



EDUCATION

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Military development marches forward

Caledonian Building Systems has handed over two new accommodation blocks for the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME), providing private en-suite bedrooms for 150 soldiers in Minley, Surrey.

The new buildings are the first to be completed under the modular construction specialist's contract, worth over £40 million, to provide more than 800 bedrooms.



The buildings, which have received BREEAM Good rating, have been delivered through a modular construction approach chosen by Holdfast Training Services due to the short time-scale, sustainability benefits and greater certainty of project costs that it enables.

Caledonian will soon begin delivery of a third building at Minley, which will provide accommodation for 117 senior non-commissioned officers.

Ian Kemp, business development director at Caledonian Building Systems, commented: *"There is a growing trend for modular construction and this project demonstrates the approach's capabilities and benefits. We have considerable experience providing this form of accommodation for the defence sector and we are committed to delivering a cost-effective building programme in a safe working environment, and in so doing reduce risk for our clients."*

Caledonian's build programme covers three RSME locations (Bicester, Chatham and Minley), with a phased delivery of bedrooms through to 2014. The new buildings will house more than 900 men and women of both senior and junior rank in private en-suite bedrooms.

Training with the RSME by nature involves a great deal of outdoor activity, so in addition to bedrooms the buildings include facilities such as male and female changing rooms, baggage stores, utility/laundry rooms and drying rooms.

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