

Multi-million pound steel development



The £330M redevelopment of the Westfield Derby shopping centre is forging ahead and will eventually require more than 11,500t of structural steelwork.

The overall project consists of a major refurbishment of the existing Centre and the construction of a new build section which will include more than 100 shops and two large anchor department stores, a 12-screen cinema complex and a variety of restaurants and cafes.

Steve Dobbs, Project Director for steelwork contractor Rowen Structures said the majority of steel erection in the new build section should be complete by the end of October.

"The new part of the shopping centre will directly connect into the existing centre," he said. "Our steel erection has mostly involved installing beams, columns and heavy trusses."

The project owner, developer and main contractor is Westfield Shoppingtowns.

Due to open in late 2007, Westfield Derby will provide more than one million square feet of new and upgraded retail space.

Pictorial scheme will improve site safety

The SCI in collaboration with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has completed its year-long research project known as Trojan Horse Messaging, a technique that conveys vital health and safety information on construction sites through pictures at point of use.

The idea of the pictorial element is that it will overcome language barriers while communicating safety information to construction workers from various backgrounds.

Margaret Burns, an HSE Commissioner said she was confident that the technique will lead to real benefits in reducing risks on construction sites.

The Trojan

Horse Messaging technique can be used as part of a health and safety strategy to deliver a safer working environment.

"This is another good example of a successful working partnership within the construction industry," Margaret Burns added.

A number of major contractors participated in this study, including Skanska, Taylor-Woodrow, Multiplex, Bovis, Mace and William Hare.

"The technique definitely made a difference. It's a new tool that can be used to influence workers' actions on construction sites as it delivers key messages to operatives without direct management intervention," said Steve Derbyshire, Acting Head of Health and Safety for Taylor-Woodrow.

Bassam Burgan, Deputy Director for SCI commented: "I am delighted the SCI led this project and contributed to the HSE's efforts in building a better and safer environment in construction."

