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Press Release

BAM CONSTRUCT UK LINKS UP WITH CRC FOR 'VISIT OUR SCHOOLS' CAMPAIGN

Cambridge Regional College has linked up with leading construction company BAM Construct UK as part of 'Visit our Schools and Colleges', a new national initiative to bring business and education closer together.

The move will enable students to have hands-on experience of a major project with visits to BAM Construct's site adjacent to the Addenbrooke's Hospital campus in Cambridge, where the company is building a new £200 million MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology.

The development on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus uses cutting edge construction techniques and incorporates a number of energy-saving features – all of which could benefit CRC's construction training courses.

Mick Jones, assistant head of the Construction Academy, said the link with BAM Construct would be extremely valuable for students and was a direct benefit of the Visit our Schools initiative, organised by the Education and Employers Taskforce.

"The campaign to encourage partnership working between colleges and businesses has brought CRC and BAM Construct together, and will help provide our learners with real experience of a major construction project," he said.

"This will be very valuable for our students. They will be able to find out more about the jobs involved in a project of this size - such as project and site management - and gain experience of a real work environment.

“We teach an awareness of green technology, as well as green and modern methods of construction, and many of the project’s energy-saving initiatives are particularly relevant to our learners.”

Elena Goodspeed, BAM Construct’s regional Education and Community Co-ordinator, said the company had been delighted to get involved in ‘Visit our Schools’.

“This has been a superb campaign to enable colleges and business to find out more about each other and set up links for the future,” she said.

“We have a strong presence in Cambridge because of our work on the £200 million Medical Research Council’s Laboratory of Molecular Biology and we are delighted to be able to offer opportunities to CRC’s students to visit the site, take part in hands-on activities and find out more about the career options available in construction.

“We also hope to arrange visits to the College by some of the BAM team who are working on the site to talk about particular areas of construction.”

Students will be able to look at plans, see how the building has progressed with the help of BAM’s live webcam and follow the development of the project, which will house 400 bench scientists, together with approximately 200 support staff and is due to be completed in 2012.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For more information, please contact Lynn O’Shea, Communications & PR Manager, on 01223 418773 or email loshea@camre.ac.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has more than 4,000 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge

and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest work-based learning contracts in the eastern region.