

MILESTONES



WSP Environmental has facilitated the completion of the UK's first contamination liability through its new scheme, WSP Remediation Plus, which provides a solution to the complex problem of contaminated land liability. The deal, involving a blue-chip company, is believed to be the first of its kind outside the USA.

- WSP will lead a £3.9 million design and development study for the redevelopment of Birmingham New Street Station. The £350 million project to be delivered by Network Rail will substantially increase station capacity to meet long-term passenger demand, in a scheme that minimises rail service disruption during the construction phase.
- WSP Civils has been awarded a partnership contract with Newcastle City Council to provide highways consultancy services, including traffic management, transportation and road safety, structural and highways design and maintenance, contract supervision and project management.
- WSP Cantor Seinuk New York received an Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Finalist Award 2005 for Time Warner Center and the 2005 Civil Engineering Research Foundation's Charles Pankow Award for Innovation in Seismic Design & Construction for Torre Mayor, Mexico City.
- WSP Cantor Seinuk were also presented with a Platinum Award for two UK projects - West India Quay Marriott Hotel and Residential Tower and a Gold Award for Barclays Bank Global HQ by the American Council of Engineering Companies, New York.
- UK Under Secretary of State at the Department of Transport, David Jamieson, attended the opening of the A21 Lamberhurst Bypass on 23 March 2005. WSP Civils acted as Highways Agency Supervisor for the £19 million project, which will reduce congestion by some 16,000 vehicles a day from Lamberhurst village centre in Kent.
- WSP will act as lead consultant and project manager for the design of a new river, riverside landscape and bridges within the Hainan Sanya-Bay New Town Development, China.
- In Ireland Ryan Hanley WSP have been appointed by the National Roads Authority (NRA) to undertake the ongoing scheme development for the N5 Longford Bypass; and as Employer's Agent to the NRA and Westmeath County Council for the design and build contract procurement and construction of the proposed N6 Improvement between Kibbeggan and Athlone.
- WSP International in association with Deloitte Touche Middle East has secured a 17 month World Bank funded project to re-engineer the Yemen Customs Authority. The project is part of the Government of Yemen's long-term strategy to modernise its civil service.
- WSP have been appointed as structural and building engineering services engineers for the second phase of the redevelopment of Great Ormond Street Hospital, the leading London children's hospital.
- Hongkong Land has appointed WSP for the M&E design for the redevelopment of Lai Sing Court, Hong Kong, a 45 storey, twin tower development of 28,650 sq m.

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- WSP India signed its first contract with the National Highway Authorities of India for the Road Safety Audit Project. Funded by Asian Development Bank the project involves a Road Safety Audit of 550km of National Highway in the states of Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- WSP's Policy and Research team have been awarded a three year consultancy framework for the provision of technical support to the Highways Agency. The scope of services includes transport planning, modelling, monitoring and appraisal.
- WSP have secured two LIFT (Local Improvement Finance Trust) frameworks - Birmingham & Solihull, and North Staffordshire - to improve primary healthcare in the community by relocating GPs to modern purpose built health centres providing 24 hour access to treatment. WSP will provide civil and structural engineering and infrastructure design services. Each LIFT has a construction value of approximately £11 million at current costs.
- WSP's Fire Engineering teams in Hong Kong and the UK are collaborating on unique fire protection solutions for the Asia Airfreight Terminal in Hong Kong. We have also won new residential/hotel schemes in Dubai and a risk assessment project for the Dubai Port Authority. New UK projects include works for Network Rail (London mainline stations) and the National Museum of Science and Industry.
- Skanska have appointed WSP as M&E engineer on three defence PFI projects valued at some £160 million.
- WSP Retail will provide building services for the £140 million Broadway shopping centre redevelopment in Bradford.
- The South African research organisation, PMR (Professional Management Review), has awarded WSP South Africa the Golden Arrow Award for the best combined Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Consultancy in South Africa, and a Silver Arrow Award in the Structural Engineering category.
- WSP Hong Kong provided structures and building services for the winners of the first and second prizes of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects Annual Awards 2004. The HKIA Medal of the Year went to the Diocesan Boys' School and the second prize was awarded to a residential project at the Peak on Hong Kong Island, 21 Severn Road.
- WSP has acquired the Dubai business of the PHB Group, one of the United Arab Emirates' oldest established firms of Consulting Engineers. "The acquisition of the PHB Group will strengthen our presence in the Middle East and enable us to tackle this enormously important market with ready-made expertise and talent already available on the ground with proven track records," said Chris Cole.
- WSP has secured the civils and structural engineering commission for a £25 million extension for the Great North Museum in Newcastle.

solutions

ISSUE 2 JUNE 2005

FOCUS ON FINLAND

WELLCOME DISPLAY OF WSP STRUCTURES

SOUTH AFRICAN LANDMARK PROJECT

DOCKSIDE DEVELOPMENT





May Solutions follows hot on the heels of our WSP Group Annual Report and Accounts, which, in addition to presenting an excellent set of financial results, outlines our strategy for the future development of WSP. This includes identifying and entering new sectors and territories to further develop our core activities.

In this issue of Solutions, our "Focus on Finland" celebrates the cementing of our relationship with our three recently-acquired Finnish companies, which last year became WSP Finland. As part of our regional growth they provide us with a platform to territories like the Baltic States, Eastern Europe and parts of Russia through their historic relationships and cultural understanding of these countries. The quality of our Finnish operations is demonstrated by some outstanding projects in Finland and around the world.

As this magazine goes to print, I have just announced our acquisition of the Dubai business of the PHB Group, one of the United Arab Emirates' oldest established firms of Consulting Engineers with a full team of structural, mechanical and electrical engineers. They will join our existing business in the Middle East, trading as WSP Middle East from offices in Dubai and Sharjah.

Our new colleagues in Finland and the Middle East bring many new and complementary skills to the Group. Likewise they may now offer the considerable resource of global knowledge, technical expertise and specialist skills from around the WSP Group to their local customers. Already many knowledge-sharing activities are taking place between colleagues around the world, which will undoubtedly enhance our offering to our entire client base. I'm sure that all this activity will lead to many new and exciting projects, which I very much look forward to seeing featured in future issues of Solutions.

The Wellcome Trust is a major independent research charity that funds around 20% of UK bio-medical research. It was founded after the death in 1936 of Henry Wellcome, who left a private endowment for research. The Trust's activities range from providing £400 million every year in grants for medical and scientific research, to consulting with the Government on some of the key science policy and ethical issues of the day.

Rarely is the work of WSP's structural engineers so clearly displayed than at the Wellcome Trust's prestigious new headquarters in central London. Hopkins Architects' design for the £90 million building on the Euston Road makes a feature of the steel structure, which is exposed above ground level and is closely integrated with the architecture.

The Wellcome Trust's headquarters brings together the whole administration team of some 400 staff in 22,000 sq m of flexible working space composed of two parallel blocks, one of ten storeys and one of six. A glazed roof, providing further visible evidence of WSP's structural design work, swoops over the whole structure, and, with a central atrium running the length of the building, creates the effect of a street bathed in natural light running between the two blocks.

Underground, WSP was responsible for the design of the basement for the storage of the Trust's extensive collection of medical archives, books and paintings. The basement is waterproofed to achieve a Grade 4 environment, and the floors levelled to ensure the smooth operation of over 20km of mobile racking systems.

The site, which is flanked by the existing 1930s Wellcome Building on the east side, with roads on the other three sides, presented many challenges for WSP. "It was an awkward site to work on, with a problem in every corner," says Andrew Woodward, WSP Technical Director. "On the north-west is an entrance to Euston Square underground station, and the railway line runs parallel to the site in a shallow tunnel beneath Euston Road. The other corners contained an electricity substation, a pedestrian tunnel and a staircase that had to be demolished and relocated."

WSP also provided civil engineering and environmental consultancy for the building, which was opened by the Queen in December 2004. The adjacent original Wellcome Building is now being refurbished and will open to the public in 2006, with spaces for exhibitions and conferences and the world-renowned Wellcome Library.

WELCOME DISPLAY OF WSP STRUCTURES



"Working with WSP, we are pleased to have produced a building where the exposed steel superstructure contributes so much to the clarity and quality of the architecture of the building. At both the scale of the whole building and in detail, WSP helped us produce a building where the expression of the structural design is an intimate part of the character of the building in a way that is entirely appropriate to its role as the Trust's new headquarters."

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IN AT THE DEEP END WITH BIOTA!

WSP are structural engineers on a world-class aquarium to be built as the centrepiece of a £1.5 billion dockside development at Silvertown Quays, a 24-hour mixed-use waterfront regeneration scheme in London's Docklands adjacent to the London City Airport and the Excel Exhibition Centre.

The £80 million Biota! (from the Greek meaning all animal and plant life of a particular region) is expected to attract one million visitors a year. Operated by the Zoological Society of London, it will break new ground on conservation, scientific research and education.

The aquarium, designed by architects Terry Farrell and Partners, promises to show aquatic life in "breathtaking reality", while promoting breeding programmes for rare species. Four exhibit areas arranged round a central atrium will represent the habitats in the Amazon, British Isles, Indo-Pacific and Atlantic, recreating complete ecosystems of plants, fish, birds and mammals. A fifth area, Living Conservation, will focus on protecting aquatic species and their habitats,

linking with international conservation projects such as one to save the seahorse in the Philippines.

The structure of the aquarium is fully integrated with the exhibits and the mechanical, electrical and life support systems that maintain them. Thanks to sophisticated design and analysis techniques it has been possible to design a structure comprising flat or 'beamless' slabs supported on irregularly spaced columns and minimising the use of transfer structure. The main exhibit tanks, which will have acrylic windows, form an integral part of the reinforced concrete structure.

The Biota! building will include a pedestrian-friendly plaza and an esplanade overlooking the Royal Victoria Dock. It is scheduled for completion in 2008.

KUD (Kajima Urban Development) is the master developer and programme manager for the scheme including the Aquarium. Tom Duffy, KUD Project Director for the Aquarium says: "We have assembled



a richly talented design team to create the UK's first world class Aquarium and we are very excited by the prospect of establishing a new major visitor attraction in this expanding area of London."

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MICHELANGELO TOWERS A SYMBOL OF SOUTH AFRICAN RENAISSANCE

"Michelangelo Towers is similar to a large hotel in the scope of air conditioning and wet services required. This is the first multi-storey apartment building of this scale and size in Africa to be fully air conditioned. It's an extremely prestigious project for WSP in terms of its cost and scope, and we're very proud to have been in on the ground floor."

Project Director, Graeme Page, WSP Africa

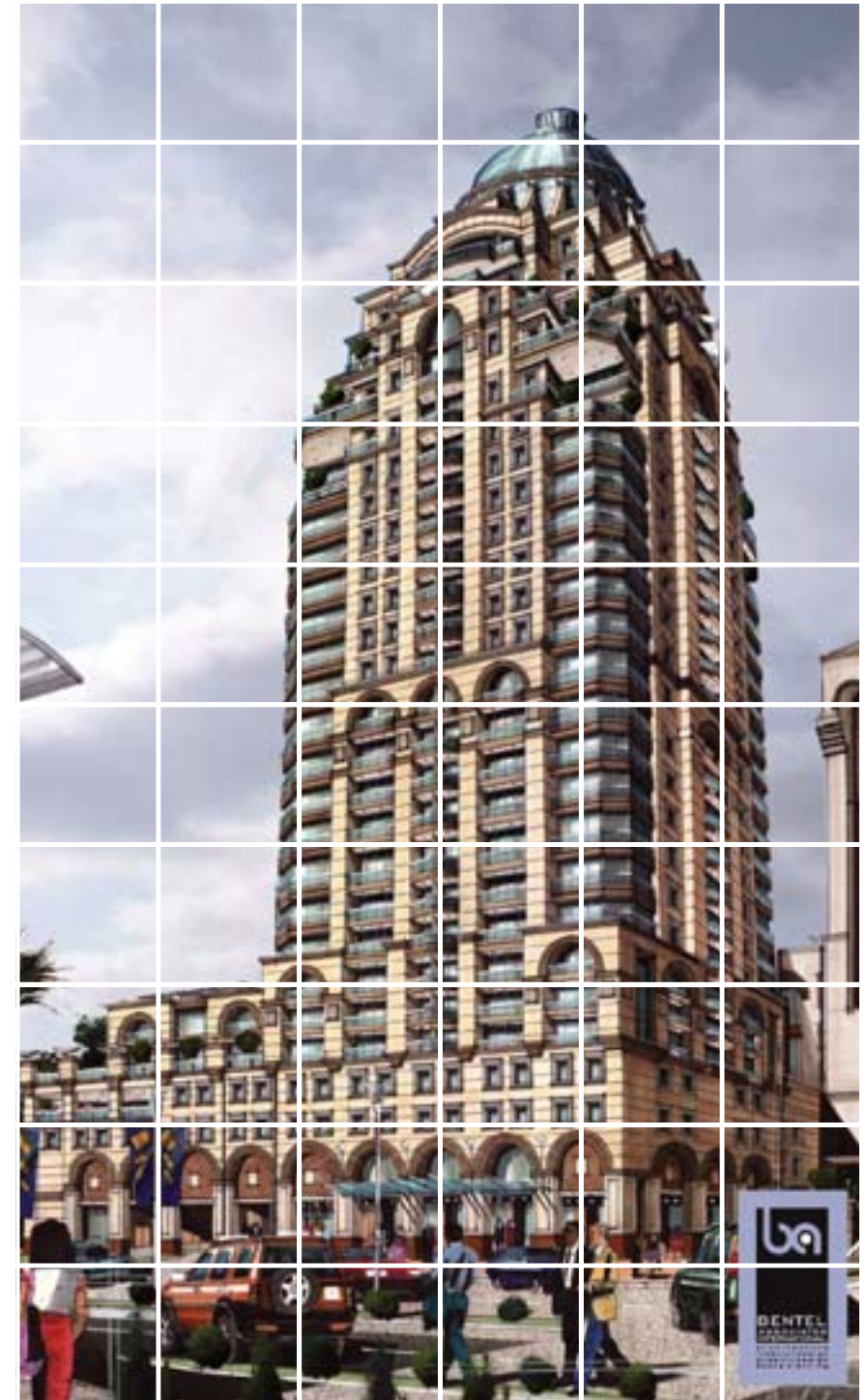
Business is booming in South Africa and new levels of confidence in the growing economy are echoed by the opulence of landmark projects like the Michelangelo Towers currently under construction in Sandton, north of Johannesburg. The apartments in this upmarket town-centre complex are being snapped up by buyers attracted by the metropolitan ambiance of this elegant high-rise development, more redolent of places like New York or London.

Michelangelo Towers has 29 levels of apartments of all sizes and designs, ranging from regular units to penthouse, king penthouse and sky suites. Classically elegant in appearance, with a glass dome playing tribute to Renaissance architecture, it is decidedly modern in function. For WSP, appointed as Mechanical and Wet Services Consulting Engineers for the apartments, the challenge was to design heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) and plumbing/drainage systems that matched the quality, individuality and overall look and feel of the luxurious interiors.

Sven Arro, the engineer responsible for the detailed design of the air conditioning system, said: "The developers' brief was for a system that would provide cooling/heating with maximum energy efficiency and with minimum impact on the residents in terms of maintenance, noise and airflow."

Gavin Pereira was responsible for the design of the plumbing and drainage. "We had to meet the individual demands of 185 owners, all with very different ideas in terms of kitchen and bathroom layouts, equipment and sanitary ware," he said. "At the same time we had to comply with the pressurised schedules of the building project, that had to continue regardless of whether clients had finally made up their minds."

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SWEDISH ACCOLADE WIN

WSP was involved in seven of the twenty nominations, and two of the winning projects for the 2004 "Building of the Year" competition, run by Bygginstrin, Sweden's leading magazine for the building and civil engineering industry.

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PROJECT: Museum of World Culture, Gothenburg. The Museum, which opened in December 2004, celebrates global cultural diversity through thought-provoking exhibitions and activities.

AWARD: Winner, Building category

WSP ROLE: Electrical designs including power plant, lighting, telecommunications installations, fire alarm, surge protection system, transport system and lifts.

JUDGES' COMMENT: The judges praised the "constructive and creative collaboration between all parties" and the building's "welcoming and generous interior."



PROJECT: Southern Link, a six-lane, 5km highway linking the southern parts of Stockholm. The main part of the project comprises 1.6km of rock tunnels.

AWARD: Winner, Civil Engineering category

WSP ROLE: One of the main consultants on the project, providing feasibility, geotechnics, road design, landscaping, water & sewerage, ventilation, bridge design, project management, decontamination and traffic system design.

JUDGES' COMMENT: "Innovative ways of managing and handling all aspects of a megaproject, including influencing public opinion, permeate the project, which was finished in time and to budget. It is a total solution that is hard to match."

FOCUS ON FINLAND



FACTS ABOUT FINLAND

Total Area: 338,000 sq kms.
Population: 5.2 million – 17 inhabitants per square kilometre – about one million in the Helsinki metropolitan area.
Languages: Finnish (91.3%) and Swedish (5.4%).

The Republic of Finland joined the EU in 1995. It is an advanced industrial economy, with metal, engineering and electronics industries accounting for 50% of export revenues and forestry products for 30%.

The quality of WSP's Finnish operations is demonstrated by some outstanding projects in Finland and around the world. These exemplify the range of new and complementary skills our colleagues at WSP Finland are bringing to the Group to enhance our offering to our global client base.

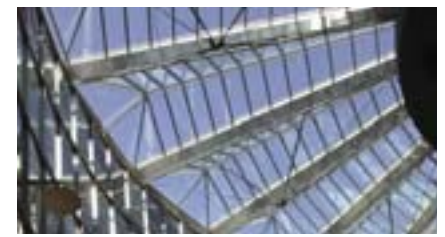
BUILDING WITH PASSION



Demanding concrete, steel and timber structures and out of the ordinary solutions are the speciality of WSP ConsultingKORTES's buildings division in Helsinki.

A recent success is their structural design for the Finnish Parliament's new Building Extension, which won the 2004 Steel Structure of the Year Award. The judges quoted "a passion for quality, aesthetics and practicality" as their main reason for their decision and were particularly impressed by the imaginative and innovative use of steel in the facades and supporting glass roofing.

"The architecture of the building is challenging and WSP impressed us with their proven capability in the design of demanding structures," said Paul Lahti, Manager of the Parliamentary estate office.



STREETWISE IN HELSINKI

WSP LT Consultants has had a major role to play in the upgrading of Helsinki's main shopping area, both at street level and below.

SHOPPING GOES UPMARKET

At the end of the 1990's, LT Consultants were appointed as designers for the upgrading of Aleksanterinkatu (Alexander Street). "Everything we did was governed by the heritage and function of the street," says project leader, Liisa Iveskorpi. "For example, almost every building is protected, which placed constraints on the construction works and we had to ensure continuous access so the shops could stay open throughout the renovation."

rare Finnish stone of the highest quality, crossed, at the point where in prehistoric times the Gulf of Finland once reached, by brass strips of lettering giving the Latin names of the mud-dwelling creatures that originally inhabited the area.

GOING UNDERGROUND...

Underneath Aleksanterinkatu WSP's geotechnical division, Fundus, is designing underground service and parking facilities for Stockmann, Helsinki's premier department store. It's a very sensitive and complex project, as Divisional Head, Jukka Pöllä explains: "There's only a thin layer of rock between the tunnel and the street above, so we constructed a special concrete structure from which the rock is suspended. We also have to ensure nothing happens to compromise the groundwater level in the city centre, as any change would damage structures founded on wooden piles in the area, such as the railway station."

Today, shopping in Aleksanterinkatu is a much improved experience, even in wintertime, since underground heating has eliminated the problem of wading through Helsinki's famous slush. Underfoot is



RECLAMATION AND REGENERATION



WSP Environmental is preparing the Arabia shore area in Helsinki for residential use.

The site was previously a badly contaminated industrial and household waste landfill area with difficult geotechnical conditions as the ground under the area is mostly clay and mud. "We carried out around 1,000 environmental analyses from 500 sampling points as part of our work to gain the environmental permit," says Pekka Määttä of WSP Environmental's Environmental Geotechnology unit. "We are working with our colleagues at Fundus to solve the stability problems so that building can begin."

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS



WSP Environmental is one of the first consultants to use a specialised process to analyse environmental change through the use of satellite pictures.

The method was recently used in a project for the Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute. The project included identifying reproduction and stocking areas for fish in the coastal regions. "Our aim was to find out how much the reproduction areas for fish

have changed by analysing the satellite pictures taken at different times since the 1980s. These show us how the biotopes in the area have changed," says Jakob Kjellman, who led the project. "We looked at aspects such as the temperature, vegetation and water quality."

In the future remote sensing will be an important instrument for calculating the environmental impact of industrial operations in coastal waters.

CLIENT'S VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The Katternö Group produces and distributes electricity throughout Pietarsaari, a region to the North of Vaasa where WSP Environmental Oy's headquarters is located. The group, which has the world's largest bio-fuelled power plant, is committed to sustainability in every aspect of its business, as its Managing Director, Stefan Storholm, explains.

"If you believe in the future you need a vision, and ours has always been to build a business which makes a positive contribution to the local community. As a company that is 80% self-sufficient, we are strong and independent with a local focus. We recruit our

workforce locally and this brings the reward of loyal and satisfied customers. Why would the people of Pietarsaari buy their electricity from Helsinki or anywhere else, when they see the connection between the energy they buy and people they know working to meet their needs?

"But independence and self-sufficiency are easier said than done. For example, despite vast areas of forest surrounding Pietarsaari, it's still difficult to find enough bio fuel from renewable sources such as tree stocks and peat.

AUTOMATIC EMERGENCY CALL

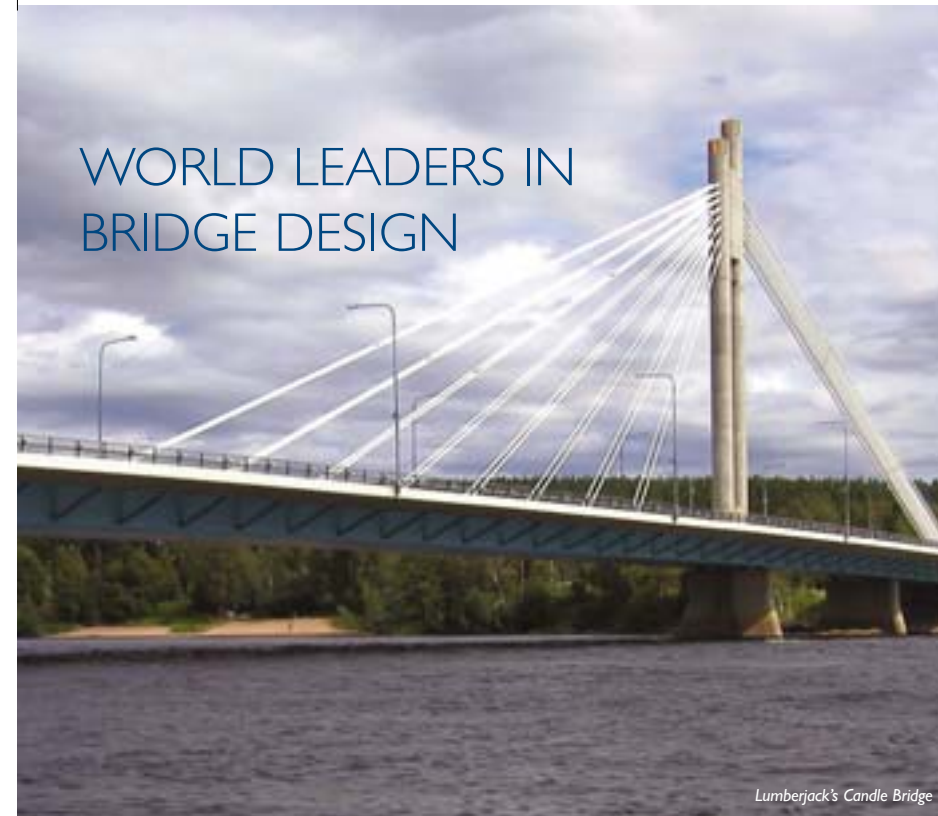
It is expected that by 2009 every new vehicle in Europe will be equipped with a positioning and communication system capable of automatically calling the emergency services if it is involved in an accident.

Finland wants to go even further and make Automatic Emergency Call available for every vehicle on the road. Tuomo Eloranta of WSP LT Consultants is working on a pilot project with the Finnish Authorities and equipment manufacturers. "When accidents happen, delays often occur in informing the emergency services as drivers may be injured or may not know where they are.

INDUSTRIAL DESIGNER OF THE YEAR

Mari Siikonen, who heads up WSP LT Consultants' design studio, was nominated Industrial Designer of the Year 2004 by the Finnish Association of Industrial Designers.

"Industrial design can be a strategic tool in attracting and retaining more public transport users. My mission is to use design to improve the quality of public transport by creating an attractive and welcoming environment associated both with the vehicles and the transport infrastructure, and also to improve the usability of the public transport system."



Lumberjack's Candle Bridge

WSP ConsultingKORTES is undoubtedly best known for bridge design. We are market leaders in Finland and known throughout Europe as one of the foremost bridge designers. The design of the Lumberjack's Candle Bridge at Rovaniemi, completed in 1989, marked the point when KORTES began to gain an international reputation. This was Finland's first cable-stay bridge and it continues to enjoy worldwide renown today for its beauty and the way it harmonises with its environment.

This successful project has led to many further commissions around the world, including WSP ConsultingKORTES recent appointment as lead designer for the Chenab Bridge in the mountainous state of Jammu & Kashmir. Towering 350 metres above water level, this will be the world's highest bridge. An all-steel structure, it will also break records for single arch railway bridges in being supported by a single, steel truss arch with a clear span of 460 metres.



Chenab Bridge

"Staffan Asplund's team at WSP provide us with new and creative solutions as well as advising us on legislation and the environmental impacts of our operations. One idea currently under investigation is the possibility of utilising waste from meat processing industries, which is normally incinerated, for energy production. As a society, we must be prepared to take responsibility for waste disposal in our communities and this solves two problems at once. It provides us with a new fuel source and eliminates a local pollution problem."

3D DESIGN FOR WORLD'S BIGGEST BOILERHOUSE

WSP ConsultingKORTES has developed a high level of expertise in challenging structures for industry and in particular for boiler buildings and power plants.



Sophisticated simulation and visualisation technologies such as 3D modelling are used to test design options and demonstrate the performance of design proposals. Ville Jaatinen of WSP ConsultingKORTES explains how his team have developed the software to meet the needs of their clients. "We design the buildings in sections, using the software to calculate all the connections. We also calculate different methods of bracing to maximise strength whilst minimising weight. This optimises the structure by saving steel and thus reducing the final building cost."

WSP designed the building to house the world's biggest recovery boiler, weighing 11,000 tons for Kvaerner Pulping at their plant in Hainan Island in China. 70 ton beams were needed to suspend the boiler, but at 70 metres the building was too high for cranes to lift this weight.

WSP therefore replaced the conventional beam suspension structure with girders, transported from Shanghai to Hainan Island in sections and connected *in situ*. 3D modelling was used to ensure the design would work in practice. The fact that the girders were lighter and easier to handle had the added benefit of significantly reducing transport costs.

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DOCKSIDE DEVELOPMENT

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY TREATMENT



WSP has been associated with the London Docklands since the late 1980s, with involvement in some 20 buildings in the area. Recently we have been awarded a multidisciplinary contract by the developer, Ballymore Properties, for the design of 1 Millharbour, adjacent to the Millwall Inner Dock. Design is currently underway, with construction work expected to start at the end of the year.

The project will comprise 790 apartments in two interlinking towers of 36 and 50 storeys. "The height of the scheme places tight constraints on the structural designers, who have to take into account thin core walls and reduced storey heights associated with residential developments," says Guy Wellings of WSP's structural team. In designing the building's substructure and basement, the team is supported by our environmental specialists who are modelling the behaviour of the piled raft foundation to assess settlement and movement of the foundations on this waterside site.

The discreet location of building services equipment within a tight site is one of the challenges faced by the M&E team, who are applying their high rise expertise to issues such as stair pressurisation as part of the evacuation system.

Meanwhile the transport engineers have been negotiating with the planning and transport authorities and assessing the impact of the development proposals on the surrounding transport infrastructure. They are also examining car parking management systems and servicing and refuse logistics for the operation of the building.

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NEW MARKETPLACE FOR BURY ST EDMUNDS



"The planning go-ahead for the Cattle Market site is excellent news for the future prosperity of the town and its surrounding area. Now the hard work begins to finalise design and other details so we finish with a scheme in Bury St Edmunds of which we can all be proud."

Cllr John Griffiths,
St Edmundsbury Borough Council Leader

WSP has played a substantial role in the recent success of property developer Centros Miller in gaining planning consent for the £85 million redevelopment of the 5.38 hectare Cattle Market site in the historic market town of Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk.

The medieval town grew up around the gates of a Benedictine monastery founded in 1020AD and takes its name from the martyrdom of Edmund, killed in battle by invading Danes in 869AD. His shrine stood for centuries in the medieval Abbey Church that, tradition suggests, was also the place where the barons of England met in 1214AD to force King John to accept the Charter of Liberties, later known as the 'Magna Carta'. The Abbey was torn down during Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries in the early 16th century, but Bury St Edmunds has retained essentially its entire original street pattern.

The ancient town centre will be linked to the new mixed-use Cattle Market scheme designed by Hopkins Architects, which will include new shopping streets and

a department store, a new public square, residential apartments and a multi-use public venue building.

WSP has been involved in the project since it began in 2001, when the company was appointed to the team working to develop the masterplan. "Bury St Edmunds is a very sensitive and historic town in which the local people are naturally very protective of their environment", said Managing Director of Centros Miller, John Laker. "However, working in close partnership with St Edmundsbury Borough Council, and using extensive public consultation to help develop the masterplan and refine the detailed scheme, we gained local support." Following the approval of the masterplan at the end of 2002, WSP carried out the Transport Assessment to accompany the planning application, at the same time undertaking a Town Centre Parking Study for St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

In 2003 Centros Miller commissioned WSP to provide an Environmental Impact Assessment. The work included an environmental scoping study, preparation

of the Environmental Statement and the identification of enhancement, mitigation and management measures, addressing key issues such as transport, noise and vibration, soils, geology and contamination, water quality and resources, cultural heritage and archaeology, townscape and visual character.

WSP has also been appointed to undertake civil and structural engineering and expects to begin the detailed design later this year. Construction at the Cattle Market site is due to commence in 2006, with completion scheduled for mid 2008.

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DHL & GIS SPEEDS DELIVERY

DHL, the world's largest express and logistics network, has considerably increased the efficiency of its delivery service in the Swedish province of Dalecarlia, thanks to a new GIS application developed by WSP.

Dalecarlia is a large province in central Sweden, roughly the size of Belgium. Every night packages arrive by long distance transport at the terminal in Borlänge, the hub for all transport onward throughout Dalecarlia. Before leaving in the morning, the local drivers must load the goods in the order they are to be delivered. WSP was appointed to develop a method to speed up this time consuming process. "Using the roadmap as a base we grid-marked the

whole of Dalecarlia into a network onto which we mapped the drivers' routes," explains Håkan Ivarsson of WSP's GIS team in Stockholm. "When parcels arrive at Borlänge they are scanned with a barcode reader and allocated to the appropriate vehicle in the right order for loading and delivery."

The pilot project has resulted in savings of a minimum of 30 minutes per vehicle per day, amounting to at least 500 hours per day for the province of Dalecarlia.

DHL are delighted with WSP's solution, which has provided them with a simple, transparent and user-friendly system, and they are now rolling it out to a further nine districts in Sweden during 2005.

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Photo by Deutsche Post World Net