

Face Lift

Sweden's oldest shopping centre called the Gallerian is located in the centre of the capital Stockholm. The Gallerian was built in the 1970s and in March 2003 a major renovation of the complex started which included an extension of about 8000m². Concrete cutting and demolition contractor Håltågarna Borrteknik AB was hired to carry out the concrete cutting and demolition tasks.



The Gallerian shopping centre from the outside.

THE GALLERIAN WAS THE FIRST of its type in Sweden and only minor renovation work has been carried out during the last 25 years. But early in 2003 a redesign of the whole complex started which will include a vast extension of the shopping area. The whole centre will have a major face lift and have a more open layout and the bottom level will be connected with the Stockholm subway system.

The renovation will continue to the end of 2004 and will be divided in two phases where the first phase will finish at the start of 2004 and when completed is expected to be the most exciting market place in Stockholm.

Mostly demolition

A considerable amount of planning has gone into the project which involves many different contractors. One of these is Stockholm based Håltågarna Borrteknik AB, HBAB, which was awarded the concrete cutting and demolition contracts.

During March and June 2003 the company has had eight men full time on the project. Most of the jobs have been carried out with remote controlled demolition robots from Brokk AB involving cutting heavily reinforced concrete beams and a system of joists with an average thickness of some 600mm.

As 50 per cent of the shopping centre is not involved in the renovation during the first phase and remains open for shoppers, all demolition activity had to be planned very carefully.

No vibration, dust and noise were allowed and breakers were absolutely forbidden. All demolition had to be done with concrete crushers and sawing equipment.



The renovation is divided in two different phases. During the first phase half the shopping centre will remain open to the public.

During the first phase six Brokk remote controlled demolition robots were used and included a Brokk 250, Brokk 180, two Brokk 40s, a Brokk 150 and one Brokk 110, all equipped with concrete crushers.

Three contracts

In addition to HBAB using the robots the company also performed quite a lot of concrete

sawing and drilling. Tyrolit Hydrostress, Pentrunder Tractive and eurodima saws were used together with eurodima diamond wire for all edge sawing and openings for escalators, doors and other types of openings. Core drilling with Haaken and eurodima drills was also employed on new installations. HBAB's estimated Euro 570,000 contract was divided into stages where



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Six remote controlled demolition robots were used at the same time during the most intensive period of the project. The most sensitive parts of the demolition were carried out during night time and weekends to minimise the environmental problems.



All wall sawing was done with Pentrunder wall saws from Tractive AB.

the first covered the openings for escalators. The second contract involved opening up a large oval hole and to demolish a 10m by 6m vault with approximately 600mm thick walls. The third contract was outside and required numerous openings for windows and extension of the shopping area. HBAB is hoping to work on phase 2 which will start later in 2004.



All the Brokk machines were equipped with silent demolition tools as this project was under special regulations concerning noise, dust and vibrations.