

Nominee: Eleonora Lepanto, Stomor Ltd



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| Category | 1. Rising Star |
| Nominator | Tim Chilvers, Land & Planning Director, Anderson Group |

Eleonora is at the start of her career and has been with Stomor for a short space of time but has excelled well beyond the expectations of the Directors. She has a clear passion for sustainability and for creating things that benefits the wider environment. She takes a holistic approach to her designs and doesn't just meet the bare minimum to satisfy standard compliance requirements.

An example of this is on a residential development project in Faversham where Eleonora designed a fully integrated Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) strategy which minimises the use of conventional pipes and manholes, keeping surface water on the surface for as long as possible and maximising the potential for evapotranspiration. She worked closely with the design team to overcome the various constraints within the site, which included a fluvial flood zone, Grade II listed buildings and contaminated land, and, where necessary, clearly and successfully explained the multi-benefits of the SuDS proposed, particularly with regards to the cost and environmental comparison against a conventional system. Furthermore, her research on the comparable attributes between a sandbag headwall against a conventional concrete headwall for this project has resulted in a change in company preference to the sandbag option.

She strives for perfection and is always looking at how the company, and herself, can create more sustainable designs and contribute positively to the environment. She is spearheading the new Sustainability Policy within the company and is now teaching others, including Directors, on new innovations and policies which contribute to a more sustainable approach to Civil Engineering design.