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14 January 2010

TERRAPIN TAKES THE LEAD IN GP-LED HEALTH CENTRES

A range of prefabricated building solutions from Terrapin, with almost limitless design flexibility, is meeting demand for revolutionary new GP-led health centres - a key Department of Health initiative to transform primary care services. A new 'seven-day-a-week' medical facility in Milton Keynes is the latest project under the scheme to use the Terrapin Unitrex 'flat pack' building system. This contract follows hot on the heels of the successful completion of a similar GP-led surgery in Welwyn Garden City by Terrapin in just nine weeks from start of erection on site to handover.

Full story on next page

www.terrapiin-ltd.co.uk

T: 01908 270900



*High-res pic attached separately and available at <http://www.terrapiin.ourpressoffice.com/project/healthcare.html>
The Clockwork Marketing Company Ltd, 1 Castlefield Court, Church Street, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 0AH
Contact Caroline Chouls - T: 01737 243702 F: 01737 222023 E: caroline@clockworkmarketing.co.uk*



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The Milton Keynes GP-led health centre is being delivered under the NHS LIFT programme by Assemble Community Partnership (South East Midlands LIFT) on behalf of NHS Milton Keynes. It will provide both registered and non-registered patients with a full range of GP and related medical services from 8am to 8pm, seven days a week. Stephen Oswald, Director of Assemble Community Partnership, says: "Terrapin managed to complete a fantastic building solution for us in a shorter time than it took us to conclude both planning permission and legal agreements! Terrapin's speed and quality were critical to the success of the project. The entire Terrapin team has had a refreshing 'can do' approach which has continued into the operational phase as our tenant makes some final choices. Assemble Community Partnership will have no



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hesitation in using Terrapin again or recommending them to anyone. Terrapin provided a
excellent service - not just a brilliant on time and on budget building solution.”

Terrapin worked closely with Assemble’s project management partner, Tropus and Spicer, on both the Welwyn and Milton Keynes projects to design and build modern medical facilities. Custom-designed Unitrex elements for the 380m² health centre in Milton Keynes were factory fabricated by Terrapin whilst groundworks were completed, and delivered to site in ‘flat pack’ panelised units for rapid erection. Terrapin’s team was able to achieve the project’s tight build programme, which allowed just six weeks for the construction phase.

The finished flat roof, single-storey building is fully air-conditioned and includes a central waiting area, five consulting rooms, a treatment room, management offices and clinical stores. The exterior is clad in lightweight aggregate panels and internal partitioning has been specified to provide 90 minute fire resistance and sound insulation up to 56dB. White powder coated aluminium windows are complemented by low threshold aluminium entrance doors.

Terrapin Director, Adrian Day, says Terrapin’s factory-built modular or ‘flat pack’ systems lead the way in providing the new healthcare facilities, on time and on budget. He comments: “In addition to the same cost and construction time saving benefits we offered on the Welwyn Garden City project, Terrapin has been able to provide the Milton Keynes facility on a cost-effective five year hire package.”



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Terrapin is a privately owned company and is one of the UK's leaders in offsite construction. It has been expanding the potential of Modern Methods of Construction since 1949 and now offers a range of complementary MMC technologies that can be used individually or combined to create bespoke building solutions for every application; panel based technology, volumetric design technology and steel framed, element build technology.

Terrapin is the first company to be accredited under Buildoffsite's new supplier registration scheme operated by Lloyd's Register. The scheme standardises all aspects of the offsite process and ensures best practice, offering clients confidence in the assured levels of competence, methodology and safe working of the accredited supplier.

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Caroline Chouls
The Clockwork Marketing Company Ltd
1 Castlefield Court
Church Street
Reigate
Surrey RH2 0AH
T: 01737 243702
F: 01737 222023
E: caroline@clockworkmarketing.co.uk
www.clockworkmarketing.co.uk

Please send reader enquiries to:

Adrian Day
Terrapin Ltd
Bond Avenue
Bletchley
Milton Keynes
MK1 1JJ
T: 01908 270900
F: 01908 270052
E: info@terrapiin-ltd.co.uk
www.terrapiin-ltd.co.uk