

Your bitesize construction bulletin

August 2024

Construction PMI increase

Market conditions and challenges

What is it?

Construction purchasing managers reported a rise in activity following the general election.

What should I know?

- The Construction PMI measures the activity level of purchasing managers in the construction industry.
- PMI has hit a 26-month high, with increases in construction activity and securing new orders.
- Civil engineering was the fastest growing sector, thanks to the progress of HS2.



Swipe for more 

Olympic Aquatic Centre

Events

What is it?

The innovative design of the Olympics Aquatics Centre.

What should I know?

- Certain features were included in the design for sustainability and longevity, e.g. the concave roof which reduces the hall's volume and therefore energy needed to heat it, and the movable pool walls and floors to create different configurations.
- The centre will become a legacy community multi-sports facility for suburban neighborhoods once the Olympics and Paralympics are over.



Human recognition cameras onsite

Innovation, technology and trends

What is it?

Balfour Beatty is introducing human recognition cameras on large plant machinery.

What should I know?

- The technology is designed to cover blind spots around machines and will trigger an alarm if there's a risk.
- The change is compulsory and will be rolled out across its supply chain from 2025.
- Beatty has also introduced a 'digital thumbs up' system to further improve safety onsite.



Keep on swiping →

John Lewis' housing project

Housebuilding and regulations

What is it?

The John Lewis Partnership will be transforming a Waitrose site in London to include 353 new homes.

What should I know?

- It's the first time John Lewis has diversified into residential housing.
- On an existing Waitrose site, the 24 storey tower will contain build to rent homes and the plans also feature public green spaces, a cafe and other amenities.
- The homes will be energy efficient.



3D printed toilets

Innovation, technology and trends

What is it?

Railway stations could receive 3D printed toilets made of bioplastics and concrete.

What should I know?

- It aims to address the lack of toilet facilities at many small stations.
- The pod consists of three separate modular wall elements which can all be printed in under five hours.
- The manufacture of the pods emits 60% less carbon than steel alternatives and is powered by solar panels.



You're all caught up!