

**Trade Associations take action in response to recent statements regarding the UK Ground Investigation industry.**

The Association of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Specialists (AGS) have partnered with the British Drilling Association (BDA) to create 'The Task Force', a collection of industry practitioners brought



together to provide a 'Spotlight on the Industry'. One of the key drivers for the conception of The Task Force was industry representatives being told by a major client that they believed the most hazardous part of their project would be the ground investigation phase. The Task Force are keen to develop tangible deliverables which can really help move the industry forward in reaction to these beliefs, real or conjectured. To achieve this, the collective has been asked to conduct a far reaching and industry wide survey on behalf of the two Trade Associations.

The initiative has been set up principally to provide a collaborative investigation into current industry standards. It is hoped that the project's survey will produce some interesting statistics, points of view and exposures that can be utilised to shine a light on what is actually going on in the UK ground investigation industry.

A Position Paper is set to be released on June 1st which will set out the current "official" standards recognised by both Trade Associations and advocated by their respective members. Following this, there will be a single, all-inclusive survey created that everyone in the industry will be invited to complete in order to obtain a full, all-encompassing view of UK GI. This Survey will be open to all and will run throughout the month of July. Data will be collated and interpreted in August before the results are openly revealed and discussed across all media.

It is hoped that this initiative will be a stimulus for involvement, change and the start of a new era of working together for the good of the entire UK Ground Investigation industry.