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From: Peter Farmer (Galliford Try)

To: Peter @ Archer Structures

Cc: Kevin Allbrighton ; Joan Cordell

Sent: Wednesday, April 08, 2009 9:14 AM

Subject: Archer Structures - Reference

To Whom it May Concern

We employed Archer Structures as our primary structural steelwork contractor for the refurbishment of Muirhead Tower at the University of Birmingham in June 2007, the value of the project was approximately £26m and involved the complete refurbishment of twin 12 storey towers. The steelwork package comprised the construction of two new plantrooms at roof level, strengthening of existing structure to the underside of the roof deck, the erection of new structural framing to develop the central link core area, isolated stair tower structures and a new curved steel structure to form a new café space on the podium deck together with associated strengthening work below. Archers subcontract order value was approximately £450, 000 this has now risen to £700,000 as a result of additional work instructed. The project was of a technically demanding nature within the main campus of the University of Birmingham.

We interviewed a number of fabricators when placing the order to ensure we were satisfied they had understood the complexity of the scheme and the health and safety issues associated with it. Pete Archer was the only individual that had a clear understanding of how he intended to undertake his element of work, as a team we commented at the end of the day it was like being given a lesson in steelwork from Fred Dibnah. We placed the order with Archers despite the fact they were not the lowest tendered purely on his performance at interview and soundings we had taken from the industry.

We have found them to be very professional in their approach to the scheme, their design office are very competent and extremely thorough when preparing drawings for comment ensuring they have all the information to hand as and when required. The fabricated steel has been of good quality and their erection teams are both competent and professional when on site. We have found the erectors to be practical and pro active when resolving difficulties on site, health and safety is also very high on their agenda which is essential in today's work place. Commercially, they communicate well, manage their account effectively advising of variations as and when they occur and they have worked well with our team to resolve any issues that arise.

We have enjoyed working with Pete Archer and his team on this particularly difficult project, Pete is one of the few characters left in the industry and we are happy to recommend Archer Structures to others.

Peter Farmer
Project Manager
Galliford Try Construction (Central)

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