

# Crown House Engineering Best Practice in Birmingham

## Case Record



**Location** Sites across Birmingham

**Main Contractor** Crown House Engineering

Brindley Place

## Environmental Initiatives

**Water Conservation** Mailbox canal water use  
Manufacturing centre focuses waste in one area and works to reduce the impact. Brindley place utilised waste segregation scheme.

**Waste Reduction**

**Energy Reduction** Manufacturing centre focuses work in one area

**Community Liaison** Planting trees and donating metal at the manufacturing centre and involved with litter picking and a carnival at Balsall Heath.

**Community Regeneration** Provision of a training facility for Balsall Heath Community

### Environmental

The Mailbox contract, in Birmingham city centre, involved the refurbishment and new building works of the existing Royal Mail building. The contract value was £41.27 million and created a mixed-use development including offices, residential, retail, hotel, restaurants and leisure facilities. Crown House Engineering installed a heating and cooling system which makes use of canal water for condenser cooling chillers. This prevents utilising resources of fresh water.

Brindley Place 6 is another office development in the city centre. Carillion Building set up, and CHE utilised, a waste segregation process on the site.

CHE focus manufacturing at an off-site Manufacturing Centre. This minimises the wastes generated on site and contains the waste products in a fixed environment. The use of off-site manufacture also reduces the number of people on sites, thus reducing the disruption to the local community. It also reduces the energy consumption of the site.

Due to the Manufacturing Centre's fixed location with a permanent staff base, it is in a better position to manage many of the environmental impacts that sites find difficult to manage because of their transient locations and workforces. The Manufacturing Centre was a finalist in the Reed Electrical Industry Awards in the category of the environment. The centre has also entered the BAA Environmental Awards.

### Social

The Manufacturing Centre has also been active within the community. They have been involved in planting trees at local schools and nurseries. They have also donated cut-off metal to local colleges for use in training classes.

For the last three years CHE has been active in encouraging business and community links within Balsall Heath. Over this time they have worked with the Balsall Heath Community in the area regeneration and clean up. For example, they assisted in several litter picking exercises and have provided assistance at the local carnival.

As part of the involvement with the local community the CHE Birmingham Office has developed a training facility. This is offered free to the community and allows it to be put to use in aiding the needs of the people in the area. The use of the facility includes the following:

- ◆ Driver Theory Training for the local community.
- ◆ Computer Skills training for the community and CHE personnel.
- ◆ St Pauls community has used the centre for meetings and Clait Skills courses.
- ◆ Balsall Heath Employers Forum holds meetings related to local issues.

In April 2000 Prince Charles visited the project and viewed the improvement within the area since his last visit some 20 years ago. At this event the regional director for Crown House Engineering and Carillion's Chairman received the annual 'Balsall Heath Honour' for their continued commitment to the community and Balsall Heath's regeneration.