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12 May 2010

TERRAPIN FAST TRACKS INTO COLLEGE

Offsite building specialist Terrapin has provided a fast track solution to the urgent need for additional learning space at Newham Sixth Form College in the heart of East London. A new 440m² single-storey building was designed and built using panelised units from Terrapin's Unitrex system in a fraction of the time it would have taken using traditional construction methods. Units were factory fabricated by Terrapin whilst groundworks were completed, and were delivered to site in 'flat pack' form ready for rapid erection. Start of on-site works to handover of the finished building took Terrapin just four weeks with the minimum of disruption to college life.

Full story on next page

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High-res pic attached separately and available at <http://www.terrapiin.ourpressoffice.com/project/education.html>

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NewVIc, as it is known, is London's largest sixth form college with over 2,500 students aged 16 to 19 studying a range of courses including A-levels and vocational programmes. The Terrapin building is part of a medium term strategy to enable the college to increase student intake, improve teaching facilities and relieve pressure on existing staff accommodation. Terrapin's fast and flexible offsite technology has provided NewVIc with much needed extra space in record time, including classrooms for up to 24 students, without compromising build quality or aesthetics.

Andrew Drummond at project architects R H Partnership says Terrapin offered the flexibility of design to provide a new building that would fit in with the college's existing campus. He



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comments: “The façade is finished in attractive Western Red Cedar horizontal cladding, and specifying windows in a variety of sizes has created an interesting random pattern. Terrapin’s speed of delivery was also very impressive - the building’s shell was erected in a single day and it was only a month between the foundations being dug and the college moving in.”

NewVic’s Terrapin building consists of an entrance lobby, four 38m² and two 45m² classrooms, open plan staff and office accommodation, one-to-one meeting rooms, and storage areas. The internal layout includes partitioning specified to provide 60 minute fire resistance and sound insulation up to 50dB. The choice of lime green and fuchsia coloured carpeting adds vibrancy to the interior design.

As one of the college’s key industry partners, Terrapin sponsored prizes for music and geography in NewVic’s Annual Awards, which recognise the achievements of students during the past academic year. “We are very grateful for Terrapin’s support and hope to continue to develop our partnership with them in the future,” says Colette Du Bois, Global Citizens Manager at NewVic.

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



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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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