



MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Wates wins industry leading Business Improvement Award**

Wates Group has won the Business Improvement category at one of the construction industry's leading Quality Awards, organised by Construction News.

Wates was chosen as the category winner for its progression across a number of key performance indicators such as profitability, supply chain integration, client satisfaction, resource management, technical innovation and business processes.

Paul Drechsler, Chairman & Chief Executive of Wates Group said, "This award recognises improvement across all aspects of our business. We know that to be a successful organisation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century it is vital that we must continually strive to lift our performance in everything we do so that we meet and exceed the expectations of our customers, local communities and employees."

The Construction News Quality Awards 2010 were hosted by the BBC's news presenter, Huw Edwards. The awards are a celebration of the quality demonstrated by the UK construction industry encouraging innovation, management best practice and team work.

For more information on the CNQ Awards please visit [www.cnqualityawards.com](http://www.cnqualityawards.com).

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Picture caption: L-R: Graham Watts – Chief Executive from the Construction Industry Council, sponsors of the event, Debbie Crew (Wates), Neil Greetham (Wates) & Huw Edwards

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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
- Sunday Times Top 100 Best Companies to Work For index
- BiTC Corporate Responsibility Index Platinum status
- RoSPA 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