

22/5/09

## **MODULAR HEALTHCARE BUILDING WINS THIRD AWARD**

**The ProCure21 team responsible for the off-site construction of the new Emergency Assessment Unit at the University Hospital of North Tees in Stockton has been presented with its third award.**

**Off-site specialist and Portakabin subsidiary Yorkon, and main contractor Interserve Project Services, have won a Highly Commended Award in the Value Category at this year's Constructing Excellence in the North East Awards.**

The award winners were announced at a dinner attended by more the 500 people – the largest gathering of the construction sector in the region, who came together to celebrate excellence across the industry.

Commenting on the awards, Catriona Lingwood, Chief Executive of Constructing Excellence in the North East, said, "The region has once again demonstrated its talent, initiative and ability. Excellence in the construction industry is everywhere and the awards are a real celebration of what is good in our sector. The award winners have helped to shape our built environment for the better."

David Johnson, Director and General Manager of Yorkon said, "We are delighted that the achievements of the Trust, Interserve and Yorkon – and the success and value of the off-site approach – have been recognised with this third award for the North Tees project."

"Completing a building of this complexity, to the required quality standards, and timescale, was a major challenge. This was a very busy hospital site and minimising disruption to patient care for the duration of the contract was also a critical issue. We believe the project has raised the bar in terms of what off-site construction can deliver and how it can add outstanding value for the contractor, the client, and the hospital patients and staff."

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The Constructing Excellence award for the new Emergency Assessment Unit (EAU) at North Tees Hospital, follows two earlier award successes for the team – Best Healthcare Project at the Off-site Construction Awards, and an Award Commendation at the Building Better Healthcare Awards.

The 42-bed unit was constructed off site and fitted out by Yorkon for Interserve Project Services and was completed **just over six months after work started on site**. It has successfully expanded the number of assessment beds at the hospital as part of the Government's drive to reduce waiting times for emergency cases.

The 1,710sqm scheme provides a range of facilities for acute emergency surgical care, including four-bed wards, single en-suite bedrooms, isolation ward, and high dependency beds.

Since its completion, the Trust has achieved the highest level of activity in the EAU of any ward accommodation in the hospital and is treating around 30,000 patients each year.

[www.yorkon.info](http://www.yorkon.info)

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For further PRESS information, please contact:

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#### Editor's Notes

1. The advantages of off-site construction for healthcare projects include:
  - programme times reduced by up to 50 per cent, allowing earlier completion with a positive impact on patient care
  - reduced disruption to patients, staff and the local community during construction
  - fewer vehicle movements to site

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- safer, quieter and cleaner construction
  - improved quality and reduced future maintenance
  - a high level of design flexibility internally and externally
  - buildings can be expanded without decanting
  - improved thermal efficiency for lower running costs and reduced carbon emissions
  - better cost control and reduced material wastage
  - consistent delivery on time and on budget.
2. Off-site construction involves the manufacture of steel-framed modules in a controlled factory environment, using production line technology, whilst the foundation works are completed on site.

The modules are delivered to site by road where they are craned into position in just a few days ready for the final stages of fitting out.

3. If you wish to publish a telephone number for further information, the number for Yorkon is **01904 610990**. Please do not print the agency's number.