

R J Leighfield & Sons celebrates 125 years

RJ Leighfield & Sons Ltd which is one of the regions oldest building contractors is celebrating 125 years of trading since it was established in 1885. The company which was family run until the mid-eighties, now trades as Crampton Leighfield and provides construction solutions to both the public and private sectors.

The company moved from Swindon to new offices on the Coped Hall Business Park in Wootton Bassett in 2005. The 36,000 sf development, which comprises of 11 business units, was built and owned by the company and has now been fully let. The move has proved to be successful in many ways, not least by helping to modernise the company image and provide a catalyst for staff development and business improvement.

The company already has the quality standard ISO 9001:2008 and the Investors in People accreditation and will now focus on environmental and sustainability issues which it believes will be key drivers for future growth. The company has some ambitious targets for reducing its carbon footprint and is planning to achieve ISO 9001:14001 accreditation by the end of 2011. The result will mean that the company will offer clients greener solutions as well as the



highest level of service and quality.

Despite the market conditions, collaboration is still seen by many clients, as the best way to achieve quality while at the same time driving down costs through efficiency savings. The public sector has moved towards bundling smaller jobs into framework packages to achieve these savings, but this has

had the effect of pushing SME's out of the market because they cannot qualify for the larger frameworks.

Leighfield has formed a consortium with three other contractors and bucked this trend by qualifying for the Construction Framework South West (CFSW) which has an estimated four year spend of £500m. The company has also discovered that such collaboration provides many indirect benefits such as economies of scale, best practice, shared ideas, operational and business improvements.

The company is proud of the service and quality that it provides to all its clients and was delighted to receive an award for 'Best Community Project' at the recent LABC Awards at Milton Keynes. The project (pictured below) was Lea House at Bradfield, Southend, near Newbury and the client was the Sovereign Group. For more go to www.rjleighfield.co.uk



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