

Press Release

Contract signed for world-class development at Bath Spa University

Bath Spa University and Skanska have celebrated the signing of a contract for the development of a world-class academic building in the heart of the Newton Park campus. Skanska, was awarded the main construction contract as part of the overall £40 million development which will transform academic facilities for students.

The exciting new academic building will provide state-of-the-art teaching facilities, technology-enabled study space and social learning space. It will also offer a superb new digital space with the best resources for teaching digital media-related courses in the south-west. It forms the first phase of a wider masterplan that will include new student accommodation in the next phase.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Frank Morgan said: "With this project Bath Spa University moves to a new stage in its progress as one of the UK's most successful modern universities. The new building will consolidate our position as a major provider of courses involving digital technology with all that means for the regional economy and the employability of our students. We are delighted to be working with Skanska who share our environmental ethos and will use their experience of educational settings to produce an outstanding building of real architectural distinction."

The visually stunning academic building will sit within the existing campus and has been designed in consultation with English Heritage and Natural England. It will blend sympathetically into the existing estate to provide a unique blend of history and modernity.

Environmental solutions and sustainability are at the heart of both Bath Spa University's and Skanska's approach to this project. The building will achieve the highest standard of environmental performance - 'BREEAM Excellent' (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method). To deliver this, Skanska will incorporate elements such as energy saving lighting systems and a 'living' sedum roof. A new high-tech energy centre will be built to support the development.

Commenting, **Martin Nunns**, managing director of Skanska Building – Central and Regions said: "Skanska are delighted to be working with a University that shares our environmental principles. While Bath Spa University has a First Class Award in the People & Planet Green League, Skanska UK has won the British Quality Foundation's Achievement Award for Sustainable Future and was named The UK's Best Green Company by the Sunday Times. It's the perfect partnership. "

Skanska's experience of working in educational settings is strong in the south-west. We were responsible for the UK's first Building Schools for the Future programme in Bristol and over recent years have completed 20 schools across the region, most recently All Saints Academy in Cheltenham.

The construction of the state-of-the-art academic building will commence mid-2012 and will be complete in early 2014.

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Press Release

Notes to Editors - About Skanska:

Skanska is involved in some of the UK's most prestigious projects in both the Private and Public Sectors. Whilst known mainly for our large high-profile schemes, we also undertake many smaller projects including public realm improvements, hard and soft landscaping as well as hundreds of utilities projects each year covering gas, electricity and water.

By combining the skills and experience of our construction operations and those of our Infrastructure Development Business Unit, we have become a UK leader in Private Finance Initiative/Public Private Partnership schemes covering healthcare, education, defence, transportation and street lighting.

In December 2010, we announced our intention to establish a Residential Development Business in the UK. This decision followed a comprehensive review of the UK market, which identified a high-volume, long term need for high-quality residential properties in the UK. This, coupled with the extensive environmental requirements placed on new UK homes fits perfectly with Skanska's knowledge and experience. In January 2011, we purchased our first residential development site in Cambridge. This was followed in October 2011 with the announcement we had purchased our second site, again in Cambridge.

Our business model is to integrate our core disciplines to deliver project solutions across our chosen market areas. By integrating all disciplines and working together with our clients, our partners and our supply chain, we make a real difference to the delivery of projects. We focus on creating sustainable solutions and we aim to be leaders in green construction, health and safety and business ethics. We work strictly in accordance with the Skanska Code of Conduct and to our Five Zeros, which reflect our core values: zero loss-making projects, zero accidents, zero environmental incidents, zero ethical breaches and zero defects.

Our commitment to contribute to a more sustainable world is resolute. In June 2011, we were named the Greenest company in the UK across all industries in the Sunday Times Best Green Companies Awards. We seek to use our position to influence both our clients and our supply chain to make more sustainable decisions, taking a longer-term view over the infrastructure we develop. Our ability to demonstrate real responsibility to people, organisations and the environment in which we work attracts the next generation of talent who want to make a real difference.

Backed by the financial strength of Skanska AB, we focus totally on our customers in the UK to understand their needs.

We employ approximately 4,600 staff in the UK and undertake around £1.3 billion worth of work each year. We carry out all aspects of the construction, development and infrastructure process - from financing projects, through design and construction right through to facilities management, operation and maintenance.

Skanska is one of the world's leading project development and construction groups with expertise in construction, development of commercial and residential projects and public-private partnerships. Based on its global green experience, Skanska aims to be the clients' first choice for Green solutions. The Group currently has 52,000 employees in selected home markets in Europe, in the US and Latin America. Headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden and listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange, Skanska's sales in 2010 totalled around £11 billion.

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