

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

50 years in business for IB Construction

This year marks 50 years in business for IB Construction – and the Willenhall-based firm is continuing to go from strength to strength.

Over the last half century, IB has successfully completed more than 1,500 projects for clients in a broad range of market sectors – including the licensed trade, restaurants, hotels, education and local authority, retail, leisure, museum and galleries.

IB Construction began life as Insulated Buildings Limited, a sister company to roofing contractors Dent & Partners, with Peter Lewis in the role of contracts director.

“Initially IB was involved primarily in the supply and erection of pre-fabricated buildings,” said Mr Lewis. “But we progressed rapidly into general construction work, design and build, and refurbishment projects on a national basis.”

Since then, the company has continued to expand, acquiring both specialist glazing firm J Edwards Glass in 2005 and, more recently, another local construction firm – Henry Gough & Son Ltd of Wolverhampton.

The brewery trade still plays a significant part in the IB portfolio with renovation projects in progress at the Nickleodeon in Wednesfield and The Leathern Bottle in Milton Keynes.

But the firm has also diversified into new areas, carving a niche in the construction of contemporary church buildings.

IB has successfully developed several high specification sites throughout the country, winning the Best Building in The County award at the North



IB's Construction's varied projects include work in the licensed trade, restaurants and hotels

Wales Building Awards for its work on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in St David's Park, Ewloe.

IB has an enviable ability to combine traditional building skills with modern materials and construction techniques. A recent renovation project in Newport, Shropshire, has seen an 18th Century church incorporating a seamless planar glazing system.

Developments

A growing number of IB's contracts are from the local authority, specialist care home and educational sectors.

The company is currently working on a number of developments for Walsall Local Authority. These include foster homes, a primary school, special needs schools and care centres.

With many prestigious industry awards under its belt, there is no ques-

tion of the quality of the firm's prodigious output. But arguably the best indicator of performance is client satisfaction and there is certainly no shortage of customer praise for IB Construction.

Stringent working practices and careful management have led to letters of thanks from residents living near development sites who have been impressed by their tidiness and lack of disruption during construction work. And following a recent school contract, the company was hailed as “the best contractor ever to work on our premises”.

At a time when we seem to be hearing little but tales of woe from the construction industry, IB is a beacon of inspiration that seems set to shine brightly into the foreseeable future.