

## CASE STUDY

# DELPH SCHOOL, OLDHAM

School roof renovated as part of ground-breaking partnership arrangement



In April 2004, Permanite Engineered Roofing Systems successfully tendered a partnership contract with Oldham Council to act as the principal contractor for all flat roofing works in the Borough over a four year period.

The aim of this new partnership arrangement, set up under the New Engineering Contract, is to improve quality while reducing project costs and procurement timescales and follows the principles of Sir John Egan's report, *Rethinking Construction*.

The tender was put together with the help and knowledge of Fulwood Roofing Services, which is the main subcontractor for this contract. In the first twelve months £1million of roofing work was carried out on projects from schools to swimming pools across the Oldham Borough.

The roof renewal at Delph School was carried out as part of this partnership. Permanite Engineered Roofing Services and Fulwood Roofing Services were involved from the beginning and were responsible for carrying out the initial roof survey and providing the specification, as well as having significant design input. Work on the roof included stripping the roof, installing a vapour barrier, completing the pitched roof and fitting roof lights.

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council required a system which offered a 20-year performance backed guarantee as well as enhanced fire-rated performance. Permanite FireBLOC was chosen as the vapour barrier as it has a modified bitumen coating, providing significantly increased fire protection, and is covered by a

**Project Sector:** Education  
**System:** Built-up system  
**Products Used:** Superbar / Suplerflex FireBLOC,  
**Contractor:** Fulwood Roofing Services  
**Started:** July 2005  
**Completed:** October 2005  
**Size:** 1362m<sup>2</sup>  
**Contact:** Keith Johnson

comprehensive insurance-backed guarantee. The specification also had to take into consideration the fact that the roofs consisted of a variety of flat and pitched areas.

Installation of the roof required special measures in order to minimise disruption to the learning environment. Due to the size of the project it was inevitable that some work had to be carried out during term time and as a result a number of critical areas of the school could not be vacated during the stripping works. Co-ordination, planning and liaison between the contractors and the school site manager was essential throughout the installation.

The school is split into 15 separate areas, resulting in a lot of complex detailing work, and slightly different specifications were needed for the various areas. The highest levels of accident protection were employed on site and due regard was paid to all statutory requirements, with safeguards being put in place to prevent exposing employees or the general public to any risks.

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