

Press Release

15 February 2005

Consultancy and engineering firms back London Olympic bid

The UK's leading consultancy and engineering companies have backed the bid to bring the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics to London, in a statement of support organised by industry business association, Association for Consultancy and Engineering (ACE).

Contributors to the statement, which is being presented to International Olympic Committee inspectors visiting London this week to evaluate the capital's bid, include leading executives from 24 top consultancy firms including Arup, Building Design Partnership, Buro Happold, Capita Symonds, Mott MacDonald, Scott Wilson, Waterman, White Young Green, WSP and others who would play a key role in delivering infrastructure and facilities if London secured the Games.

The statement offers full backing for the bid. "A successful bid for the Olympic Games in 2012 will leave a legacy of facilities, homes and infrastructure that will regenerate one of the most underdeveloped areas of the country for generations to come," it says. "Stratford, the main centre for the new Olympic park, will have ten rail lines running through it by 2012, making it one of the best connected venues in the world. A London Olympics would provide a significant boost for consultancy and engineering, with major opportunities in construction and infrastructure development, giving us the chance to showcase UK consultancy at its best."

ACE chief executive Nelson Ogunshakin said: "Given the closeness of the race between the bidding cities it's vital that business backs London's bid. The city is technically capable of staging a successful games and consultancy companies will play a key role in the lasting regeneration of east London and legacy of sustainable infrastructure that a successful bid would bring."

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Further information from Andy Walker, ACE communications director, on 020 7227 1889 or 07736 667591 (mobile). The full statement of support with contributors is listed overleaf.



Full statement of support for London 2012 Olympic bid

Leading consultancy firms back London 2012 bid

"We the undersigned pledge our full support for London's bid to host the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012.

"Apart from the massive sporting and cultural boost given to London and indeed the nation, a successful bid for the Olympic Games in 2012 will leave a legacy of facilities, homes and infrastructure that will regenerate one of the most underdeveloped areas of the country for generations to come. Stratford, the main centre for the new Olympic park, will have ten rail lines running through it by 2012, making it one of the best connected venues in the world.

"Bringing the Olympics to London would also provide a significant boost for consultancy and engineering, with major opportunities in construction and infrastructure development, giving us the chance to showcase UK consultancy at its best.

"Winning the Games would be great news for London and the UK as a whole. We are proud to support this bid and wish it every success."

Nelson Ogunshakin	Chief Executive	Association for Consultancy and Engineering
Terry Hill	Chairman	Arup
Keith Clarke	Chief Executive	Atkins
David Nickols	Managing Director	Black & Veatch
Nick Terry	Chairman	Building Design Partnership
Desmond Scott	Chairman	Bullen Consultants
Michael Dickson	Chairman	Buro Happold
Richard Marchant	Managing Director	Capita Symonds Ltd
Ken Dalton	Chief Executive	FaberMaunsell
Gordon Clark	Director	Gifford
Peter Gammie	Chief Executive	Halcrow Group Ltd
Tim Wade	Chief Executive	Hyder
Bill Mitchell	Chief Executive	Jacobs Babbie
Stephen Pycroft	Chief Executive	Mace Group
Mike Blackburn	Chairman	Mott MacDonald
Richard Cuthbert	Chief Executive	Mouchel Parkman
Tim Matthews	Managing Director	Parsons Brinckerhoff
Francis Connolly	Senior Partner	Peter Brett Associates
Henry Rowe	Director - Maritime	Royal Haskoning
Geoff French	Group Chairman	Scott Wilson
Alex Tosetti	Operations Director	URS Corporation Ltd
Jeff Smith	Managing Director	Wardell Armstrong LLP
Bob Campbell	Managing Director	Waterman Group
Michael Whitwell	Managing Director	White Young Green
Chris Cole	Chief Executive	WSP Group