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## New Members

## Events

3 December – Delivering Client Requirements, Heathrow & Costain	
16 December – Direction Group Meeting & Christmas Lunch	
4 February – Jaguar Land Rover Solihull Manufacturing Tour	
23 & 24 February – Direction Group Dinner & Meeting	

For more information or to register:  
[roisin.sweeney@buildoffsite.com](mailto:roisin.sweeney@buildoffsite.com)



Richard Ogden, Chairman

Here we are almost at the end of 2015 – where has the year gone? This is the time when I like to look back over the year and to take stock of what we have achieved and to flag up some of the key developments that are shaping the future of Buildoffsite. I don't have the space to reflect on everything that has happened so I am going to concentrate on just a few items that I sense as seminal to the future direction of the organisation.

Firstly I have a real sense that offsite construction has finally made the transition from being regarded as somewhat niche solutions for a narrow range of projects and has become part of the mainstream applicable to just about all projects. The limits are no longer technical but rather arise as a direct consequence of factors such as a lack of awareness, lack of skills and in some cases lack of supply side capacity. Those who set the pace in the UK construction industry whether as clients, designers, consultants or contractors are already making increased use of offsite solution to deliver our most complex and demanding building and infrastructure projects. The notion of assembling structures from components manufactured to the most demanding standards to deliver exceptional client value is widely accepted as not just

possible but also the only logical approach if construction is finally going to perform to the standards expected of all other modern industries. I have no doubt that the industry at large will rapidly follow in the steps of those in the vanguard. There are many signs of this step change which I will touch on in this piece. The constant theme is the need for Buildoffsite to evolve so that what we do and how we do it continues to support the offsite agenda as market conditions, market knowledge and market requirements change. To ensure that Buildoffsite continues to evolve in the right way we have fantastic support and advice from our Membership and from the Buildoffsite Executive Group, the members of which share their incredible knowledge and expertise to ensure that as an organisation that exists solely to drive the case for offsite we stay on track. We face the additional challenge that the track we need to follow is itself always changing shape.

One of the signs that offsite construction has come of age is the recognition by those whose job is to ensure that the UK construction industry has access to the skills needed to sustain a constantly evolving industry. A forward looking industry – an industry that will inevitably construct in ways that are substantially different. An industry that will accept Building Information modelling as business as normal. An industry that will understand that assembling a structure on site is probably inevitable but building on site from a set of basic materials is most certainly not. For those who deliver skills seemingly not to appreciate that the industry has changed and not to recognise the need to define and deliver new skills clearly does nothing at all to support the needs of a forward looking industry to adopt new practices. That I regret to say was precisely the situation that prevailed until earlier this year. I was absolutely

delighted when the United Kingdom Commission for Employment and Skills launched a collaborative research competition to identify the skills required for offsite solutions. This simple measure represented a sea-change – a wake up call for the skills industry. Recently CITB launched a substantial competition for the provision of offsite training. This was great news and in its own right shows how the position of offsite construction methods has changed. So well done UKCES and CITB. Also well done to Buildoffsite Member Action Sustainability for their brilliant work to develop the Offsite Management School to provide e-learning opportunities. The next challenge for Buildoffsite will be to work with the Professional Institutions to encourage a forward looking approach to the training and CPD components of professional training. This I'm sure will be a long term haul but we will get there by harnessing direct and the indirect methods.

At the start of the year working with Mott MacDonald and The Institution of Civil Engineers we delivered a major conference on Infrastructure with particular focus on the role of offsite solutions. The event looking at some of the most inspiring UK and International projects and also reviewing the opportunities for innovation in infrastructure from emerging technologies and practices was fantastic and much enjoyed by the capacity crowd in the largest conference room in the ICE. The reason this event was so personally satisfying was because for the first time we introduced into the programme a session run by some of the rising stars of our industry. In this politically correct world we were not allowed to refer to them as young people although demonstrably that is just what they were. Significantly it made a real difference for our audience of distinguished senior executives to

hear directly from some of those fantastic people who will be running our industry in just a few short years. To hear their views and ambitions and to get a sense of their views of the art of the possible. Incredible people with a view of construction as something that is indivisible from other sectors – particularly the digital world, and a recognition that data is the primary business asset of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. From a Buildoffsite perspective we need to find practical ways of bringing our future business leaders into our world and helping to connect our ambitions with their world.

In terms of how Buildoffsite goes about its business, one of the most significant developments has been the pilot work that has been undertaken to explore the role of Hubs to directly engage the Membership to drive offsite solutions in key market sectors. This development looks forward to the time when Buildoffsite will be a larger organisation and will need to find a mechanism to drive the offsite agenda from a series of highly informed sectoral positions rather than as part of a general initiative. This work actually started last year as a set of trials but we do now have enough working knowledge to understand how Hubs can operate to good effect. The essential requirement is that establishing a Hub has the support of a sufficiently sized cohort of Members. The progress to date will shortly be reviewed by the Executive Group. I am hugely grateful to those Members who are giving so generously of their time and expertise to lead the work on the initial tranche of Hubs.

In October we reached another sea-change point with our collaboration with Buildoffsite Member Marwood Events to deliver the first Offsite Construction Show. To me the point at which an

industry sector can support its own Show and for that Show to be delivering value to the industry and its customers marks the point at which the industry has become part of the mainstream economy. Over the years Buildoffsite has worked with a number of industry event organisations to incorporate offsite as a component of a wider industry show. I will not in this piece rehearse the experience suffice it to say that the consistent result was that Buildoffsite gave of our expertise and networks and the other side took. We have learned from our experiences and the collaboration with Marwood was based on a clear set of Buildoffsite ambitions.

The experience over those two days in October demonstrated a number of things. Firstly the offsite supply side has the appetite and the confidence to support an exhibition, Buildoffsite had the confidence and capability to manage the delivery of the largest programme of seminars we have ever offered, and the industry at large had sufficient confidence in the future significance of offsite solutions to arrive in their hundreds at ExCel to take part as delegates. Initial feedback from Members who exhibited has been exceptionally positive. We will shortly have a formal debrief with Marwood when informed by the views of our Members we will define what the Offsite Construction Show 2016 which is scheduled for 12/13 October should look like in order to deliver the knowledge transfer and business to business opportunities that will attract not just those who are already committed to offsite solutions but also those who are still sitting on the fence – but wobbling.

Finally I could not end this piece without drawing attention to my decision to stand down as Chairman of Buildoffsite at the end of next year.

My decision has been well publicised as has the work that is now underway to identify a succession arrangement. My absolute determination over the next few months will be to ensure that the future of Buildoffsite is in safe hands to ensure that we are properly positioned to advance the case for offsite solutions regardless of how that agenda evolves and at the same time supports the business imperatives of our Members.

**BOPAS Update**

There has been a step change in the number of applications and level of enquiries received from manufacturers over the last few months as more lenders and Housing Associations are requiring BOPAS accreditation as a prequalification.

This level of interest was reflected in the popularity of the BOPAS seminar held at Lloyd’s Register head offices in London on the 3rd November when over 40 delegates attended from manufacturing, lending, valuation and investment sectors.

Acknowledgement that BOPAS Accreditation is the gateway providing access to the UK Housing market for non-traditional construction systems is not restricted to the UK, with assessments of manufacturers leading to accreditation, completed or underway in the following countries:

- Spain
- Turkey
- Sweden
- Austria
- Germany
- Lithuania
- China

SIG Building Systems, were the most recent manufacturer to be awarded BOPAS Accreditation

and their feedback at the BOPAS seminar in London reflected the added value that most organisations gain through being exposed to the assessment process: “BOPAS took us on a journey which made us analyse the business in a way we had never done before, it presented many questions, some of which we would have not thought to ask. BOPAS has created the fundamentals behind our business model, is now an integral part of our culture & defines the way we operate on a day to day basis.”



For more information: [www.bopas.org](http://www.bopas.org)

**Offsite Construction Show gets off to a flying start**

The  
**OFFSITE**  
Construction Show  
Wednesday 13 & Thursday 14 October, 2016  
ExCel, London

In October the offsite industry came of age, with its very own showcase, attracting over 2,000 top quality attendees who represented every part of the UK's, construction, design and engineering community. It got off to the best possible start winning praise from exhibitors and visitors alike.

The Show which is run by Buildoffsite Member Marwood Events attracted around 80 exhibitors and hundreds of senior industry visitors from the UK and overseas who came ready to network, to find out what was new and to do business.



*"It was a great show and we have already reserved our stand for next year"*

Nick Coubray, Howick

Buildoffsite has long wanted to become closely involved in a business to business show for the fast developing offsite

construction sector in order to be able to reach out more widely across the industry and to bring together offsite customers, potential customers, the simply curious along with the supply side at a scale and with an energy that supports improved understanding, confidence and growth in the market. We are delighted with the way that the Offsite Construction Show was delivered and also very pleased with the very positive reactions that Members and visitors alike have shared with us.

Buildoffsite's particular contribution over the two days was to run its own stand plus managing the free to attend programme of seminars and experimental masterclasses. This programme attracted many hundreds of delegates and the reaction from speakers and delegates was very positive. It is rare if not unique for so many distinguished expert speakers to be willing to share their expertise in the open way that we saw at the Offsite Show.

*Congratulations to the team on a very successful two days - the vision realised and realised in style"*

John Hunt, Enterprise Ireland

Here are some of the reasons visitors and exhibitors thought it was such a successful launch event:

- **30 CPD seminars and workshops, many with 'standing room only'**
- **Outstanding visitor quality - board members, heads of procurement, senior technical and commercial management made up the show audience.**
- **Conveniently located in a high quality London exhibition venue with excellent transportation links.**
- **Interesting and relevant exhibitors, representing the full range of offsite products, services and technologies.**
- **Superb networking opportunity, the show allowed all involved to see the progress made by offsite construction.**



As at all first attempts not everything that happened at the Show was perfect. We have a reasonably good grasp of what worked and what didn't work. We also have some "work in progress" ideas for ways in which the Show can be improved to deliver an even better experience for exhibitors and visitors and be developed to provide an even more effective forum for sharing knowledge and promoting the case for offsite construction solutions. If you have suggestions of improvements please contact us: [roisin.sweeney@buildoffsite.com](mailto:roisin.sweeney@buildoffsite.com)



**Get set for the next Offsite Construction Show on 12 & 13 October 2016, Excel, London.**

We would like to thank all the visitors and the exhibitors, for making Europe's first ever exhibition, dedicated to offsite construction, a huge success.

We have already allocated 60% of the available stand space for returning exhibitors and many top industry names already signed up for 2016 and they include: Tekla, Central Site Accommodation FP McCann, Stanton Bonna Concrete, Simpson Strong Tie, Zutec, Howick, CPM, Tremco, Illbrook Coatings, Metsec, R & M Fixings, Progress Holdings and many more have booked their stands for 2016.

**For more information on exhibiting, please contact Eddie Milton on 0773 951 9797 and [eddie@marwoodevents.com](mailto:eddie@marwoodevents.com) or Paul Shelley on 07872 489790 and [paul@marwoodevents.com](mailto:paul@marwoodevents.com)**

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**BIM enabling new business opportunities for TDS**

Shropshire based TDS are continuing to make positive strides in both their own BIM implementation plans, and also in developing consulting and implementing services with their manufacturing clients.



**Daniel Leech**

**Managing Director**

TDS are delighted to have secured a BIM Implementation Project with a

major UK PLC which will see them offer a full range of consultancy based services, allowing the client to integrate BIM into their business as efficiently as possible.

Daniel Leech, MD of TDS, explained: "We've been working with this particular client for nearly two decades, but to date our service offering has focused on general design and detailing work for their steelwork projects. Having successfully implemented BIM into our own business over the past four years, we were asked by the client to advise them on the best way forward. By offering the client a simple plan that demystified the common BIM challenges, we were delighted to be awarded the contract. For this commission we sat down with the client and listened to what the challenges were for the business. We identified a pick list of services that we could offer to make the process more transparent and efficient. We are now reviewing the best software and hardware solutions for the business having regard to their internal policies and procedures. We are also making recommendations, writing their BIM execution plan/strategy, and finally putting all of their technical product data and catalogues into BIM compliant formats, so they can be used on BIM projects by clients, architects, engineers and contractors. This project is allowing us both to build on an already mutually beneficial relationship and also to continue to collaborate on project based work, while offering further value to a respected and valued client."

Recent high level conversations with architects and engineers have clearly demonstrated significant progress being made in recognition of TDS having a UK-based, fully skilled and experienced team.

Leech continues: "It's really starting to feel like the industry is recognising the benefits of getting specialists like us involved in projects much earlier in the process, so we can advise and consult on

achieving best value. By working in this way predictability of price and programme is more likely than when using previous linear procurement models.”

**For more information, please contact Director Neil Meredith on tel: 01952 225835, email: [neil.meredith@tdsmidlands.co.uk](mailto:neil.meredith@tdsmidlands.co.uk), or visit the website: [www.tdsmidlands.co.uk](http://www.tdsmidlands.co.uk).**

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### ***Stewart Milne Group targets growth with appointment of Head of Sales***

Leading designer and manufacturer of timber build systems Stewart Milne Timber Systems has announced the appointment of a new head of sales as it implements significant growth plans across the UK. Mike Perry, formerly of ROK PLC, will be based at the company’s Witney office and brings more than twenty years’ business management experience to the role. With a strong track record in guiding businesses towards greater profits and increased efficiency, Mike will develop and lead the new business sales team to deliver its ambitious UK-wide business development plan. He has experience in both the timber frame and broader construction industries, having previously held director-level roles at Llewellyn Timber Engineering and ROK PLC.



The Stewart Milne Timber Systems sales team is sought after for its detailed technical design insight in value engineering projects, which Mike will be responsible for helping introduce to an even wider audience. The company is also looking to add to its sales team with two further high-calibre business development appointments to focus on supporting growth in its South East and East England territories

Commenting on the appointment, group managing director of Stewart Milne Timber Systems, Alex Goodfellow said: “Mike is a fantastic addition to our team. He brings a wealth of experience to the role and will be a huge asset to the company. Mike is joining us during a very exciting time at Stewart Milne Timber Systems as we expand our business as part of our long-term growth strategy. With Mike on board, I am confident that our sales team will continue to achieve success in securing new clients and working closely to meet the needs of our current customer base. A keen sportsman, Mike is also a member of the FA Licensed Coaches' Association and volunteers as a coach and head of communications at Southside United Football Club in Milton Keynes. He said: “I am really looking forward to working for such a forward-thinking company. Stewart Milne Timber Systems is highly regarded across the industry and I look forward to building on this reputation as I work with the team to deliver on our exciting business growth plans.”

**For more information about Stewart Milne Group: [www.stewartmilne.com](http://www.stewartmilne.com)**



**Construction  
Scotland  
Innovation Centre  
approves funding for first  
innovative project**



A proposal for the UK's first patented prefabricated timber frame party wall system has become the first innovative project to be approved by Construction Scotland Innovation Centre's Technical Advisory Group of industry and academic experts. The Innovation Centre, which was launched in October 2014, was set up to transform the Scottish construction industry by encouraging companies to innovate to drive profitable growth. CSIC provides Scotland's 31,000+ construction businesses with a 'one-stop shop' for accessing a team of experts and public support. The Centre is supported by Scottish Funding Council, Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and 12 Scottish university partners.

The new wall system is the brainchild of Stewart Milne Timber Systems, which will be given almost £100,000 of funding to help bring the product through the research and development stages and onto the market. It is hoped that the project will also receive leveraged government funding. When the product is fully developed, it should become the first patented prefabricated timber frame system in the UK, with great potential for export. It is expected to have improved thermal, acoustic and fire performance with ease of installation and cost effectiveness as key benefits.

The project could create 24 new jobs at Stewart Milne Group, thanks to the creation of two new production lines to manufacture the walls, which

can be used in the construction of housing, hotels and student accommodation.

CSIC's Head of Business Development, Gillian Fleming said: "We are pleased to support this first innovation project from CSIC. The outcome will have significant economic impact for Scotland in terms of jobs created and help put Scotland firmly on the map in leading edge offsite construction. This is a busy time for CSIC, with many exciting projects in the pipeline. We welcomed two new Business Development Managers to our team in August, who will cover the west and east of Scotland."

Alex Goodfellow, Group Managing Director of Stewart Milne Timber Systems said: "We're delighted that CSIC have chosen to support our next innovation and we are looking forward working to develop a new and exciting product to bring to market to add to our current portfolio of innovative and effective products. The market is growing and the increased interest in timber frame and offsite manufacture demonstrates the value that the industry increasingly places on new and cost effective ways to build."

**For more information, please contact Group Sales & Marketing Director Carolanne Dieleman on tel: 01224 747461, email: [cdieleman@stewartmilne.com](mailto:cdieleman@stewartmilne.com), or visit the website: [timbersystems.stewartmilne.com](http://timbersystems.stewartmilne.com)**

**Trimble delivers new version of Tekla Structural Designer for engineers**

The latest version of Tekla® Structural Designer [1] software enables structural engineers to analyse and design steel and concrete buildings efficiently



by combining analysis and design into a single, seamless process. Building on its sophisticated loading and analysis functionality, fully automated design, high-quality documentation and seamless Building Information Modelling (BIM) collaboration, this release brings engineers new features for more efficient and cost effective building design.

Enhancements to Trimble’s Tekla Structural Designer include expanded seismic analysis and design features that automate accidental torsional effects and the required seismic design combinations, allowing engineers to use one product all the way through to code-compliant design. Other time saving features include the automation of tedious and complex tasks, such as wind loading calculations, floor vibration checks and floor loading. In addition, Tekla Structural Designer now offers expanded beam design options and integration with cellular beam provider, ASD Westok [2], and its

proprietary Cellbeam software that simplifies design with Westok elements and allows for quick comparisons of different floor beam systems.

“This new release is a significant update after the initial launch of Tekla Structural Designer earlier this year, further automating structural analysis and design to save time, allowing engineers to gain complete confidence in their design decisions,” said Barry Chapman, director of engineering for Trimble’s Structures Division. “As engineers, we understand the competitive advantage that results from productivity and collaboration and we are committed to bringing engineers a tool that makes that possible.”

Tekla Structural Designer is available now and is an integral product in the Trimble Buildings

portfolio, which also includes Tekla Structures [3] BIM software, Tekla Tedds [4] software for structural calculation automation and SketchUp Pro [5]. Tekla Structural Designer is supported with a range of services including local technical support provided by experienced structural engineers and an online knowledge base with learning materials.

For more information, visit: [www.tekla.com/tekla-structural-designer](http://www.tekla.com/tekla-structural-designer)

[www.tekla.com/tekla-structural-designer](http://www.tekla.com/tekla-structural-designer)

[www.asdwestok.co.uk/](http://www.asdwestok.co.uk/)

[www.tekla.com/products/tekla-structures](http://www.tekla.com/products/tekla-structures)

[www.tekla.com/products/tedds](http://www.tekla.com/products/tedds)

[www.sketchup.com/products/sketchup-pro](http://www.sketchup.com/products/sketchup-pro)

[www.tekla.com/tekla-structural-designer](http://www.tekla.com/tekla-structural-designer)

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### ***Trimble enhances Tekla Tedds 2015 with new capabilities***

Trimble has announced new features for its Tekla® Tedds 2015, an innovative software tool that enables structural engineers to automate repetitive civil and structural calculations. Tekla Tedds 2015 is an integral part of the Trimble Buildings Structures portfolio of software for the architectural, engineering and construction industry. The new features allow engineers to better analyse and design concrete beams and masonry bearings to Eurocode —the harmonised technical rules for structural design in the European Union, as well as steel beams to AISC standards, set by the American Institute of Steel Construction.

“Tekla Tedds has a long heritage of enabling structural engineers to save time through automation,” said Barry Chapman, director of engineering for Trimble’s Structures Division. “Although we released Tedds 2015 earlier this year, we felt it was important to share these new features to reinforce that we are quickly developing even more capabilities that will further streamline calculations, minimise errors and increase productivity.”

**Design and Analyse More Efficiently**

- Intuitively Design Concrete Beams to Eurocode and Steel Beams to AISC. Users can model and analyse a complete 2D frame and design each individual beam, all within the single integrated calculations, saving time and eliminating the need to design each beam in a separate calculation.
- Quickly Design Masonry Bearings to Eurocode. Users can now check the resistance of the masonry beneath multiple concentrated loads to determine whether or not additional strengthening is required.

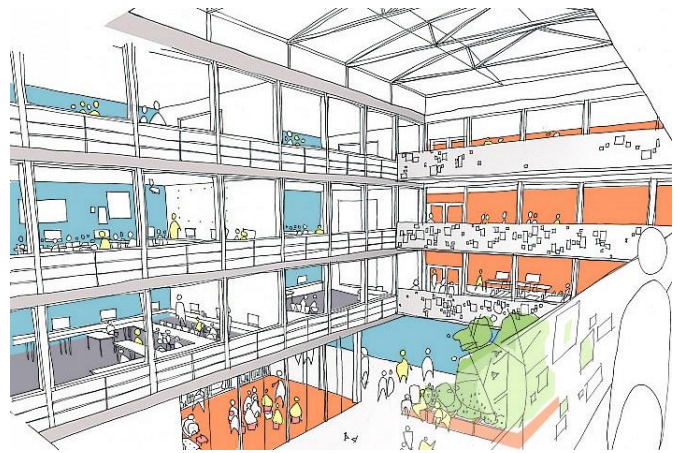
For more information and to download Tekla Tedds 2015, visit:  
[www.tekla.com/products/tedds](http://www.tekla.com/products/tedds).

**Portakabin Group awarded UK’s largest ever off-site contract in the Education Sector**

The London Borough of Barking and Dagenham has awarded what is believed to be the largest

ever off-site contract in the education sector, to the Portakabin Group – a £44 million project to deliver an innovative three-school campus.

The 23,000sqm Riverside Schools scheme is one of the largest school projects now under



construction and will provide additional places for one of the fastest-growing school-age populations in the UK. The campus will have capacity for around 2,700 children from 0-19 – integrating provision for nursery, primary, special needs, secondary, and sixth form.



The Portakabin Group is main contractor for this pioneering project. The contract has been awarded by the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (LBBD) via the Council’s local education partnership (LEP), Thames Partnership for Learning. The project is procured by LBBD and funded by the Education Funding Agency (EFA).

The architects are Surface to Air and the three free schools on the campus will be operated by the multi-academy trust, Partnership Learning.

Constructed using a Yorkon off-site solution for the curriculum areas, the scheme will accommodate a 10-form entry secondary school, a 630-place primary school, a special educational needs (SEN) school, and a nursery. It will also offer extended provision outside school hours and for wider use at weekends and in school holidays to contribute to the local community.

Commenting on the project, Roger Leighton, Chief Executive of the multi-academy trust, Partnership Learning, said, “We have had a very good first-hand experience of the Portakabin Group’s off-site solutions as our schools currently occupy two earlier phases on a site near the planned Riverside Schools campus. We have been really impressed with the quality of the finished buildings, the speed of construction, and just how far off-site technology has now advanced. The Portakabin Group makes good use of architectural design to the benefit of the users and to enhance the internal environment. As an example, our strong preference is for 75sqm classrooms which are significantly larger than the 56sqm classrooms required by the Department for Education. With careful design and planning, use of a Yorkon off-site solution gives us the flexibility to achieve this and for almost the same budget – which is a very key benefit.”

Simon Ambler, Director of the Portakabin Group, said, “We expect this project to change the face of off-site construction in the education sector. It demonstrates really well how Yorkon building solutions can be used to meet the urgent provision of school places – and for a scheme of this scale and complexity. It illustrates our

capabilities as a main contractor, our flexibility to deliver part of the building at an earlier stage whilst remaining on site, and whilst working to an extremely tight programme. We are absolutely delighted that this is our seventh project for the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham Council which is further evidence of the quality of our buildings and the greater certainty and value our services can deliver.”

The use of off-site construction will significantly reduce the programme time. The project has been scheduled to complete the primary and SEN facilities at an earlier stage, in time for the start of the 2016/17 academic year to meet the urgent demand for places in the Borough. The rest of the campus will be completed late spring 2017.

The Riverside Schools scheme is being developed in the Barking Riverside regeneration area, which is close to Barking town centre and part of the Thames Gateway development. Early phases of substantial housebuilding have already been completed with further plans for 12,000 new homes increasing the need for education provision. The overall vision is for the creation of a vibrant new community with design-inspired public spaces and amenities.





**Portakabin Group wins two national Apprenticeship Awards**



**Some of the trainees and apprentices at the awards**

The Portakabin Group has won two National Apprenticeship Awards 2015 for Yorkshire and the Humber for its outstanding work with apprentices. The awards, which are run by the National Apprenticeship Service, recognise excellence in businesses that grow their own skilled workforce through apprentices. The Portakabin Group was the regional winner in the ‘Large Employer’ category and Martin Kennedy, Production and Logistics Trainer, won the award for ‘Apprenticeship Champion of the Year’. Both now go through to a further round of judging in the hope of becoming a national finalist. These accolades follow the Portakabin Group’s success at the York Apprenticeship Awards, where it won the ‘Large Employer of the Year’ category.

Derek Carter, Chief Executive of the Portakabin Group (pictured right) said: “These awards are very important to us, having moved from just one apprenticeship in 2011 to 60 trainees this year, showing just how far we have come. Apprenticeships have allowed us to engage with individuals who are eager to learn, which is having a beneficial impact on other working colleagues.

We have continued to expand the opportunities for apprenticeships and other trainee roles across the business and plans are now underway to create a ‘Portakabin Group Training Academy’. The award to Martin Kennedy is justly deserved. He has made a very significant contribution to apprenticeships, not just within our business but also in the York and Leeds areas. His passion and enthusiasm are unsurpassed and he consistently goes above and beyond, positively influencing schools and young people, developing innovative new schemes to give us the skills needed for the future of the business.”

Sue Husband, Director of the National Apprenticeship Service said: “Apprenticeships deliver for businesses, individuals and the economy. They enable young people to gain the skills and knowledge they need to succeed and for businesses, this is a productive and effective way for them to grow their own talent by developing a motivated, skilled and qualified workforce.



The Portakabin Group has been recognised as a winner in Yorkshire and Humberside and we would like to congratulate them on this achievement. They deserve to be rewarded for all their efforts and contribution.”



The Portakabin Group employs more than 1,700 people in the UK and in seven countries across Europe, and has been delivering innovative building solutions in a range of public and commercial sectors for the past 50 years.

The Group has increased its apprenticeships every year since 2011. In addition to its 'trade' apprenticeships with schemes for joinery, electricians, decorating, plumbing, welding and metal fabrication, it has now introduced commercial trainees in its Hire Division; an environmental apprentice in the health and safety team; CAD design and project management apprenticeships; a specialist modular building engineering apprenticeship, and an administrative apprentice in Scotland.

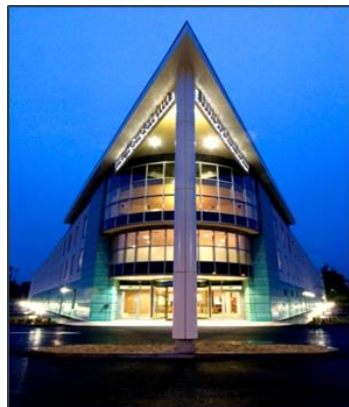
**For more information, visit [www.portanews.co.uk](http://www.portanews.co.uk), email [information@portakabin.co.uk](mailto:information@portakabin.co.uk) or call 0845 401 0010.**

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## **Caledonian Modular**

Built on 50 years' experience in off-site construction and benefitting from the largest volumetric manufacturing capacity in the UK, Caledonian Modular offers extensive design and build manufacturing capabilities as well as a broad range of modular building consultancy services.

Project expertise ranges from simple, single storey structures to more complex bespoke high-rise buildings across a broad range of sectors: Education, Healthcare, Custodial, Military,



Residential, Hotels, Retail and Commercial.

Utilising an ISO9001 audited framework to deliver Operational Excellence, Caledonian Modular buildings are accredited to the highest industry standards and typically achieve an 'Excellent' BREEAM standard and air tightness results below 3m<sup>3</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>/hr.

One of the largest modular manufacturing companies in Europe, Caledonian Modular is a subsidiary of Champion Homes, the largest off-site house builder in the United States; with annual Group revenues in excess of £540m, and over 5,000 employees across the USA, Canada and the UK.

### **Reasons to specify off-site modular construction over traditional build:**

**Cost-predictability and quality:** Off-site volumetric modular construction provides an opportunity to mitigate the professional risks associated with traditional on-site methods by delivering project certainty and predictability - on time and within budget through manufacture in a quality controlled environment.

**Speed of installation:** A construction programme can be reduced by an average of one third, as whilst the site is being prepared, the modules are being manufactured in a quality controlled environment to ISO9001.

**Economy:** By identifying standard repetitive areas (e.g. in educational buildings, hall, classrooms and toilets) which conform to industry norms, core components can be utilised.

**Accuracy:** Implementing lean manufacturing principles, BIM and 3D imaging improve tolerances and reduce waste.

**Energy consumption:** BIM and 3D image planning minimises projected energy consumption. Natural ventilation is attained wherever possible. CALEDONIAN MODULAR's typical air tightness results achieve  $<3\text{m}^3/\text{m}^2/\text{hr}$ .



**Environmental impact:** Modular achieves high levels of sustainability (97.5% factory waste is recycled). Over 25% can be manufactured from A+ rated building components. Off-site manufacture reduces traffic movements by 82% with just 20% of the normal levels of site personnel required.

For more information, contact Head of Marketing Phil Holmes on tel: 01636 821645, email: [pholmes@caledonianmodular.com](mailto:pholmes@caledonianmodular.com), or visit the website: [www.caledonianmodular.com](http://www.caledonianmodular.com).



## Premier Modular

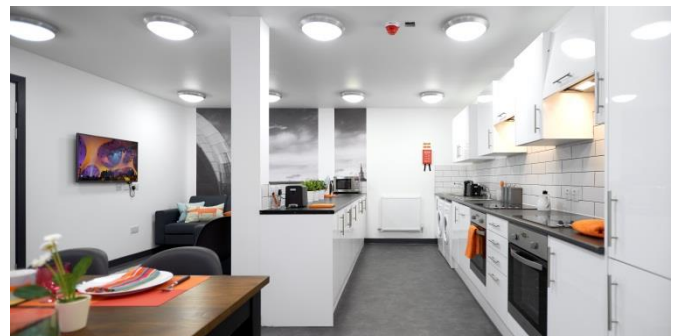
**Project:** Clarence Street Student Accommodation

**Sector:** Living Accommodation

**Value:** £5,069,200

Working as sub-contractors, Premier Modular Limited provided a 206-bedroom student accommodation block.

The 5-storey building situated close to the city centre in Newcastle Upon-Tyne, consists of a mixture of 54 studio flats, 150 en-suite bedrooms and 2 accessible en-suite rooms with internal communal spaces linked with the courtyard, associated plant rooms, cycle storage and landscaping to the exterior.



Preparation for the project included the demolition of an existing industrial building on

Clarence Street to make space for the 5-storey modular construction.

In total Premier manufactured a mixture of 284 steel framed modules at their factory in Brandesburton, East Yorkshire.

As a joint venture for the scheme the main contractor provided the foundations, external cladding, final roof and lift.

**For more information, contact Sales Manager Chris Lamont on tel: 0800 316 0888, email: [christine.lamont@premiermodular.co.uk](mailto:christine.lamont@premiermodular.co.uk), or visit the website: [www.premiermodular.co.uk](http://www.premiermodular.co.uk).**

We delivered significant performance improvements across this period and intend to continue this improvement. We are one of the most improved companies on customer satisfaction, and our serviceability and environmental performance places us amongst the leaders in our sector. We are also delivering on our ambitious cost saving targets.

As a FTSE 100 company with a 5,000 plus strong workforce and a major, multi-billion pound investment programme, the way we act as a business has a profound influence on the social, economic and environmental well-being of our region.

Our programme of investment in the next 5 years is over £3billion. For us to continue to improve for our customers, we must rely on leveraging skills and capacity from supply chain partnerships, innovative solutions and delivering more for less. This includes our commitment to offsite build solutions.

We are a Partner of the Offsite School, and we encourage our strategic supply chain Partners to develop modular and offsite solutions. We also work with others across the water industry to develop standard products.

For more information, please contact Head of Innovation Kieran Brocklebank.

[Kieran.Brocklebank@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:Kieran.Brocklebank@uuplc.co.uk)

**NEW MEMBERS**



United Utilities is the north-west's water company. We keep the taps flowing and toilets flushing for 7 million customers every day. From Crewe to Carlisle, we work hard behind the scenes to help your life flow smoothly.



**Kieran Brocklebank  
Head of Innovation**

We hold a licence to provide water and sewage services in north-west England. These services are carefully regulated – with the water regulator Ofwat reviewing our price limits every five years.