

Building Technologies

The building technologies industry provides 263,000 jobs in the region and its annual turnover of £6.7 billion is worth 11% of the West Midlands economy.

The West Midlands has core strengths in building materials, design and manufacturing and has the ideal skill and supplier base to take advantage of new market opportunities.

The sector accounts for 20% of employment and 30% of total workplaces within the Solihull Borough¹.

SUCCESS SO FAR

Economic Picture

- There are currently over 8,000 employees working in the Building Technologies sector in Solihull and over 200,000 in the West Midlands, making it one of the largest sectors of employment within the area.
- The number of Building Technology workplaces have increased by 6% (2003-2005) within Solihull.
- The number of employees in the sector have increased by 13% (2003-2005).

SKILLED FOR SUCCESS

has strong industrial links with companies across Birmingham and Solihull.

University of Wolverhampton

The Wolverhampton School of Engineering and the Built Environment (SEBE) offers vocational courses designed through close links with engineering and construction employers, currently assisting around 3,000 companies in the development of new products and has a history of over 80 years supporting these industries.

ACT-UK- National Centre for Advanced Construction Technologies

Based at Coventry University Techno Centre, ACT-UK offers a wide range of resources to the construction industry, including a range of educational and training courses and the first Virtual Reality Simulation Centre in the UK for practical training. It also provides a Continuing Professional Development Centre and a Collaboration Centre, providing high quality research and development facilities and a showcase for innovation and best practice.

Coventry University

Developing built environment courses for over 30 years, the Department of Built Environment offers a wide range of courses in Civil Engineering and Building.

“With regeneration projects such as Shirley and Chelmsley Wood Town Centres and North Solihull plans for 8,500 new homes and £1.8 billion investment over the next 15 years, Solihull offers major opportunities for the building technologies and construction sectors.”

West Midlands Centre for Constructing Excellence



Educational & Research Links

Centre for the Built Environment

The Centre for the Built Environment in Birmingham represents the biggest investment in skill development for the West Midlands' construction industry. One of Europe's largest developments, it is dedicated to education in Construction and Building Services and



Aston University

Engineering and the application of science has always been one of Aston University's major strengths. They offer a wide range of construction degrees, research and consultancy services.

Birmingham University

The University's Engineering School offers a range of civil engineering degrees and has an international reputation for cutting edge research.

Warwick University

The Warwick School of Engineering offers a range of courses and has strong links with many industrial organisations in all branches of engineering, including civil engineering consultants, contractors, public service organisations and materials suppliers.

Solihull College

The college offers a range of construction courses at its construction centre in North Solihull. It also provides training for students on a local 'Pathways Project', an employer led construction course for local unemployed people.

South Birmingham College

Awarded Centre of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) status, the college's construction centre is one of Europe's largest educational facilities dedicated to training in a range of construction trades.



NETWORKED
FORSUCCESS

Local Networks & Associations

- West Midlands Centre for Constructing Excellence (WMCCE) (www.wmce.org) provides specialist business improvement assistance specifically to help local businesses in the construction and building technologies sectors.
- Advantage Off Site (www.advantageoffsite.com) aims to develop new and existing Offsite technology manufacturers through the utilisation of the region's advanced manufacturing infrastructure.
- Manufacturing Advisory Service West Midlands (www.mas-wm.org) delivers hands-on advice and business support through Specialist Manufacturing Advisors and a network of expert associate providers.

¹ Solihull Annual Business Inquiry Data 2003-2005



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