remove spoil from site and recycle it at its own aggregates facility.
- You care about efficiency on site. The Anchorator can release spoil into heavy duty bags allowing for continuous suction excavation on site.
- You want to make a difference. Every time you choose The Anchorator, Nicol gifts a donation on your behalf to Friends of ANCHOR, a charity making cancer care in North-East Scotland the best it can be.
- You recognise the benefit of contracting with Nicol of Skene, a contractor with a longstanding reputation for investing in and maintaining the best civil engineering plant.
- It is unique. The only urban-scale suction excavator in Scotland.





Why choose suction excavation?

There are many generic benefits derived from suction excavation. Some of these are listed below:

- Delivers a much safer working environment by reducing the potential for underground cable and pipe strikes associated with mechanical excavation. Cable strikes can, in extremis, be fatal.
- Delivers a smaller, tidier construction site compared to mechanical methods. Suction excavation can be controlled and finessed to minimise the spoil removed from excavations.
- Reduces reinstatement times and costs. Suction excavation's accuracy means less reinstatement material is required and reinstatement is completed more quickly.
- Has the potential to reduce insurance premiums for contractors using the system.
- Ideally suited to work in SSSI and alongside historic and structurally sensitive buildings and structures.
- The long reach of the suction excavator's hose means it can remove material in areas where traditional techniques struggle to be effective.
- In urban environments, compares favourably with the excavation productivity of mechanical methods.
- Simplifies site logistics. Excavation is completed by a third party before a contractor's own workforce arrives on site.
- Easier to mobilise and 'switch on and off'. Excavation no longer so much a critical path activity. Excavation can proceed in line with other site activities
- Facilitates more accurate scheduling.
- Avoids using skilled workers to undertake manual labouring.
- Works, in conjunction with an onboard air lance, to remove the compacted clays often associated with utility strikes.



Where can suction excavation be used?

- Utility applications: valve chambers, repair and rehabilitation, service connections, mains laying etc
- General civils: lighting structures, posts and barriers; French drains; ground source heat pump pipe runs etc
- Removal of contaminated soils
- Any site with 'hidden' underground assets or dangers e.g. the safe recovery of WW2 artillery
- Rail-mounted for ballast removal work in the gulley: ideal for burying signalling cable to avoid theft.
- General excavations in urban areas where space is at a premium and disruption costs are high.

How to book The Anchorator?

- Call us on 01224 744473
- email us at anchorator@nicolofskene.com