

## **BAUER FLOOD DEFENCE SYSTEM GETS THE ROYAL SEAL OF APPROVAL**

April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2004: Royal approval is given to a UK first in community flood defence - a highly engineered system that is effective when needed and practically invisible when not.

HRH the Princess Royal officially opened the very first large-scale example of the DEMFLOOD™ technology in Shrewsbury in the knowledge that it has already been proven to work for residents of this flood-prone city on the Severn.

Just a few weeks before, close to 100 flood warnings were in force across the country but residents of the 11<sup>th</sup> century Frankwell area of Shrewsbury, who suffered particularly serious floods in the autumn of 2000, were left literally high and dry.

Emergency flood defence teams from the Environment Agency had sprung into action and installed the demountable system from BAUER Inner City Ltd to a height of 1.5 metres, then raised it to 3 metres, to protect more than 70 properties. It cost (including the ground engineering works) a total of £6 million.

The BAUER-IBS System installed last year on Severnside North at Bewdley, 30 miles downstream in Worcestershire, protects 40 properties at a total cost of £3 million.

The systems on the River Severn are estimated to have saved approximately £20 million of damage and disruption, not least untold distress, to property owners along the upper and middle reaches of the river.

Regional flood defence manager John Fitzsimons said: "This is the first time these defences have been tested and I am delighted they have proved so successful. The next task for us is to carry out a full evaluation of their performance, then we shall be seeking other places where they might help."

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