



NEWS RELEASE

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GB Building Solutions sponsors sandcastle competition for Children North East

GB Building Solutions believes in introducing children to building early, so for the fifth year running GB Building Solutions were once again principal sponsor for the 14th Annual Sandcastle Challenge raising an expected £20,000 for the North East's oldest children's charity, Children North East. GB Building Solutions has built or refurbished many schools throughout the North East in the past three years and sees sponsorship of the Sandcastle event as an alternative way to benefit children across the region.

107 teams of primary school children, representing 39 schools across the North East, competed for £1200 prize money donated by GB Building Solutions. The school teams were paired with architects and other professionals from the construction industry, including GB Building Solutions staff.

The theme of this year's competition 'A trip to the seaside', was all the more appropriate as the event fell on the anniversary of the first trip that Children North East ever did as the 'Poor Children's Holiday Association' 117 years ago in 1891. The event was held at Sandhaven beach in South Tyneside.

Martin Smout, chairman and chief executive of GB Building Solutions said, "GB Building Solutions is heavily involved in school rebuilding and refurbishment across the North East, not least as part of the Northumberland County Council five-year Framework. Our continued sponsorship of the Children North East event is a way for us to help to contribute to the children's educational experience in a different way and put something back into the community."

The Sandcastle Competition is now the biggest event of its kind in the UK and the Sandcastle Ball, also supported by GB Building Solutions, is one of the highlights of the Northern RIBA calendar. It is at the ball where the prestigious and competitively fought for, Sandcastle Trophy is presented to the architect or construction professional from one of the



winning teams. The trophy is in the form of a solid brass sandcastle, and the winner is allowed to keep it for a year.

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Notes for Editors

GB Building Solutions is a solutions-focused construction company which believes in adding value and delivering on the promises it makes to its customers.

GB Building Solutions has six offices based throughout England and undertakes a range of new build and refurbishment projects in both the public and private sectors. It specialises in five sectors:

- ❖ Accommodation
- ❖ Commercial
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Hotels and leisure
- ❖ Non–acute health

GB Building Solutions was previously known as Gleeson Building. The name change to GB Building Solutions is the final step in a transition that started with a management buyout of MJ Gleeson's building division in July 2005.