



## **Press Release 724**

**London, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2007**

# **Copper: helping London's architecture to shine!**

**Some of London's most prestigious contemporary buildings have been entered for the 2007 "Copper in Architecture Awards" taking place on the 25<sup>th</sup> September in London. Nominated architects include one of those who has also been shortlisted to design the Olympic Village for the London Olympics in 2012.**

### **The 2007 Copper in Architecture Awards; winners to be unveiled on September 25**

The 74 entries for the 2007 awards have revealed an exceptional diversity of important buildings both within and outside London, as well as from around Europe. The team of leading architect judges, joined this year by Make's Ken Shuttleworth, was clearly focused on architectural design and has shortlisted five projects from the UK: Peter Harrison Planetarium, Royal Observatory, London (Allies and Morrison); The Unicorn Theatre, London (Keith Williams Architects); The Collection, Lincoln (Panter Hudspith Architects); Formby Pool, Merseyside (Feilden Clegg Bradley) and Roland Levinsky Building, University of Plymouth (Henning Larsens Tegnesteue with BDP).

Contemporary architecture is increasingly making use of copper: "We choose copper for its exemplary environmental credentials: a natural material, with low embodied energy in production, with a high percentage from recycled sources, and the potential for future recycling. Its longevity and ability to age gracefully, with a changing patina through time, make it a truly sustainable and beautiful material", said Keith Bradley, from Feilden Clegg Bradley.

The UK market for copper in architecture has seen a 25% year on year growth in recent years, especially in facade applications, not just because of its aesthetic qualities but also for its physical and environmental properties.

### **Environmental benefits of copper**

An essential benefit resulting from the use of copper is its sustainability.

### **Recycling**

Extremely durable, and 100% recyclable without any loss of performance, copper can be used, recycled and reused over and over again. In 2005, 41% of Europe's copper usage was met from recycling.

## **Fluid forms**

Malleable, ductile and highly resistant to corrosion, copper is also valued for its physical properties. As profiles or mesh, in sheets or slabs, copper is used by many interior architects and designers in a variety of ways to create true works of art.

## **A wide palette of colours**

Flaming orange-red, warm brown or almond green, copper offers a broad array of colours to inspire architects. This broad range of colours stems from the fact that copper develops a protective brown then almond-green film over time - it is this 'patina' that protects the copper and makes it so resistant to corrosion. Thanks to innovation in the copper industry, architects now have improved access to pre-patinated products offering a range of colours.

## **About the European Copper Institute and Copper Development Association:**

The European Copper Institute is a joint venture between the world's mining companies and the European copper industry. Its mission is to promote copper's benefits to modern life through its Brussels based headquarters and a network of eleven Copper Development Associations such as CDA UK in England.

## **Contacts for further information:**

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## **Notes for TV Correspondents/Editors:**

Broadcast-quality video of aerial views of London's most recent contemporary architecture is available from [bryony.samuel@copperdev.co.uk](mailto:bryony.samuel@copperdev.co.uk).

High-res images available to download from [www.cda.org.uk/awards-images.htm](http://www.cda.org.uk/awards-images.htm) or from CDA: [bryony.samuel@copperdev.co.uk](mailto:bryony.samuel@copperdev.co.uk).

The video can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dC1ycRT-Bak>.