



MEDIA RELEASE

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THREE YORKSHIRE SITES PRESENTED WITH NATIONAL AWARD

The Considerate Constructors Scheme has awarded Leeds-based Wates Construction with silver and bronze national site awards for its work on three sites in Yorkshire.

Wates' £42m Broad Gate development in Leeds, its £17m Manor CE School project in York and the £17m HML headquarters for Skipton Building Society in Skipton were all highlighted as having excellent construction site standards for the duration of the build programme.

The Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) works to improve the reputation and work practices of the construction industry. Its annual national site awards initiative recognises high standards of consideration towards workforce, the local community and the environment.

In 2010, over 7,600 sites were registered as eligible for the awards initiative. From this, some 580 winners have been selected as winners. In total, Wates received 5 awards across the north.

Broad Gate in Leeds received a bronze award. This £42m major refurbishment saw Wates transform the landmark former Alders building into a superb sustainable mixed-use development while preserving its unique heritage and character. The project had a challenging location surrounded by public highways in the heart of Leeds city centre so public safety, access to bus stops, out of hours deliveries, and minimising noise and dust were all critical.

The £17m Manor CE School received a silver national site award. This 900-pupil building required reduction in construction and running and maintenance costs due to budget constraints, without comprising the school's ambitious plans.

The £17m project for Skipton Building Society saw Wates construct a 100,000 sq ft headquarters in Skipton for its Homeloan Management subsidiary and this received a bronze award. The development was built on greenfield land and saw the team go to great lengths to reduce environmental impact whilst maintaining the support of local residents.

Dave Price, Business Unit Manager of Wates Construction in Yorkshire said: "Working considerately and responsibly within our communities has always been important to us so we are very pleased to be officially recognised for our efforts. These sites were all challenging projects for very different reasons and these awards highlight our ability to efficiently address and overcome any obstacles whilst maintaining our diligent and conscientious approach."

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Notes to Editors

Wates is one of the UK's largest family-owned construction services and development companies. Established in 1897, it remains privately owned by the Wates Family. Wates employs over 2000 people and had a turnover of £945 million in 2009.

The company works across a range of sectors, including education, prisons, affordable housing, retail fit out and refurbishment, office interiors, land development and commercial buildings.

Wates has three areas of Corporate Responsibility focus: to reduce the impact of CO2 emissions from our activities; Target Zero of eliminating all non-hazardous waste to landfill by 2010; and boosting skills and employability in areas of most need. Wates was awarded Gold status in the Business in the Community Responsible Business index in 2009.

Safety is a top priority within the Wates Group, and the excellent safety record has resulted in RoSPA Gold Awards for Occupational Safety and the British Safety Council Awards for the past seven years.

Wates was recognised externally in a variety of ways during the year including:

Major Contractor of the Year by Building Magazine
RoSPA gold medal for safety and health for the seventh year in succession
Housing Excellence and Sustainable Contractor of the Year awards
Two CIOB gold awards for Construction Manager of the Year

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