

PRESS RELEASE
5 September 2011

NSCC Continues to Support Specialist Contractors

Over the last 12 months, NSCC has gone from strength to strength as the representative body for the specialist sector, achieving major breakthroughs in the areas of payment and training. The new NSCC membership year started on 1 September and NSCC will continue to provide a wide range of support to its members and work closely with Government and other key industry stakeholders to improve the business environment for Specialist Contractors.

NSCC is committed to fair payment and the decision by Government in December 2010 to make payment within 30 days throughout the supply chain a contractual requirement on central Government contracts came as a direct result of the NSCC Fair Payment Campaign. NSCC has also been heavily involved in the amendments to the Construction Act which will help to improve cash flow when they come into effect from 1 October 2011.

The NSCC No Retention Policy calling for an end to cash retentions was launched at the start of 2011 with the support of NSCC's 32 member trade organisations. NSCC has developed an app to provide Specialist Contractors with the support they need to resist retentions while on the move. From 1 September, NSCC can also offer a flexible construction finance package via Bibby Financial Services giving NSCC members immediate access to funding against uncertified applications for payment.

Another key priority is training and NSCC is working with ConstructionSkills to make apprenticeships more accessible to employers in the specialist sector. Nine NSCC member organisations are now offering Specialist Apprenticeship Programmes (SAPs) in their trades and this issue will be the focus of the 2011 NSCC Annual Lunch where guests are being invited to bring an apprentice to lunch to celebrate the value that they bring to business.

NSCC Chief Executive Suzannah Nichol MBE is anticipating another successful year for NSCC:

"The start of a new membership year is always an exciting time as we look forward to building on the successes of the last 12 months. By focussing on the key business issues of fair payment, training, pre-qualification and sustainability, we are creating a more effective and efficient supply chain in which Specialist Contractors can flourish."

~ Ends ~

For further information, contact NSCC:
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Notes to Editors:

1. The National Specialist Contractors' Council (NSCC) brings together the common aims of 32 specialist trade organisations within the construction industry and is the authoritative voice of 7,000 Specialist Contractors in the UK – www.nsc.org.uk.
2. A full list of benefits and services available to NSCC members can be found at www.nsc.org.uk/support.
3. The new NSCC No Retention Policy app can be accessed by scanning the QR code below or visiting www.no-retention.co.uk on your smartphone.



4. Bibby Financial Services is a global financial services provider offering a range of flexible funding solutions for businesses - www.bibbyfinancialservices.com.
5. Details of the Specialist Apprenticeship Programmes offered by NSCC member organisations can be found at www.nsc.org.uk/training.
6. Places at the NSCC Annual Lunch on 23 November costing £85.00 + VAT (£42.50 + VAT for apprentices) can be booked by completing the [NSCC Annual Lunch - Booking Form](#).