

CONTAMINATED LAND

■ WINNER: Atkins

As the pressures on land increase and policy makers try to discourage development of virgin sites, remediation will continue to grow in importance.

This is borne out by the results of the survey, with consultants placing it fairly high up the league table of fields set to flourish and potential clients foreseeing a much bigger increase in the need for the services of contaminated land specialists than in past years.



Stephen Pearmain with Nic Yates of Beresford Blake Thomas

Atkins held on to the title of the best consultancy in this sector for the third year running, voted top of the pack by both customers and consultants. The company has been involved in a wide array of projects in recent months, demonstrating expertise in both the practice and the theory.

Initiatives include work cleaning up the site of a former benzene-contaminated gas works in Croydon, and the development of a contaminated-land strategy for the London borough of Tower Hamlets.

Contaminated land was the sector which saw the greatest discrepancy between the views of the consultants and their clients.

Golder Associates was seen as the second most reputable consultancy by its peers, followed by ERM, URS and Enviros.

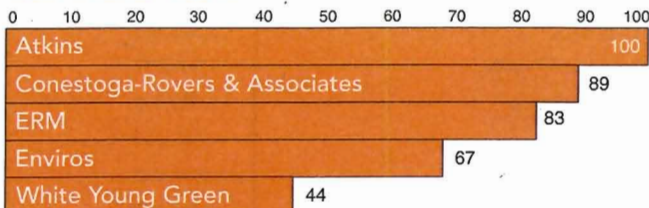
It was a different story for the clients though, who saw Conestoga-Rovers in the second slot, with ERM again third, Enviros fourth and White Young Green Environmental in fifth.

Oddly, last year's runner up, ADAS, did not even make it into the top ten this year, ranking instead in 15th place in the consultants' estimations and barely registering on the customers' radar.

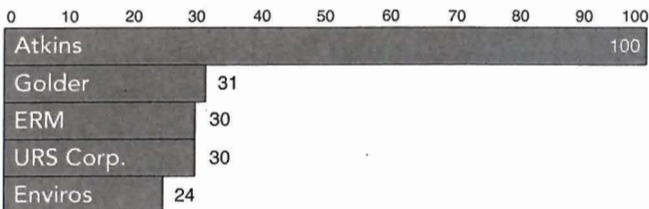
As government targets of 60% brownfield development are reached and surpassed, with calls to raise these to 75%, contaminated land remains an important playing field in the environmental sector.

Which environmental consultancy has the best reputation for contaminated land?

CUSTOMERS' VIEWS



CONSULTANTS' VIEWS



Note: The results above are ranked on a proportional scale where 100 is equal to the highest score for this question