



NEWS RELEASE

2nd February 2010

GB appointed to work on £1.2bn accommodation project for soldiers

GB Building Solutions has been appointed as a sub-contractor to Aspire Defence on Project Allenby/Connaught and will deliver complete new build and refurbished accommodation for UK based soldiers and those returning from operations.

Aspire Defence, a joint venture between Carillion and KBR, is delivering Project Allenby/Connaught, the largest infrastructure PFI ever let by the Ministry of Defence. The quality of life for over 18,700 soldiers, 20% of the British Army, is improving thanks to the provision of modern, high quality, fully serviced and purpose built living and working accommodation across the garrisons of Aldershot and Salisbury Plain.

The Project is already significantly improving the lives of soldiers, at what is a crucial time for many, with more than 4,100 soldiers having already moved into their own single en-suite living accommodation. The new and refurbished buildings include Junior Ranks Single Living Accommodation (JRSLA) blocks, eight-man houses, dining facilities, mess halls, offices, stores, workshops and something else that returning heroes will welcome – sports and leisure facilities.

The construction started in 2006 and will last for eight years running alongside a 35 year facilities management contract. The current £480million phase is for the next five years running until 2015. GB has been placed in the 'premier league' sub-contractor category, where the average contract size will be circa £3million. Ten tenders are expected to be released in this category between now and the end of the year.

The Project is delivering, on average, two new or refurbished buildings a week and a key criterion for sub-contractors is delivering each contract on time and to budget, something in which GB Building Solutions has an exemplary record. Aspire Defence will then maintain each building for the duration of the 35 years.



Martin Smout, chairman and chief executive of GB Building Solutions says, “This is a project which will make a significant difference to the lives of almost 19,000 soldiers based in Aldershot and Salisbury Plain.

“For GB Building Solutions it is likely to mean £50m of new business over the next five years, as a direct result of our solutions led approach of working in partnership with our clients to deliver each project on time and to budget.

“We are expecting to announce our first project for Aspire Defence any day now, and hope to start work within the next month.”

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Notes for Editors

GB Building Solutions is a solutions-focused construction company which believes in adding value and delivering on the promises it makes to its customers.

GB Building Solutions has six offices based throughout England and undertakes a range of new build and refurbishment projects in both the public and private sectors. It specialises in five sectors:

- ❖ Accommodation
- ❖ Commercial
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Hotels and leisure
- ❖ Non–acute health

GB Building Solutions was previously known as Gleeson Building. The name change to GB Building Solutions was the final step in the transition that started with the management buyout of MJ Gleeson’s building division in July 2005.