

Mell Square Multi-Storey Car Park, Solihull



The car park remained open during repair



Traffic was protected from repair activity



Spalling was removed by hydro-demolition



Galvashield XP anodes were used



Mixing of repair mortar



Placing of repair mortar

Careful planning and teamwork keeps busy town centre multi-storey car park open to traffic during major structural repair contracts.

Client	Solihull MBC
Principal Contractor	Balvac
Value	Phase 1 £ 230,000, Phase 2 £ 130,000
Programme	Phase 1 Oct 02, Phase 2 Mar 04

Mell Square multi-storey car park is situated in the centre of Solihull and serves the busy shopping precinct next door. It was built in the 1960s and has over 650 car spaces spread over 4 split floor levels. Much of the reinforced slab has spalled over time, particularly areas subject to heavy traffic such as ramps and other turning areas. Walls, columns, and soffits are also deteriorating and required repair and protective coatings

Balvac was awarded two separate repair contracts by client and designer Solihull MBC. For these first phases of an ongoing programme of repairs Solihull decided to concentrate on slab repairs, being structurally the most serious defect, as well as a tripping hazard and unsightly. Some coatings were also applied. It was a contract requirement that the car park remained operational throughout, with spaces returned to use wherever possible on Saturdays.

Hydro-demolition was chosen to remove defective concrete in preference to hand break out during the second contract. Works areas were secured and separated from traffic using temporary timber panels running from floor to ceiling. These panels protected adjacent traffic from dust, spray and debris and importantly also served to mitigate noise nuisance both within the car park and at nearby business premises.

Areas were repaired using Patchroc GP repair mortar made by Fosroc. This is a fast setting mortar, repaired areas can be trafficked within three hours of placing. The mortar was used neat for areas up to 4 m² but bulked out using pea gravel for larger areas or patches more than 100 mm deep. The lifetime of the repairs was prolonged through incorporation of Fosroc Galvashield XP sacrificial anodes into each patch. These units are quick and easy to install, and deliver a highly cost effective and durable repair.

Balvac

Sherwood House, Gadbrook Business Centre, Rudheath, Northwich,
Cheshire. CW9 7TN

Tel: 01606 333 036 Fax: 01606 812 497

Email: enquiries.balvac@balvac.co.uk

www.balvac.co.uk