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### **Team BlueSteel win Teambuild 2015**



With a brief dominated by infrastructure-investment and SMARTcities innovation, the 2015 Teambuild Finalists were challenged to their limits. The result was a series of outstanding proposals from 11 inspiring teams, demonstrating true excellence in communication: and finally, triumph for **'BlueSteel'**, a team from Hawkins\Brown, Arup, Price & Myers, Max Fordham, Balfour Beatty and Sir Robert McAlpine.

That winning team, excelling against a strong field, was formed of individuals from companies across the spectrum of the construction industry. All aged under 30, and majority-female, they demonstrated excellent team-working and collaboration skills. Their proposals put the feedback loop in the foreground of their design and procurement ambitions, using digital technology to harness data in use, and enable an evolving, ever-more efficient, operational asset, based around local identity and local employment. The team were awarded a cash prize of £2,000, sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Constructors.

Teambuild 2015 challenged teams to plan, design and present hypothetical proposals based around 'Edinburgh Gateway'- the complex infrastructure interchange at Gogar, west of Edinburgh, connecting road, tram, rail and air transport. The base project information was provided by the real site team for the new interchange: WSP|PB allowed competitors viewing access to the federated project BIM model through Autodesk's BIMglue software. A further level of challenge was provided by asking teams to engage with the SMARTcities concept, and make intelligent data management and IT a key driver in developing their schemes.

Eleven teams, representing twenty-four top construction industry companies, made it through to the hotly-contested finals, and impressed throughout with their professionalism, enthusiasm and dedication. Their performance was evaluated by fourteen senior industry figures, each representing a construction institution. This year the panel included George Adams (PP CIBSE), Peter Murray (Master of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects, and Chair of NLA), Patricia Newton (PM Worshipful Company of Constructors), and John Brennan (FCIOB, past winner of CMYA).

The diversity of the judging panel was reflected in the institutional membership and employers of members of the winning team: Laura Purton (ICE, Sir Robert McAlpine / ARUP); Alex Moffatt (ICE,

Balfour Beatty); Kate Keightley-Smith (RIBA, Hawkins\Brown); Harriet Lilley (CIBSE, Max Fordham); and Carmel Lennon (ICE, Price & Myers).

The Procurement Strategy Prize of £1,250, awarded by the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects, was awarded by Master Peter Murray to **Hestia** a team from Hawkins\Brown, Eckersley O'Callaghan, Curtins, Arup and Core Five, which included members of the ICE, CIOB, IHT, APM and CIAT.

The Winners of the Judges Prize of £1,250, awarded for the team which showed the greatest improvement over the weekend were **Vokse**, a team from BuroHappold Engineering and Hawkins\Brown, including members from IStructE, CIBSE, ARB, IMechE and ICE.

The Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) sponsored a prize for Excellence in Construction. This prize of £1000 was awarded to **Ekistics**, a team from BDP, comprising team member from RIBA, ICE, CIBSE and LI. CCS Ambassador, John Sayers, presented the award for proposing 'HALO', an outstanding innovation for construction sites, improving reporting and safety through mobile data capture.

Teambuild is a registered Charity, providing education and training in the construction industry. This endeavour has been supported for three years by the LCCI Commercial Education Trust, who this year awarded an individual prize for Leadership. The prize of £500 was awarded to Sarah Dean, a Civil Engineer from AECOM.

The objectives of Teambuild focus on developing skills in leadership, communication and coordination beyond the sum of the of the individual's skill. The competition helps identify the way teams must work together in the construction industry by challenging them with scenarios common to construction projects across the UK.

The overall standard of the event was extremely high, and all eleven finalist teams should be congratulated on an immense achievement. Further details of each of the finalist teams is published on our website. A special thank you to WSP|PB, Balfour Beatty and Network Rail, who were our site sponsors this year and enabled us to use this wonderful location as the basis for our questions.

Teambuild is an annual competition held in November of each year. Entries for the 2016 competition will open in June.

## NOTES FOR EDITORS

Teambuild aims to promote understanding and co-operation between young professionals in the construction industry and counts as 4 days CPD as well as helping competitors fulfil several of the core objectives required for chartered membership of many institutions.

Now in its 25th year, the competition continues to attract the brightest young professionals from some of the best construction practices around the UK and Ireland. It is an exhilarating, fast-paced, challenging and exhaustive test of skills, leadership and collaboration.

Teams produce a short prequalification document in September, from which only eleven teams qualified to join the finals weekend held at Lane End, a conference venue in Buckinghamshire. The finalist teams were made up of up to six individuals from varying disciplines, including architecture, structural engineering, environmental engineering, project management, interior and urban design, and surveying.

During the day, in a simulation of the design and construction process for the development of a real site, competitors hardly have time to gather their thoughts before presenting their team's work to pre-eminent judges who represent industry institutions including RIBA, CIBSE, CIOB, ICE, and the IStructE Educational Trust. The teams have to role-play and respond to challenging questions that would rattle the most experienced of presenters.

Teambuild is also piloting a similar event in universities. Events have been held in Edinburgh and London South Bank University.

### **Companies represented at Teambuild 2015**

AECOM  
 ARUP  
 Balfour Beatty  
 BAM Construction  
 BDP  
 BuroHappold Engineering  
 BWB Consulting  
 Core Five  
 Curtins Consulting Ltd  
 Eckersley O'Callaghan  
 Elliott Wood  
 Hawkins\Brown  
 HTA Design  
 Laing O'Roarke  
 Max Fordham  
 Mott MacDonald  
 Murphy Group  
 Peter Brett Associates  
 Price & Myers  
 Reiach and Hall Architects  
 Rider Hunt  
 Skanska  
 Sir Robert McAlpine

### **Sponsors and Supporters of Teambuild 2015**

#### **Principal Sponsors**

Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)  
 Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)  
 Institution of Structural Engineers Educational Trust (IStructE Educational Trust)  
 Chartered Institute of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE)  
 Considerate Constructors Scheme

Special thanks to the generous support of Commercial Education Trust (CET)

#### **Additional Sponsorship**

The Manly Trust

#### **Team Prizes sponsored by**

The Worshipful Company of Constructors  
 The Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects  
 Considerate Constructors Scheme  
 Teambuild Association  
 Individual Prize  
 Commercial Education Trust (CET)

#### **Teambuild is also supported by**

Construction Industry Publications; IMechE; RIBA; RICS; The Society of Construction Law.

## Background information

The idea for the 'Teambuild' competition arose within the Institution of Civil Engineers around 1990, as a result of poor communication between construction professions aiming to deliver projects for clients.

☰ It is a communication, management and team-working competition, with the focus on project delivery, and not exclusively on a design solution.

☰ It was originally known as the Build-a-Building Competition, and has been held annually since 1992.

☰ For more information or photographs contact Alex MacLaren or Richard Hart

## Photographs

Professional photographs, which can be used for publication, will be uploaded here from 1500hrs Tuesday 24th November.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/55330576@N02/>

High-Resolution versions of images are available on request from Alex, below. Please quote the file name.

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## Quotes:

### **David Coughtrie, Chairman of Commercial Education Trust (part of LCCI)**

The construction industry today, in the UK and internationally, is a highly competitive environment: commercial knowledge and leadership skills are essential for success. Professional discipline, commercial nous and leadership skills are essential to succeed in today's competitive environment. CET support Teambuild.

### **John Brennan, FCIOB, Project Director at Skanska Plc**

"Teambuild is a great event, and it has been very rewarding to observe the teams get together over the demanding tasks set, and all of them rising to the challenge to be the best!"

"Very similar to Real-Life project situations, this is a great learning experience for all those taking part."

### **John Sayers, Considerate Constructors Scheme Ambassador**

"It was a delight to see such enthusiasm and passion for the industry from each team. Every participant understood the value of teamwork and, over the course of the two days, gained a number of essential skills. On behalf of the Scheme, I would like to congratulate the winners and thank each team for taking part."

### **Ade Awujoola, ASHRAE, and CEO of Cool Plus (Lagos)**

"This is one of those experiences you just can't forget"

### **Richard Rooley, PPASHRAE, Chairman of the Competition**

"The calibre of our judges this year was extraordinary; matched only by their dedication to the task. It is wonderful to see so many of the winning teams made up from multiple companies across the industry, working together towards a common goal. The future of our industry is in good hands."

