

25 May 2010

Press Release

TIMBER COMPANY DONATES PURPOSE-BUILT HOUSE TO CRC CONSTRUCTION ACADEMY

A major timber engineering company is donating an open panel two-storey timber-framed house to Cambridge Regional College – and helping to put it up.

The five-metre high building, designed specially for the College by Bury St Edmunds-based Howarth Timber Engineering Ltd, will be used to provide real-life training practice for students working on CRC's Modern Methods of Construction course.

The house, which is being produced in the company's factory in Bury St. Edmunds, will arrive in sections on Wednesday morning (May 26) and should be completed within the day.

The 20sq metre building will be screwed together to enable current and future students to erect and dismantle it during their training. Experts from Howarth will put up the structure, teaching the students how it's done as they build.

John Malone, head of CRC's Construction Academy, said the College was extremely grateful for the donation.

"Howarth has been extraordinarily generous in providing us with the building, which we hope to use for many years to help our students learn environmentally-sound and innovative construction methods.

"The company has designed the house especially for us, so that it sits perfectly within our SmartLife Centre where we carry out much of our construction training, and can be

built and re-built time and again. We're looking forward to seeing it go up on Wednesday, and the students can't wait to start working on it themselves."

Gary Coulson, from Howarth, said the company was delighted to be able to help CRC by providing a building for students to work on.

"We were impressed by the College's teaching of green methods of construction to students, and are very happy to help by donating a building which will help the students learn.

"All our timber buildings score very highly on eco points – and our timber can be traced back directly to the forest where it was logged by means of Chain of Custody Certification under the FSC, PEFC, CSA, SFI and MTCC schemes."

Howarth Timber Group is the largest privately-owned Timber Company in the UK. It produces over 250,000 roof trusses each year, provides floors and flat roofs for about 12,500 houses, and designs and builds more than 1,500 timber frame houses each year, a large majority of which they supply and erect.

The company, founded in the 1840s, encompasses 28 Timber and Builders merchant branches, Howarth Windows & Doors and Howarth Timber Engineering. It also has a thriving self-build business.

- ends -

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For more information, please contact:

Lynn O'Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator at CRC, on 01223 418773 or

email loshea@camre.ac.uk

Jason Dorks, Howarth Timber Group, on 01284 772715, or

email jdorks@howarth-te.com

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 around 3,500 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 Train to Gain contracts in the Eastern Region.