

NOTES AND METHODOLOGY

Recent corporate changes

Altus Andrews Andrews Partnership was acquired by Altus Group of Canada in June 2008

Appleyards Acquired DWB, a construction cost consultant, in December 2007

Atkins Acquisitions and mergers include: Intelligent Space and NedTech Engineering. Sale of Lambert Smith Hampton

Aukett Fitzroy Robinson New office in Abu Dhabi

Baqus Group Formed in December 2007 from the merger of Boxall Sayer, Fletcher McNeil and Denley King

Building Design Partnership Merged with Dutch practice Khandekar

Bennington Green New office opened

Bidwells Building Consultancy Acquired a team of architects from another practice

Bond Bryan Architects In January 2008 Bond Bryan undertook a management buyout, since when it has been a limited company

Brodie Plant Goddard Key staff member retired

Capita Symonds Acquired Lovejoy (March 2008), NRM Bobrowski (April 2008), and Pearce Buckle (June 2008)

Clarke Bond Group An acquisition in January 2008 boosted staff numbers but turnover associated with that has not been included

CNP Recently acquired by Land America

Cyril Sweett Acquired four companies in April: Burns Bridge, Nisbet, Jones Sweett International and Roger Richards Partnership

Davis Langdon Acquired McKenzie Partnership in 2007

Frankham Consultancy Group Acquired Mackenzies International Architects

Franklin + Andrews In 2007/08 Mott MacDonald/Franklin + Andrews merged with: Time Construction Consultancy to provide project and cost management services in Moscow; acquired Needleman, a UK-based QS and commercial services company

Grontmij Acquired three companies: Whitelaw Turkington, Trett Consulting and Roger Preston & Partners

Hamiltons Architects Consolidated three UK offices into one new building

Hill International (UK) Acquired Shreeves, a project management and cost consultancy business

Hilson Moran Acquired Italian company in 2007

Jackson Coles Sold Euromost Polska SP 200, a Polish daughter company, to Hill International in May 2008

Jones Lang LaSalle Acquired Upstream, a sustainability practice, in November 2007

Keegans Acquired Dearle & Henderson Scotland

King Sturge Acquired Leslie Furness, Hamilton Glen, Bache Treharne and Auctions Team

Kirk Saunders Associates Acquired Trident House Engineering

Lambert Smith Hampton Underwent a management buyout in 2007

Millbridge Group Merged with QS practice LG Consult

Mott MacDonald Acquired: Multidesign; Needleman; Time Consultancy (in Russia)

Mouchel Acquired HBS, a BPO specialist, in August 2007. In March 2008, acquired Hedra, a solutions and services business

NPS Property Consultants Acquired two companies: Barron & Smith (London), Robson Liddle (Exeter & Chepstow)

Peter Brett Associates Converted to LLP on 1 April 2008. Planned amalgamation of international arm in 2008

Poole Dick Associates Merged with Brown & Clowes (Newcastle-under-Lyme) in March 2008

Project and Building Consultancy

Professional division grew

Ramboll Whitbybird Whitbybird merged with Ramboll in September 2007

Ridge Acquired Walfords and added 30 to overall staff numbers in July 2008. The impact of this on fee income will be reflected in future data

RMJM Acquired Hillier, a US architecture practice, in June 2007

RPS Group Acquired RW Gregory, a building services consultancy

Scott Wilson Acquired Terence Lee Partnership, Strategic Leisure and Benaim

Synergy Merged with Bare, Leaning & Bare, Johnson & Partners and Safety Solutions

The Fairhursts Design Group Integrated Cruickshank & Seward Architects from 1 May 2008

The Ratcliffe Groves Partnership Acquired an architectural practice in May 2008

Thomson Gray Partnership Formed a strategic alliance with Allan and Hanel, a Glasgow-based QS practice

Tozer Gallagher CS Incorporated Forde Edwards & Partners

Turner & Townsend Became an unlisted plc
URS Corporation Acquired Washington Group International at the end of 2007

Ward Williams Associates New offices opened in Bristol and Eversham

Waterman Group Acquired Furness Green in September 2007

White Young Green/Tweeds Three acquisitions: PH McCarthy, a C&S consultant, Saville Bird Axon, a transport planner and IMCL, a socio-economic consultant

WSP Group More than £50m was spent on acquiring businesses in the UK, Germany, Australia, the US and South Africa

WT Hills Acquired A Edwin Bryant & Associates (Penzance) in October 2007

Methodology

More than 500 firms were contacted for this year's survey and asked for details on numbers of chartered staff, non-chartered and technical staff, and domestic and worldwide fee incomes. They were also asked questions relating to: speed of invoice payment, staff recruitment, likely wage increases, margins, areas of work, and the age of staff. Apart from fee incomes per employee, and growth data, all information in the tables is taken directly from firms' replies.

The survey does not claim to be the definitive guide to consultants, as it relies on firms completing and returning the annual survey form. Firms sometimes decide not to take part. Only those firms completing and returning the survey form are included in the survey.

The historical data, included for the first time in the annual survey, has been compiled by Hewes & Associates, using data from Building's Top 250 Consultants surveys going back to 2000. More historical data will be supplied with the release of the 2009 survey results.

Next year's survey ...

Firms wishing to be included in next year's survey should contact Martin Hewes at hewesinfo@aol.com