



# PRESS RELEASE

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## CALEDONIAN COMPLETES BESPOKE OFF SITE SOLUTION FOR UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

Off-site manufacturer Caledonian Building Systems has completed a multi storey 1200-bed student village at the University of Sheffield with an eleven month on site programme for the modular element of the project. The overall Caledonian programme, including procurement, manufacturing and on site activities was just sixteen months. Caledonian's steel frame and modular solution for main contractor Bovis Lend Lease allowed the project to be completed considerably earlier than traditional construction methods, and the building to be ready in time for occupation in September 2009.

Pat McGrath, the Director of Accommodation and Campus Services at the University of Sheffield, comments: "It was crucial for us that the accommodation was ready in time for the beginning of the academic year in September, and we are delighted with the results that Bovis Lend Lease and Caledonian have delivered. The accommodation is attractive, of a high quality, and built in a sustainable way – already a real asset to our students, our campus and our University."

As part of the development at the University of Sheffield, Caledonian designed an array of bespoke structures including modules up to five metres wide, wedge-shaped modules in core areas which allowed the building to follow the boundary lines, and accommodation modules containing up to five individual study rooms – an achievement that is unique in the industry. These wider modules provided numerous benefits on the project, such as reducing the frequency of deliveries to site minimised disruption to local residents, and the saving on the delivery schedule reduced the overall cost of the project.

Ian Kemp, Business Development Director at Caledonian Building Systems says: "Building the larger modules and fitting the mechanical and electrical systems in the factory allowed us to complete the project faster. The larger modules brought challenges of their own, as they involved special escorts or twilight deliveries, and craning the modules into place on site required skill and experience. This project really demonstrated the flexibility of our modular

construction, and its success showcases the capabilities and benefits that building off-site can offer.”

The development has improved the quality and amount of on-site accommodation offered by the University. The new buildings include individual en-suite study bedrooms with communal kitchens and lounge/diners arranged in flat clusters, as well as larger flats for couples and families. The accommodation is designed to meet the needs of students who may have mobility needs.

Gerry Galligan, Bovis Lend Lease project director at the University of Sheffield, comments: “Delivering the accommodation on time was an essential aspect of the project. The solution put forward by Bovis Lend Lease and Caledonian also ensured that we were able to deliver a consistently high quality product, as well as minimising impact on the local community and road system. The sustainability of the project was also an important factor for us and for the University, and working with Caledonian to use the off-site approach helped us to improve the project’s sustainability credentials by, for example, reducing the amount of waste we sent to landfill.”

Construction started on site in February 2008 with the first Caledonian units delivered in October 2008.

## **ENDS**

### **Notes to editor**

Caledonian Building Systems Ltd. is the UK subsidiary of Michigan-based Champion Enterprises, Inc. is a leader in factory-built construction, operating 23 manufacturing facilities in USA, Canada and the United Kingdom.

In North America Champion produces manufactured and modular homes, as well as modular buildings for government and commercial applications. Champion acquired Caledonian Building Systems Ltd. in 2006. Please visit <http://www.championhomes.com> for further information.

Caledonian, based in Newark, Nottinghamshire, specialises in steel framed modular construction of prisons, military accommodation buildings, hotels and residential buildings. Please visit <http://www.cbbuildings.co.uk> for further information.

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