

## Ilkeston's Rayden wins seven figure order

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Richard Tresidder, Business Editor

AN Ilkeston engineering firm ended 2009 on a high note by winning the second biggest contract in its history.

Rayden Engineering won a seven figure order from Scotia Gas Networks for work at Farningham in Kent to build a gas handling facility that will serve the south and south east of England.

This will include everything from excavating, installing the pipework, re-instating the land, to fitting security fencing and gates.

Work on the project starts this week and will last a year.



It will include setting up a small field campus with temporary buildings for administration, storage and workers' welfare.

The contract is eclipsed only by another from Scotia Gas Networks for a similar plant at Hardwick in Buckinghamshire which finished in August last year after three years.

Rayden's managing director Richard Hayden, a former welder who set up the firm, said: "Although we were satisfied with the value of our order book for 2010, winning the Farningham contract is the icing on the cake for us in this, our 30th anniversary year."

It was started to provide a specialist high-pressure pipe welding and fabrication service which has diversified over the years into a multi-disciplined company.

This includes installing pipework from initial greenfield stage to final re-instatement, repairing, maintenance and modifications to live gas installations.

The company has only just finished a critical contract in Algeria, diverting a 40 inch diameter pipeline.

Over the years, it has undertaken projects in Ireland, Portugal, Turkey, Russia, Georgia and Gabon.

Current workload includes a project at Romsey, Hampshire, similar to that at Farningham, gas pipeline work in Cumbria for United Utilities and work on aviation fuel pipelines and storage facilities for military and civil air bases across the UK.

It is also providing a pipeline maintenance service to National Grid Pipeline Maintenance Centres throughout the British Isles.

The company is carrying out large bore fabrication projects for Elster-Instromet, including pressure testing, inspection, and painting, at its premises in Wentworth Street, Ilkeston, its home of 12 years.

The majority of its 100-strong workforce who include highly-skilled fitters, fabricators, technicians and welders are engaged in mechanical and civil engineering work countrywide.