

M&E CONSULTANCIES – MARCH

WSP leads both monthly and annual tables but a depressed market means there are arguably no winners among m&e consultancies

WSP leads the March table showing work won by m&e consultancies in terms of total value of contract. The firm secured work on one contract worth a total of £450 million. In second place was Couch Perry & Wilkes (£62m), followed by Arup (£55m), Rolton (£40m) and Design (£39m).

WSP also tops the annual rolling table, with £1,104.2m won across 18 contracts from April 2008 to March 2009. Completing the top five in the annual table are Hoare Lea (19 contracts and £486.5m), Max Fordham (21 contracts and £413.2m), Faber Maunsell (23 contracts and £364.4m) and Arup (16 contracts and £342.5m).

There is generally less work to shoot for this year, according to the Glenigan league tables. In the strong year of 2007, the top 10 firms snagged work on contracts worth £7,813.4m, but this fell by almost half for the year to March 2009 to £3,926.2m.

In response to the downturn, Association for Consultancy and Engineering chief executive, Nelson Ogunshakin has urged members to lobby MPs on construction investment.

“The consultancy and engineering sector is in great need of the injection of finances it has been promised,” he said. “For every day that passes, another project gets delayed or more redundancies are announced. It’s time to stop the rot.”

ACE estimates construction contributes around £100 billion to the UK economy annually and that construction activity contracted by 20 per cent during the last quarter of 2008. It has also called on the Scottish Government to take decisive action to stave off a potential meltdown in the Scottish construction sector this summer.

ACE Scotland chairman Jim Tod said: “Over £1bn of public infrastructure projects across Scotland will reach completion over the next half year. When those projects dry up, there will be a large hole to fill.”

TOP 20 M&E CONSULTANCIES – MARCH

Position	Last month	Company	Number of contracts	Total value of projects (£m)
1	1	WSP	1	450.0
2	2	Couch Perry & Wilkes	1	62.0
3	2	Arup	1	55.0
4	4	Rolton	1	40.0
5	5	Design	4	39.0
6	16	Harley Haddow	2	24.0
7	6	Cundall	1	20.0
8	11	DSSR	1	20.0
9	9	Silcock Leedham	1	16.0
10	10	Bielski	1	15.0
11	11	Long	1	15.0
12	3	Gifford	2	14.8
13	13	Howard Doolan	1	13.0
14	14	Mendick Waring	1	12.0
15	15	EC Harris	1	10.0
16	16	Portscene	1	9.0
17	12	Faber Maunsell	3	7.3
18	18	WYG	1	5.5
19	19	Ferrovia	1	5.0
20	20	Jones King	1	5.0

TOP 20 M&E CONSULTANCIES (APR 08-MAR 09)

Position	Last month	Company	Number of contracts	Total value of projects (£m)
1	1	WSP	18	1,104.2
2	2	Hoare Lea	19	486.5
3	4	Max Fordham	21	413.2
4	5	Faber Maunsell	23	364.4
5	3	Arup	16	342.5
6	7	Couch Perry & Wilkes	17	292.3
7	6	WYG	28	271.0
8	9	Buro Happold	17	228.4
9	8	Cundall	12	219.1
10	10	DESCO	5	204.6
11	12	DSSR	18	188.0
12	11	Mott MacDonald	6	180.0
13	15	Gifford	10	160.7
14	14	John Packer	6	145.3
15	13	RPS	12	143.1
16	17	Hilson Moran	6	119.3
17	18	Silcock Dawson	12	105.5
18	20	Parsons Brinckerhoff	6	100.3
19	19	Scott Wilson	9	97.5
20	21	Roger Preston	4	94.5

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