



Energy Efficient Global Technology Centre

WILSON MASON TRANSFORM OLD BUILDING FRAME INTO ENERGY EFFICIENT GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY CENTRE



Wilson Mason architects have brought a new lease of life to an ageing building frame in Lancashire, creating a Global Technology Centre for client Victrex plc.

By reconfiguring and extending an existing 30-year-old building frame on the Hillhouse International site at Thornton Cleveleys, Wilson Mason avoided a rebuild and improved the energy efficiency of the structure.

As lead consultant on the project, Wilson Mason advised against demolishing the existing frame and constructing a new development on the same site. The existing structure was able to accommodate the client space requirements. This led to savings in terms of construction programme and cost.



James Potter, project architect with Wilson Mason says, "The reuse of the building frame reduced the level of embodied energy required for the construction and the increase in thermal efficiency of the building envelope will reduce future energy consumption."



The existing envelope was overclad using a recyclable, aluminium rain screen cladding system and was externally insulated using 150-200mm insulation. The envelope was sealed using a vapour barrier which was bonded to the new elements of the scheme including double glazing units and planar glazing, to provide a complete air tight surround.

Work on the high grade office and laboratory process accommodation began in February 2006. The multi-million pound facility is due to be operational in the first half of 2007.

Release Date - May 24th 2007