

**In brief:** Design and engineering consultancy **Waldeck** has set up a BIM Academy in Lincoln. Students are initially taught CAD before progressing to BIM. • **Topcon** has acquired DynaRoad Oy, a Finnish construction software company. • **Applications in CADD** has promoted Philip Langrishe to director. The software company is set to release new products in January 2014. • **AECOM** has been awarded a three-year contract from **Transnet SOC**, a South African state-owned company. The contract covers 15 separate rail and port infrastructure projects in regions around Cape Town, Postmasburg and Saldanha, South Africa. • **Balfour Beatty** has been given two UK coastal defence contracts totalling £73m for **Blackpool and Wyre councils**. Over 2.9km of original 1930s seawall will be replaced as part of a promenade renewal and beach management project. • **AMEC** has bought out **Automated Engineering Services Corp**, a professional design engineering nuclear services firm based in Illinois, US. • **Gammon Construction** has won two rail contracts in Singapore; an £87m contract for the design and construction of the Mayflower Station on the Thomson Line, and a £61m contract for track system replacement on the North-South Line. • **AVEVA** has launched E3D Insight, a Windows 8.1 app that enables the viewing of E3D designs on a mobile tablet device. • Under a two-year contract **Jacobs** will provide engineering and design services spanning civil, structural, mechanical, electrical control and instrumentation, process, safety, and environmental disciplines for **EDF Energy's** nuclear power station portfolio in the UK.



### New home for Leica

Leica Geosystems has moved its UK and EMEA headquarters into a new purpose-designed building. The company, which is part of the Hexagon Group, will still be based in Milton Keynes, but the larger building will better support sales and technical support.

Commenting on the move, Mark Concannon, Hexagon's EMEA president, told CES: "This new state of the art building — bringing together all the areas of our expertise — represents a major investment for our organisation. We are not just investing in the future of Leica Geosystems and Hexagon Metrology, much more important to us, we are investing in the future of our industry."



### Art and engineering celebrate new canal link

A new major sculpture marks the gateway to a canal extension linking the Forth and Clyde Canal to the North Sea. The 30m tall Kelpies were designed by Glasgow artist Andy Scott and are a tribute to the working canal horses of Scotland. The sculpture is part of the Helix regeneration programme to transform 350 hectares of land between Falkirk and Grangemouth. The new canal link is expected to open up the inland waterways to bigger vessels and lead to an increase in boating traffic throughout central Scotland. 27km of new pathways and a visitors' centre also form part of the programme

Mr Scott said: "The heavy horse was at one time the driving force in industry until after the Industrial Revolution. There is an ancient and almost primal link between man and horse, and the Kelpies are an outstanding exemplar of art and engineering coming together." Construction work on the Kelpies began in June and has been undertaken by SH Structures. Each Kelpie weighs 300 tonnes and contains 3,000 metres of steel tubing and 17,000 component parts. Image ©Jim Stewart

### New waste recovery in Leeds

Work has begun on a new energy recovery facility in Leeds. Once operational in 2016, the Veolia Environmental Services facility will process up to 214,000 tonnes of black bin waste a year. Clugston Construction is contractor on the project.

### Historic maps in virtual world

Historic maps from the British Library have been combined with videogame technology to create a 3D fly-through of 17th century London. The fly-through was the winning entry in a student competition run by Nottingham Trent University and game developer Crytek. The winning team, Pudding Lane Productions from De Montfort University, impressed the judges with their realism and attention to detail, showing the tightly packed streets and lanes of the capital city.

Tom Harper, panel judge and curator of cartographic materials at the British Library, said: "I'm really pleased that the Pudding Lane team was able to repurpose some of the maps from the British Library's amazing map collection — a storehouse of virtual worlds — in such a considered way."

