

Editorial May 2008



Richard Ogden - Chairman

As we know the construction industry is benefiting from a level of investment in public infrastructure that has not been seen for generations. Record investments are being made to deliver a modern built environment to support public services particularly in terms of health and education. A modern built environment in which to deliver quality modern services.

The sums involved are simply huge and reflect the extent to which the UK's fixed assets had been neglected for far too long. Much of these replacement and improved facilities will be financed through the mechanism of Private Finance Initiatives and Public Private Partnerships. To all practical purposes this means that the Nation will be leasing these facilities over an extended period. The challenge for those with policy and programme responsibility for this investment is to ensure the quality of the new buildings and at the same time to ensure that the procurement programme is as efficient as possible and that the opportunities for achieving economies of scale and economies through repetition of construction process are maximised.

With the new build programme for new acute hospitals starting to ramp down the emphasis of the public sector investment is very much on the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Programme and the parallel programme to improve the provision of primary schools. The political commitment provides for the replacement or refurbishment of every secondary school – all 3,500 of them. This programme will take at least 15 years and will involve a huge investment. The BSF programme will be delivered through Public Private Partnership vehicles known as Local Education Partnerships (LEPs) in which the private and public sector stakeholders will each have an equity stake. The overall

Programme is being managed by Partnerships for Schools.



Michael Tippett School in Lambeth

In parallel with the development of the Building Schools for the Future Programme the Department for Children, Schools and Families in collaboration with Partnerships for Schools has been working with a Forum of industry experts on the development of a set of Guidance Documents to stimulate efficiencies in the procurement programme as well as ensuring the delivery of high quality buildings. The Standard Specification Layouts and Dimensions Guidance Documents will promote the use of standardised specifications, layouts and dimensions to speed up design and construction, reduce whole life costs and ensure value for money.

With further documents to come, the first eight currently available cover:

- Partitions
- Floor Finishes
- Toilets
- Lighting Systems
- Roof Coverings
- Internal Stairways
- Internal Doorsets
- Sprinklers



Through encouraging the widespread adoption of best practices based on the utilisation of building elements delivering quality solutions it

is anticipated that the tendency to “reinvent the wheel” every time a new school is designed can be avoided. Members of Buildoffsite have participated in the expert groups advising the Department and PfS on a number of the Documents.

The approach being taken by DCSF and Partnerships for Schools is entirely consistent with the Buildoffsite ambition to maximise project value through the optimisation of standard construction solutions which, in turn, can be drawn down by designers to achieve high quality architecture without the need to customise every single element of the building specification including those that have no significant impact on achieving the overall design concept and building functionality. This approach based on mass customisation is precisely how other modern manufacturing sectors deliver excellence to their customers and there is no logical reason why construction should behave differently.

The Guidance Documents will be formally launched at a major Conference and Workshop which takes place at RIBA's Portland Place Headquarters on Monday 12 May. The conference will be attended by Jim Knight, the Schools Minister and Tim Byles the CEO of Partnerships for Schools. I am delighted that Buildoffsite, has been invited to work alongside RIBA's Client Forum Coordination Team to support the Department for Children, Schools and Families and Partnerships for Schools in organising this landmark Conference.

I believe that the Guidance Documents incorporated into PfS scheme documentation will serve to provide tangible encouragement for Local Education Partnerships to actively seek a more standardised approach to scheme development without compromising design quality. At the same time the development will provide an unrivalled opportunity for manufacturers of off-site components and assemblies and their design and contracting partners to promote their quality solutions in support of the delivery of new schools with every prospect that the potential for achieving economies of scale through multiple projects will tip the financial argument in favour of the off-site solution. This development represents excellent leadership from the Department and I hope that the opportunities and benefits of this thoughtful and empowering approach will be taken up by other public sector clients with substantial development programmes.

Profile on a new Buildoffsite member

Howick

www.howickltd.com

Howick Ltd are recognised internationally as market leaders in the design and manufacture of Light Gauge Steel Framing Machines. Being established in New Zealand for over 30 years and having a dedicated presence in the UK for the last 3 years. Howick have supplied over 160 machines to 28 countries worldwide and have developed a true end-bearing stud allowing for higher structures.

The key to our success is the fact they are framing machines not traditional rollforming machines and are dedicated to producing only one product, finished Frames and Trusses.

Our expertise in the production of these machines allows us to develop new tooling for individual systems to allow for just in time production of Frames and Trusses ready for assembly saving time and labour.

Being able to link to several leading design software packages, wall panels and trusses can be designed and then produced to an accuracy of $\pm 0.5\text{mm}$ with all the connection details pre processed in the machine ready for assembly.

Howick also develop Purlin and Floor Joist systems as well as customized machinery for specific systems.

Machine features include

- End Bearing Studs for multi story buildings.
- Optional truss specific tooling.
- Component accuracy of $\pm 0.5\text{mm}$
- Links to multiple software design packages.

Nick Coubray
European Manager
Tel: 01423 888291
nick@howick.co.nz
www.howickltd.com

Howick Ltd
Unit 1, 25 Camwal Road
Harrogate
HG1 4PT





Howick Ltd has been building rollforming and custom machinery for over 30 years with our main focus being the construction industry. We not only build Framing Machines but also Purlin Lines and Floor Joist Systems as well as custom section machines. We have a long history of customising our machines to suit specific customers systems this has led to us gaining a lot of knowledge of the construction industry without being directly involved in construction ourselves.

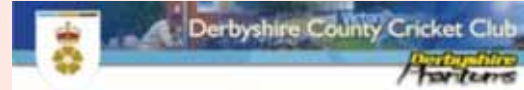
We decided 3 years ago to open an office in the UK to offer better support to our European customers. This has led to us having a much closer relationship with our customers and also a better understanding of the UK market. This in turn has led to growth in the UK and Irish markets for us which would not have occurred otherwise.

The opening of the UK office has also led to the development of close working relationships with several of the leading software companies which I believe is the key to the future of large scale off-site construction. In the past getting all the required information to build frames and modules accurately has been extremely difficult and time consuming but now that there are powerful design packages that can be used to design the entire structure including all the framing connections and service routing means that the features available in the framing machine can be used to the full to reduce the manual manipulation of the framing to almost nil. The finished components are produced ready for assembly in a single process including all punching, notching and marking as designed ready for assembly.

We believe that there is huge potential in the European market as people begin to understand what it is possible to achieve using modern framing machines and software packages to produce accurate and repeatable panels. The more that is done at the design stage the more effective the production will become. By adding service holes for electrical and plumbing services pre-designed service runs can be manufactured, Bolt holes can be added to attach the wall panels to the floor, also new tools can be developed to allow even

more features to be automatically included in the design. Because we design and manufacture our machines to order, we can specify them to include all the features required for different systems or develop new features. This means we can react to the rapidly moving market easily.

Member-to-member event at Derby



The latest Member to Member networking event took place on 6 March at Derby County Cricket Ground. This was the first time that such an event had taken place at a Regional location.

The Membership of Buildoffsite has always been drawn from across the UK and as the organisation develops it is important that a good number of our events should take place outside of London.

One of the reasons for choosing an East Midlands location was because of the recognition within the East Midlands Regional Development Agency that construction was a strategic priority. We were delighted that Chris Ward Brown of the RDA was able to attend the event and to provide the gathering with an overview of the RDAs plans for supporting innovation and improvement programmes within the sector. Another guest was David Walker the Chairman of the East Midlands Centre for Constructing Excellence who gave an outline of the Centre's work programme. The Centre is based in the Innovation Centre on the Loughborough University Campus.

The Member to Member Event was organised by Building on Business the organisers of the Building Exchange Event which takes place in Valencia from 22 – 25 June 2008. The format once again comprised some scene setting presentations from Richard Ogden and from our guests from the Region which was immediately followed by an intensive programme of one to one meetings at which the Members could gain a much better understanding of each others business priorities and could identify matters of common interest and opportunities for collaboration. The intensity and value of this process has to be seen to be believed. A enjoyable and useful evening was had by all.

Welcoming national partners



Chris Ward Brown – EMDA

We were delighted that Buildoffsite chose to hold one of its member events in the east midlands region. Not only because it is always good to welcome national partners into the region, but also because a large part of Buildoffsite's philosophy is aligned to our own. The application of offsite techniques to relevant parts of the construction sector's activity represents the kind of innovation that is essential if both firms and the east midlands region are to maintain our position in an increasingly competitive international market place.

Construction is a priority sector for the East Midlands for a whole host of reasons. Of course, it is a significant sector in its own right, but we fully recognise that the wider economy is reliant on its output and that it has a potentially huge contribution to make to the attainment of our region's ambition to be a top 20 European region by 2020. To achieve this we will need to work with a wide range of partners, including the East Midlands Centre for constructing the Built Environment, and organisations such as Buildoffsite

The event itself was a very welcome opportunity to share our region's vision and our work with the members attending the event. What was even more interesting and valuable was the chance to discuss exactly what challenges and opportunities of Offsite mean to individual member companies. For me, it was the first "speed dating" event I have attended (honest), and despite some initial misgivings, I have to say that it was an incredibly effective and efficient way of making significant contact with other organisations and their work.

Offsite is important to the region for a whole host of reasons. We already have a very significant group of companies active in the region and some exciting developments underway many of which rely on the region's existing resources. The East Midlands has a fantastic geographical position at the heart of the UK, but a wealth of design and engineering talent that is vital for any firm wanting to be innovative.

Thank you for coming to the region and you are welcome back any time!

Buildoffsite at Futurebuild 2008



The Futurebuild, Ecobuild and Cityscape exhibitions and conference programme took place between 26 and 28 February at the Earl's Court Conference Centre.

Once again Buildoffsite was exhibiting at what has become one of the industry's most significant and popular events. Over the three days the event was attended by more than 25,000 visitors which represents a 100% increase over the previous year's figure.

Buildoffsite took advantage of Futurebuild to promote a number of new publications. In particular we launched:

- The Buildoffsite Yearbook, and
- The Guide to specifying Modular Buildings

We also promoted the Standard Specifications, Layouts and Dimensions Guidance that has been produced by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and which will be formally launched on 12 May. This series represents the Department's welcome efforts to promote the increased use of stand components within the multi-billion pound investment programme in new and refurbished schools.

The Yearbook provided an overview of the wide range of activities that Buildoffsite has underway and the priority tasks that we plan to progress during 2008. The Yearbook has been very well received by Members and by those new to Buildoffsite. The Guide to specifying Modular Buildings has also been very well received as an invaluable and very readable reference for clients and their advisers wishing to maximise the opportunities for the use of off-site solutions within their build programmes.

The Buildoffsite stand was kept busy throughout the exhibition with a constant stream of visitors wanting to learn more about our work programme and also seeking information and guidance on the use of off-site solutions. What was particularly noticeable was the number of established architects who came onto the stand seeking information because their clients were asking them to identify how off-site solutions might be incorporated into new commissions. We were of course able to refer many of these visitors to our Members. This stream of enquiries provided a clear indication that clients were becoming more aware that there were realistic alternatives to traditional construction methods for many construction applications and were requiring their design teams to scope out the options. Generally the buzz of activity around the stand underscored anecdotal evidence that the market for off-site solutions is continuing to grow rapidly across the full range of market sectors.

Also of interest was the substantial increase in the number of undergraduate architects coming onto the stand, often accompanied by their lecturers, seeking information because they were increasingly incorporating off-site solutions into their design exercises. This is a welcome sign that off-site methods are starting to become more mainstream within many schools of architecture.

Our thanks to those Members who spent time on the Buildoffsite stand and met with and greeted our visitors. We believe that everyone enjoyed themselves and the opportunity for busy people to network with fellow Members is popular and always worthwhile.

The team from International Business Events Ltd which owns and delivers Futurebuild and the other events are investing in a 50% expansion in space for 2009 with no doubt a corresponding ambition to attract even more

delegates. Buildoffsite works closely with International Business Events who are one of our media partners. We have already held a first meeting to discuss opportunities for collaboration to build on the benefits of such a major gathering and to offer advice on the opportunities to help them refresh their offering. The 2009 events take place at Earl's Court from 3 – 5 March 2009.

Buildoffsite Client Advisory Group

Buildoffsite recognises that repeat clients have a really important role to play in working with suppliers to drive continuous improvement within the construction industry. This includes action that they need to take themselves to address any impediments that arise within current procurement practices which get in the way of innovation and improving performance.

We believe that the big commercial and environmental challenges that construction clients and suppliers will need to address in order to achieve value for money in their procurement and also to remain competitive in the market place will favour a significantly increased role for off-site solutions. In this context it is invaluable that Buildoffsite is able to connect on a regular basis with leading clients in order to be aware of developments and solutions which offer business opportunities for off-site suppliers and also gain an appreciation of the associated challenges and service requirements of clients who increasingly are prepared to look globally for their business solutions.

In order to ensure that we have access to major clients Buildoffsite has established a Client Advisory Group that meets every few months to share information on major business issues. One of the particular features of this Network is that not all of those organisations attending are Members of Buildoffsite. This is a deliberate policy as we want to ensure that we are receiving opinions from interest groups who are in different positions on the offsite ladder.

The recent meeting of the Group covered a range of issues including:

- The importance of the industry contributing to the sustainability agenda but also the need for greater clarity and guidance in a subject area that had so many dimensions and, individual metrics

(there are very few measurements available for clients to use).

- The importance of harnessing the knowledge and energy of the supply chain in identifying opportunities to contribute innovations in product and process to drive continuous improvement.
- The need for serial clients to ensure increased integration between the design process and the construction programme. For design to exist in a bubble substantially disconnected from construction was unlikely to deliver the gains in productivity, quality and value that other manufacturing sectors had achieved. The opportunity to apply the principles of designing for manufacture and assembly (DFMA) was still not well understood within the construction community.
- It was noted that the culture within the industry was to a considerable extent still somewhat confrontational with the situation compounded as consequence of separation between those in the supply chain.
- The opportunity for the construction industry to learn from the lean manufacturing approach which had been widely adopted in other sectors. This had significant implications for sustainability and also for achieving substantial improvements in productivity, quality and client value. The objective was to ensure as possible that every single activity within the design and construction process was necessary to deliver value to the project and was effectively organised and delivered.
- The need for off-site suppliers to look to add value to their offerings through the development of solutions that were not simply an alternative to traditional on – site manufacturing by trade contractors. This required off-site suppliers to work more closely with others in the project team at an early stage in the project planning process to identify opportunities to develop the off-site solution in order to significantly reduce the number of trade interfaces.

The next meeting of the Client Advisory Group will take place in July. Attendance is by invitation only. If additional client organisations would like to take part they should make contact with Anna Whiting.



Buildoffsite Member Wolseley has made a major investment to position itself in the driving seat for awareness raising and the commercial promotion of innovative construction materials and products needed to deliver sustainable construction solutions. Wolseley's showpiece Sustainable Building Centre is now open for business at the Leamington Spa HQ



Construction draws to an end on the Wolseley Sustainable Building Centre

The Wolseley Sustainable Building Centre is now complete and operational from the company's Head Office site at Leamington Spa.

The building is a living interactive showcase for renewable and sustainable materials for building and water conservation projects. The industry leading Center is a single point of contact for data and information and the focal point for Wolseley's sustainable product strategy allowing access to a wide range of stakeholders. The unique proposition of the Wolseley SBC is that both the products used in the construction of the building and those on display are commercially available through the Wolseley supply chain of over 1,800 branches.

The building includes a 40 seat lecture theatre, a café/meeting area and a two storey gallery which houses working renewables and interactive touch screen displays.

The Center will be used to host a wide range of events such as customer visits and supplier days.

Meanwhile Wolseley is still expanding their products range which to date contains over 7,000 individual items. The Wolseley UK sustainable product offer includes materials

suited to all aspects of the construction process: everything from below ground drainage to renewables, wall finishes and even carpet. The facility demonstrably illustrates that there are sustainable alternatives to most traditional construction materials.

Visitors to the building will be able to see, feel and experience a huge range of products in a working environment. The criteria for inclusion in the building are that products have to exhibit some form of identifiable sustainable characteristic AND be available in commercial quantities, to commercial timescales and commercial quality standards. The building allows access to products via cut aways in walls floors and ceilings, viewing platforms and by leaving materials undecorated to exhibit their true characteristics.

The eye catching design features both lightweight and heavyweight construction techniques and a wide variety of products including drainage products, building materials, insulation, renewables, lighting, decorative, structural and roofing products. New products will be added as appropriate. The venue will also host a series of seminars and conferences featuring product and issue experts which will be available to Wolseley stakeholders.

The SBC is already proving popular with bookings stretching through to the Autumn and beyond. Wolseley are promoting the sustainable product range through a dedicated catalogue and website; and supply is achieved via the nationwide network of Plumb Center, Drain Center, Build Center, Pipe Center, Climate Center, Parts Center, Electric Center, Encon, Brandon Hire and all other Wolseley businesses.

CommercialiSE – Turning Knowledge into Business

Creating opportunities for collaboration between businesses and leading UK Universities

INTRODUCTION

Universities are a vast source of knowledge and expertise that could be of tremendous value to business. However, the challenge has always been to establish a mechanism to enable that expertise to be made more visible and in turn to be connected to the needs of

business including in particular the need of small and medium enterprises.

Led by Oxford Brookes University with collaboration from SEEDA, the Regional Development Agency for the South East Region, the CommercialiSE initiative has been set up to connect Universities to the wider business community. CommercialiSE involves a partnership between eleven universities comprising Brighton, Bucks, Chichester, Cranfield, Greenwich, Kent, Kingston, Oxford Brookes, Portsmouth, Reading and Sussex. Eleven industrial sectors are involved in the project including the Built Environment Sector.

The aim of CommercialiSE is suggested from the title but in particular it functions to improve awareness of the skills and services available from the Universities, provides assistance in the form of funding opportunities, technical and other collaborations, and mentoring and training to improve uptake of university resources. Of note is allied funding from Finance South East to enable SMEs to commission work from universities for their own commercial benefit. Assistance is available upto £60k under the Commercialisation fund for proof of concept R&D and to support introduction into the market. Other schemes such as SEED and Accelerator funds exist to help business growth from innovative ideas.

INTER-UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION – CONNECTING WITH THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Working together on the CommercialiSE initiative for the Built Environment Sector It became clear that a key issue is the need for a “shop window” for the universities’ offering for industry. An effective shop window demonstrates what is available from within the Universities, how it can be accessed, the key contacts, what it costs and help in purchasing.

Although universities operate in a competitive environment it was recognised that in the main the participating Universities’ offerings were complementary rather than competitive and working together would be beneficial in developing the market for university resources and improving the value and effectiveness of the offerings to business.

COMMERCIALISE AT THE FUTUREBUILD EXHIBITION



The photograph shows the CommercialiSE stand with Milan Radosavljevic (centre) of University of Reading and David Wooldridge and Graham Raven from Oxford Brookes University

The five universities with major departments in the Built Environment sector (Brighton, Kingston, Oxford Brookes, Portsmouth and Reading) exhibited jointly under the CommercialiSE banner at the Futurebuild/ Ecobuild/Cityscape exhibition and conference programme which took place at Earl's Court in February. It provided an excellent platform to work together and display their offerings and to demonstrate the ways in which the Universities could work together to support innovation within the built environment. The exhibition gave many visitors a different perspective on universities and their relevance to a developing sector in construction. This is important for the future to encourage companies to see universities as something more than a supply of graduates. Working together in this way has increased the ambitions of the universities. The need is to develop a culture where construction and other built environment organisations which have identified a development need pick up the phone to speak to the local university knowing they will be given assistance from the most appropriate source. This assistance will include the best people for the problem, assistance in sourcing funding and an understanding of commercial outcomes needed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information on the **CommercialiSE** scheme and information on how the participating universities might be able to support business needs is available from: Graham Raven, CommercialiSE Market Access Leader for the Built Environment Sector (g.raven@sky.com or 01608 645134) or general information from www.commercialiSE.org.uk

Cameo Case Study Update

Most of you will be familiar with the Cameo Case Study Library accessed in the Buildoffsite website under 'Publications and Downloads'. If not you should be because it is your opportunity to showcase projects; share information on drivers, constraints and benefits; and to promote to a wide audience of potential clients innovative solutions to projects undertaken by membership organisations.

Currently there are 167 cameos in the library and we are about to add another 5, all from Buchan Concrete Solutions. Julie Cagna, from their marketing team, wanted to produce some new literature on some of Buchan's more recent projects using various forms of modular solutions used in hotel, school, and hospital projects. Julie took the opportunity to extract key information already prepared and with little further effort use the blank template to produce the new Cameos, - easy isn't it. Below you can see the completed Cameo for the Crowne Plaza business hotel London Dockland. At present we are developing a new cameo for the BAA Air Traffic Control Tower at Heathrow T5 based upon information sheets provided by Nigel Fraser from BAA. However, we need some more Cameo opportunities in order to keep the library fresh and focussing on more current and recent projects. This is your library showcase so please come forward with your thoughts and ideas. If you want to discuss any particular project ideas you have or want to send us what you have already prepared and not sure how to proceed, then contact either Anna Whiting or Chris Chiverrell at Buildoffsite who will be more than willing to assist.

Lastly, at a recent Buildoffsite Direction Group meeting it was agreed that some of the older Cameos should be archived. The information will not be lost as we will create a Cameo Case Study archive area in the website library.

buildoffsite **CAMEO CASE STUDY 168**

Accommodation - Crowne Plaza, London Docklands

Main drivers/constraints

- A need for an environmental and high quality build
- Speed of construction
- Quality of surface finish
- Programme certainty
- Thermal Mass
- Cost efficiency
- Predictability
- Durability

Project Information

One of the UK's most modern business hotels, the Crowne Plaza London Docklands is a four star superior hotel consisting of 222 bedrooms and meeting rooms, all within a crane section of modular construction in London. Buchan Concrete Solutions was awarded the contract to provide a suitable modular concrete solution for the accommodation floor.

Using our modular pre-cast concrete system, Buchan Concrete Solutions developed the ideal solution for this fast track project, while maintaining the required quality and safety standards.

Buchan's design team devised a method of providing overall stability, which was achieved by the diaphragm action of the floor spanning between the wall panels, which is laminated and shear walls. In conjunction with all other wall units in the system, the shear walls were accurately connected together by rebar concrete vertical joints, which have been designed, detailed and constructed to ensure transfer of all forces acting on the structure, thereby allowing transfer of loads to the first floor rebar transfer slab. Through being installed from inception and throughout the design process, Buchan was able to produce a flexible design, enabling the varying room size criteria to be met.

Benefits achieved

- Working at night shifts reduced at source
- Early involvement enabled best solution to be developed
- Early dry structural envelope to reduce period of critical path activities
- Early design freeze
- Defects substantially reduced through factory produced elements
- Long term maintenance benefits

Contact Information

Buchan Concrete Solutions
 2000, Millerswood,
 Chesham, Ox12 9HD
 Tel: 01295 842200
 Fax: 01295 842215

Acknowledgements

Created by Richard McFarlane
Lead Designer: Buchan Concrete Solutions

www.buildoffsite.com

R&D Briefing note

We are producing a short demystification guide on the governments (HMRC) R&D tax credits scheme. The intended readership is business leaders and those who advise and deal with the business's tax affairs and returns. The need for such a guide for the Buildoffsite membership was identified by Nigel Fraser at BAA some two years ago. Recognising that there is considerable innovative work being undertaken in the offsite construction market place together with research and development related activities, begged the question "can some of the costs incurred be recovered under the R&D tax credits scheme". In simplistic terms the answer is straightforward and is 'yes' providing the activities for which you may consider applying for these tax credits qualify under the current rules. Hence the need for a demystification guide.

The guide will also contain a number of case studies from the membership organisations that have successfully applied for these tax credits and we are grateful to Terrapin, Arups and Bullivants who have offered to supply these. The guide itself is now at first draft stage and comments received will be fed back to the authorship team from Price Waterhouse Coopers. Provided we get all the case studies we are planning a publication date by the Summer

BEX 2008



BEX is taking place from 22–25th of June in Valencia. This high-level summit is an action oriented forum which brings together leaders in the international construction and property industry from right across the supply chain and is a unique opportunity to network with the most senior people in the industry.

With Construction Efficiency high on the agenda 2008, the Programme will take an in-depth look at how different organisations in different countries approach the challenge of efficient use of construction resources, with the offsite industry playing a focal role.

The official Buildoffsite session is being chaired by Richard Ogden. Speakers include:

Palle Jorgensen, Managing Director, Boligforeningen Ringgaarden; Antony Whitehead, Head of Construction/Built Environment, Defence Estates: Property Directorate; Alan Jones, Schools Capital Division: Strategy and Design Department for Children, Schools and Families.



The session will cover :

- The application of offsite solutions in both the public and the private sectors
- How offsite is growing as a solution in the sustainability challenge
- How offsite solutions are becoming more integrated with other 'traditional' methods of construction
- Case study: Ringgaarden Sustainable Housing Project
- Case study: Project SLAM and related construction projects.

To find out more about the unique one –to – one meetings programme at BEX and the delegates attending please visit

www.b-e-x.com

email info@buildingonbusiness.com

or call the BEX team on +44 (0) 207 403 2773.

LEAN Activities

Another chance to have Breakfast with Buildoffsite

Buildoffsite has arranged another series of Business Breakfasts to promote increased awareness of the role of Lean Project Management within the construction sector.

Once again the Breakfasts will be delivered in collaboration with Lean Thinking Ltd and based on experiences on real projects will demonstrate how the focus on how a focus on Continuous Flow is delivering significant improvements in time, cost and quality.

Breakfast Briefings will take place on:

- Wednesday 18 June 2008 (London)
- Thursday 17 July 2008 (London)

All Breakfast Briefings will run from 8.30 – 10.30am

Attendance is free for Members of Buildoffsite with a notional delegate fee of £50+VAT applying to non-members.

For more information and to book your place contact Anna Whiting
anna.whiting@buildoffsite.com



Ali Mafi of Lean Thinking Ltd

Green House by Barratt



On May 15 Housing Minister, Caroline Flint, will open the Green House by Barratt on the BRE Innovation Park. Green House is set to be the first house built by a volume house builder to Level 6, the highest standard in the Code for Sustainable Homes. The Green House design, by Gaunt Francis Architects, won last years British Homes Awards Home for the Future competition, developed in collaboration with the National Centre for Excellence in Housing. The competition generated a great deal of interest, with a final public vote placing Green House ahead of a world class shortlist of entries.

Green House is an ingenious mix of passive design features and advanced intelligent control of lighting and comfort. To achieve Level 6 it has a highly insulated fabric which has been very carefully designed and built to maximise airtightness. Mechanical Ventilation with heat recovery is used to supply warm or cool air and automatic window shutters help minimise solar gain. As a stand alone option, an air source heat pump provides most of the remaining heating requirement. Electrical power is provided by photovoltaics (PV). As part of a community development, Green House can be tapped into any planned CHP (combined heat and power) infrastructure, removing the need for the air source heat pump and a proportion of the PV.

By having flexibility in interior layout, incorporating innovation that anticipates climate change and by having public acclaim, Green House helps to establish a new vision for housing in the UK. Please contact the National Centre for Excellence in Housing for more details info@homein.org

Discovering offsite tours

The Buildoffsite Discovering off site tours for 2008



Future dates for your diaries

Van Elle – 11 June 2008

Van Elle is one of the UK's leading geotechnical, piling and foundation engineering contractors.

We offer a comprehensive range of geotechnical solutions and have earned an enviable reputation for quality, value engineered systems, innovation and customer service.

Since our founding in 1984 by Chairman Michael Ellis, we have grown to offer a true nation-wide service through our six specialist divisions throughout the UK and Ireland.

Working together across the group ensures that we offer our clients the most efficient, reliable and economic solution, regardless of project size or location.

Ormandy – 15 July 2008



Ormandy Limited produces a complete range of water heating solutions; from stand alone calorifiers, shell and tube heat exchangers and plate heat exchangers, through to complete packaged plantrooms.

The breadth of our product range ensures that our highly experienced design team can offer the optimal solution to meet your requirements, backed up by a fully skilled manufacturing operation based in Halifax, West Yorkshire.

The Ormandy group of companies currently consisting of Harley and Sugden boilers and Newade Stainless has recently been strengthened by the acquisition of commercial water heating manufacturer Rycroft.

Loughborough University – 29 October 2008



The Construction Management unit forms part of Loughborough's Innovative Manufacturing and Construction Research Centre – a research council sponsored centre of excellence comprising 45 leading academics and more than 150 contract research staff.

Built environment research at Loughborough covers five key themes: innovative construction technologies; management of human resources; advanced information & communication technologies; improvements in construction business processes; sustainability & building performance.

Recent research activity of interest to Buildoffsite include: the £1bn Energy Technologies Institute; Adaptable Futures; Big Ideas; and, Mega-scale Freeform Construction.

For information please contact Anna Whiting or visit our website

www.buildoffsite.com

Who are we?

Buildoffsite is

- ? exclusively and uniquely focused on off-site construction solutions
- ? a network of members and associates
- ? a group that includes leading clients, designers, constructors, manufacturers and others
- ? supported by Government
- ? focused on a shared commitment to work for a better construction industry through the increased use of quality off-site solutions
- ? committed to continuous improvement
- ? committed to doing things that make a difference.

Buildoffsite is not

- ? a trade association – but we do work with trade, research and other organisations who share our ambitions
- ? an apologist for off-site solutions
- ? opposed to traditional site based construction
- ? a “talking shop”
- ? creating Bureaucracies.

What we are working to achieve

- ? a step-change in the take up of off-site solutions across all sectors of the UK construction industry
- ? an industry wide appreciation of the quality productivity and sustainability benefits as a result of the effective and intelligent use of off-site solution
- ? a robust business case for off-site solutions
- ? a ten-fold increase in the current size of the market for off-site solutions by 2020.

What we do

Four main streams

- ? challenging... the industry to improve quality and value
- ? promoting... excellence in off-site enabled construction solutions
- ? developing... the tools to demonstrate value
- ? connecting... clients and suppliers.

Examples

- ? business-to-business networking
- ? ‘meet the client’ events
- ? virtual supply chain networking with clients
- ? technology awareness and promotional visits
- ? case studies
- ? tools to demonstrate the business value of off-site solutions
- ? facilitating collaboration on R&D
- ? workshops to focus on the construction needs of specific sectors
- ? market surveys
- ? product certification
- ? focus on major projects including the 2012 Olympics.

Members

AcerMetric
acumen 7
Anglian Water
Apex Wiring
Apollo Adhesives
Armstrong
Arup
BAA
BBA
Black Architecture
Bourne Steel
Britspace
Bryden Wood
Buchan Concrete Solutions
Building on Business
Caledonian
Capita Symonds
CIRIA
Construction Skills
Corus
Costain
Crown House
CTS
Dawkins & Co
Dept for Business,Enterprise & Regulatory Reform
ERT for Construction
Fleming Developments Ltd
Framing Solutions
Fusion Developments Ltd
Gateway Bathroom Pods
GlaxoSmithKline
Howick
IBE Ltd (International Business Events)
Innovare
Kier Partnership Homes
Laing O’Rourke
LEaF
Lloyd’s Register EMEA
Mike Jackson Associates
Morgan Sindall plc
MTech
NG Bailey
Ormandy
OSC
Panaloc
Roger Bullivant
Sandwood
SEGRO (Slough Estates)
Southern Housing Group
Tarmac
Teknologisk Institut
Terrapin
Tesco
The Concrete Centre
The Staircase Group
Unite
Van Elle
Vision Modular Structures Ltd
Wolseley
Yorkon

Associate Members

BRE
British Precast
BSRIA
Concrete Society
Construction Products Association
HSE
Loughborough University
SCI
TRADA