

LATEST NEWS

Whitehead opens Swansea office



wider regeneration of Swansea and attracting the very highest calibre of occupants."

Through a highly successful investment programme, Swansea's historic legacy of industrial dereliction has been tackled and Swansea is now reinventing itself as a confident and dynamic European waterfront city.

Aiming to achieve the success of cities such as Cardiff and Edinburgh, Swansea's Urban Regeneration is based around reclaiming the once thriving docklands area. The city is now buzzing, with continuous growth expanding and diversifying its economic base. Many major development schemes are currently underway, and there are plans in the pipeline for business, retail, leisure and residential developments in the City with an estimated value of over £1 billion over the next ten years. At the forefront of this is the £200m SA1 Swansea Waterfront scheme, a mixed use business, leisure and residential development on a prime waterfront site that will transform Swansea's East docklands. In partnership with Alfred McAlpine, Whitehead Building Services is providing the complete building services solution to a new build project in this monumental development, offering 165 luxury apartments over three buildings for Quest Property Services.

SA1 Development

On August 1st 2006 Whitehead Building Services relocated its Bridgend office to Tawe Business Village in the Llansamlet area of Swansea. The move is intended to better position the business closer to some of its major contract work, allowing Whitehead to continue delivering the highest quality Mechanical and Electrical engineering services to its clients.

Whitehead has various projects underway in and around the SA1 Development including work on Salubrious Place Phase 2 – the latest development of the burgeoning Wine Street rejuvenation, as well as St Thomas community school.

Welsh Assembly Government Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks Andrew Davies said "The high quality development of SA1 is acting as a catalyst for the

Job Centre Plus for the public

Over the last 30 years the image of job centres has often been drawn from people's memories of dated buildings and UB40s (Unemployment Benefit Form 40) from which Britain's premier reggae band took their name. However, the Department for Work and Pensions has been keen to challenge this perception and in 2003 it committed itself to a £2.2 billion refurbishment of sites throughout the UK.

The refurbishment programme is designed to merge job seeking and benefit claiming functions to create the new Jobcentre Plus format which will better serve the needs of those who use the service. Whitehead was brought in by Midas Property Services to provide Mechanical and Engineering Services due to the company's growing reputation for completing projects ahead of schedule and on budget.

The company has provided air conditioning, ventilation, LTHW alterations, accent lighting, fire alarm alterations, PA systems, induction loop installations, and general and computer power installations, across seven Jobcentre

Plus sites in the south-east Wales valleys and five in Swansea. The work was completed in April this year.

Due to the highly successful partnership between Whitehead and Midas, we are now providing Mechanical and Electrical Engineering services for six Benefit Delivery Centres (BDC); three in south-east Wales and the south-west of England (Chippenham, Bristol and Caerphilly), and three in the Midlands (Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Stoke). The country wide BDC roll out is due for completion in March 2007. These sites will be installed to LG7 (suitable lighting design) and have ventilation and air con systems installation.



A bright and modern looking Job Centre Plus

Industry/Business News

St Thomas moves into the 21st century



St Thomas School is presently situated in a prominent six storey red brick building – built in 1898 – which stands out as a dominant landmark in the St Thomas area, immediately on the East side of the River Tawe, Swansea. Like many other schools in the UK, St Thomas, which currently schools 230 infant and junior pupils, is facing the acute problem of reorganising the provision of education, partly due to the decaying state of weathered Victorian infrastructure. Thus relocation is needed due to the cost of upkeep of the present school building.

Under the direction of Headmaster David Tyler, St Thomas is embracing the necessary change needed to evolve in the 21st century and moving to a new Community School located at Maesteg Park Playing Fields, approximately 200 metres from its current location. Whitehead Building Services is proud to have been brought in on the construction of the new community school, continuing to provide specialist Mechanical and Electrical Engineering services tailored to suit the specific needs of the education sector.

Although Maesteg Park will lose one football pitch, the new St Thomas Community School building will be at the heart of the community and a welcome gain to those who live there as the new building will also house the local nursery, library and community centre. The development has received support from the Welsh Assembly Government Education Minister Jane Davidson, who feels that the new school fits in very well with her vision for more community-focused schools. She stated that the development would help make her vision a reality by providing improved facilities for children and the community of St Thomas.

Whitehead Golf Day raises thousands for Cardiff's oldest charity

A BIG THANK YOU goes out to the 40 companies that took part in the 2006 Whitehead Golf Day on Thursday 13th July at St Mellons Golf Club, Cardiff.

The event raises over £5000 for charity each year and the 2006 Golf Day was no exception, raising £5200 for this year's beneficiary, Cardiff's oldest charity, Cardiff Institute for the Blind (CIB).

Formed in 1865, the charity campaign on a local and national basis on issues affecting the lives of Visually Impaired people, and their current president is Welsh rugby legend Gareth Edwards MBE.

As happened in last years competition, Adseal won best gross, scoring 61 shots this time round (9 birdies). The top three places were taken by FRF Alarms (59.4), Hager (59.6), and Bute Property Services (60.4) respectively.

Partner Profile: 

Cowlin Construction is a regional contractor operating across all sectors of the market including education, commercial, retail, health and leisure. The company was established in 1834, however, Cowlin Construction has undergone significant transformation in recent years, building upon its reputation for producing a high quality product in an ever changing market.

Changes and investments made include a re-structuring at board level, relocation to new offices, a new management approach to controlling the business, and the introduction of additional experienced key staff.

The cornerstone of the Cowlin business has always been to operate in an open, honest and collaborative manner with clients and suppliers. Partnering and collaborative frameworks are the new procurement focus and all of these arrangements depend upon mutual respect, honesty and trust, between contractor, suppliers and consultants. This is the philosophy upon which Cowlin Construction has always developed its business, and together with recent modifications and investments, has resulted in Cowlin Construction almost doubling its turnover in the past three years.

"The growth we have experienced in recent years has been planned, building upon our quality

reputation and experience. We have reviewed our business to build upon our strengths and have made significant investments to support this goal. At Cowlin we appreciate that we cannot deliver on our commitments without the support of a competent, effective and equally committed supply chain that support the same standards as our business."

"Whitehead Building Services has demonstrated a professional customer focused approach on all projects that we have carried out together, supporting the client focus we employ. Effective management of competent tradesmen is a key strength of Whitehead Building Services, backed up by a considered and professional management approach to projects. Good strong team relationships have developed on these projects producing winning teams that want to work together."

"A great deal of effort goes into developing successful teams that fully appreciate each others needs. This is the solid base upon which we strive to further develop the working relationship between Cowlin Construction and Whitehead Building Services."

David Harris – Cowlin Construction Managing Director

Whitehead People:



Clark Sullivan with site formen Ray Bird

Apprentice Profile

Kristoffer Davies

Kristoffer is a final year apprentice who joined Whitehead in May 2005. He is one of four apprentices taken on by the business from a national Building Services provider who had gone into receivership. He is a stage three apprentice who is due to take his final exams to qualify as an electrician in the near future.

Clark Sullivan

Clark joined Whitehead in March 2006 from a national engineering and maintenance company. Clark, who is a stage two apprentice, joined the company due to the variety of practical experience offered in the Whitehead apprentice training programme.

New Arrival

Mike Tasker

Mike is originally from Newport. He joined Whitehead in April 2006 as Finance Manager and is based at the Newport office. Mike is ACCA qualified and has over thirteen years experience in the Plant Hire industry and the Public Sector. Mike is married to Claire and they have a two year old son.



Employee Profile

Darren Tutt

Q: If you weren't in the Building Services trade, what would you be doing?

A: If I was single I would be travelling around the world.

Q: How do you like to relax in your spare time?

A: I listen to music and enjoy watching thriller and horror films.

Q: If your house was on fire, what would you grab on your way out?

A: Irreplaceable items such as photos.

Q: You can dine with three people (dead or alive), who would you pick?

A: Jonny Depp, Scarlett Johansson, and my girlfriend.

Q: What three books (records/movies) would you take with you if you were stranded on a desert Island?

A: Last rhythm, Purple Rain, The Lord of the Rings Box set.

And last but not least...

Everyone at Whitehead would like to congratulate Approved Electrician Ross Alderman and his long term partner Nichola Thomas, who married in Lindos, Rhodes on June 26th. The couple were accompanied by friends and family and their 2 year old son Lewys was page boy.

Up and Coming Projects:

In partnership with **Alfred McAlpine**, providing the complete building services solution to a new build development in **SA1 Swansea Waterfront**, offering 165 luxury apartments over 3 buildings for **Quest Property Services**.

A new build sports hall at **Trevethin School, Pontypool**, in partnership with **Kier Group Plc**, providing the complete Mechanical and Electrical Services package.

A new build, nine storey luxury apartment development within the heart of **Cardiff Bay**, for **Watermark International Property** in partnership with **OPCO**.

Projects in progress:

A prestigious **Government Contract** in partnership with **Midas Property Services**.

Project Manager: Mark Eaves

Following on from the successful completion of twelve **Job Centre Plus** sites for the **Department of Work and Pensions**, Whitehead, in partnership with **Midas Property Services**, have been retained to provide their expertise within the building services sector to refurbish and upgrade six **Benefit Delivery Centres** across south-west England and the Midlands, which are due for completion in March 2007.

St Thomas Community School, Swansea, in partnership with **Carillion**.

Project Manager: Steve Jones

The construction, along with the innovative energy efficient building services installation of this 2 storey community school is ahead of its target completion resulting from the collaborative approach adopted by all members of the construction team.

Oakdale Business Park, Phase Two, in partnership with **Cowlin Construction**.

Project Manager: Hwyl Morton

This exciting fast track project for **Caerphilly County Council** consists of six industrial units and four two-storey commercial offices over 3 sites totalling 7400 square metres. Whitehead has been employed to design and construct the building services systems within an ambitious programme of 16 weeks, with completion scheduled for early Autumn 2006.

The Granary, Cardiff, in partnership with **OPCO**

Project Manager: Nick Olsen

Continuing the success of the **ISIS development for Wimpey**, **OPCO** have retained Whitehead to provide its services for this prestigious new build development on the former Granary Store located on Lloyd George Avenue in **Cardiff Bay**.

Completed Projects:

A prestigious **Government Contract** in partnership with **Midas Property Services**.

Project Manager: Mark Eaves

Whitehead has recently completed a successful multi-site refurbishment for the Department of Work and Pensions as part of the nationwide roll out of **Job Centre Plus** sites.