

# Specialist Press Release

October 26, 2021

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## **Focusing on the sustainable use of resources: Bauer Resources carries out soil remediation on former tannery site**

**Backnang, Germany** – For more than 150 years, the site at “Obere Walke” in Backnang, northeast of Stuttgart, was one of the defining characteristics of the former tannery city. These days, however, there is nothing left that would serve as a reminder of the days of the former leather factory. All industrial buildings were completely demolished in 2011, and the wasteland now resembles a lunar landscape. After the owner and the municipality reached an agreement on the reorganization of the urban development, preparatory measures for the construction of a care home on a section of the 50,000 m<sup>2</sup> site have begun in August. DIBAG Industriebau AG commissioned the Bauer Umwelt Division of BAUER Resources GmbH to carry out soil remediation works for the construction of an excavation pit. The aim is to eliminate any residues remaining in the soil from the former use of the site as a tannery.

But before pit excavation could actually commence and the 30 t excavator be put to use, an area for the interim storage of the soil had to be created. The soil needs to be separated, i.e. the accompanying expert decides directly on site which part of the excavated soil needs to be disposed of due to its level of contamination, and which excavation material can safely be put to further use on the building site. “This approach allows us to dramatically reduce soil wastage and conserve valuable resources,” explains Operations Manager Jan Uhlig from Bauer Umwelt Division and adds: “The sustainable use of resources is part of the remediation strategy and is very important to both us as well as the client.”

Once preparation of the area had been completed by Foreman Erwin Resch and his team, a start was made on the ground in September 2021. Around 26,000 m<sup>3</sup> of contaminated soil is excavated to a depth of 4 m below the ground surface and separated accordingly. The biggest challenge this year is going to be the weather, stresses Jan Uhlig: “When large amounts of water react with highly cohesive soil, this leads to a certain amount of extra effort and calls for increased caution. You need experience and flexibility for this type of situation. We are a well-coordinated team. Everyone knows what they have to do and what is important at any given moment. That’s how we can ensure good construction progress at all times and complete the excavation works on schedule in November.” Covering the excavated material headed for disposal protects it from wind erosion and rain water, which in turn prevents the discharge of contaminants.

Removal of unusable material will take place until the middle of November, which also marks the completion of the works by Bauer. The soil is transported to the nearest disposal facilities within a radius of 25 km to further minimize environmental impact and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as much as possible.

Images: 2021-10\_BAUER\_Soil+remediation+Backnang ...



(1) The Bauer Umwelt Division of BAUER Resources GmbH is carrying out soil remediation work on the site of a former tannery and is preparing the excavation pit for the construction of a new nursing home.



(2) After preparatory measures, excavation and partial separation of the soil began in August.



(3) A 30-ton excavator is used to excavate about 26,000 m<sup>3</sup> of contaminated soil.

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### **About BAUER Resources Group**

The regionally organized BAUER Resources GmbH is aligned to projects around the world with its subsidiaries in Germany, Africa, the Middle East and South America and has extensive expertise in the areas of drilling services and water wells, environmental services, constructed wetlands, mining and rehabilitation. With more than 30 years of experience, BAUER Resources GmbH's Bauer Umwelt business division is one of the leading specialists in site remediation, soil remediation and waste disposal, both in the domestic market and internationally. As an expert in pollution reduction, Bauer Umwelt offers a diverse range of services for all environmental issues. Other companies of the BAUER Resources Group are the GERMAN WATER and ENERGY GROUP (GWE) – manufacturers of pioneering products and developers of integrated applications for well-drilling and geothermal – as well the Site Group for Services and Well Drilling Ltd. in Jordan. More at [bre.bauer.de](http://bre.bauer.de)

### **About Bauer**

The BAUER Group is a leading provider of services, equipment and products dealing with ground and groundwater. With over 110 subsidiaries, Bauer can rely on a worldwide network on all continents. The Group's operations are divided into three forward-looking segments with high synergy potential: Construction, Equipment and Resources. Bauer profits enormously from the collaboration of its three business segments, enabling the Group to position itself as an innovative, highly specialized provider of products and services for demanding projects in specialist foundation engineering and related markets. Bauer therefore offers suitable solutions to the world's greatest challenges, such as urbanization, the growing infrastructure needs, the environment, as well as water, oil and gas. The BAUER Group was founded in 1790 and is based in Schrobenhausen, Bavaria. In 2020, it employed about 11,000 people in around 70 countries and achieved total Group revenues of EUR 1.5 billion. BAUER Aktiengesellschaft is listed in the Prime Standard of the German Stock Exchange. More information can be found at [www.bauer.de](http://www.bauer.de). Follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube!](#)