



Press Release: ARC WINS VIBES AWARD

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Arc Architects have scooped two prestigious environmental business awards at the 2010 Vision in Business for the Environment of Scotland (VIBES) Awards ceremony in Glasgow. The firm won the Best Service Award and the Scottish Government sponsored VIBES Special Award for Energy Efficiency.

Tom Morton of Arc commented ‘ we are absolutely delighted with these awards, which are a tribute to the hard work of our great team. In the last two years we have doubled our turnover and employed three new Architects, which is unusual during a recession in the construction industry. It shows that it is always possible to be successful if you focus on producing really good work and giving an excellent service to clients.’

Arc has expertise in new eco-buildings and conservation. Its staff hold accreditation in Sustainable Design, Conservation and include a BREEAM Assessor and Passiv-Haus designer. Last year it’s restoration of the Logie Schoolhouse for the National Trust for Scotland won a Europa Nostra, the E.U.’s prize for Cultural Heritage.

‘About 15% of our work is research, currently including a UK project on mitigating the effects of climate change on buildings. ‘Being actively involved in research allows us to bring tomorrows knowledge to current building projects and feed back a reality check from practical experience to academic partners,’ said Morton.

The practice is currently working on several community-led projects and a community carbon reduction project managed by Arc is cited as an exemplar by the Energy Savings Trust. ‘There are great opportunities emerging to work in partnership with communities, but to be successful, you need a tailored approach and particular staff skills. We have worked very hard to develop such a team.’

The firm is currently renovating an old building in Cupar as a new office, which will increase its capacity by 40%, while reducing its carbon footprint by 70%. ‘It’s the kind of win-win outcome we like to achieve for clients. It is important to Arc that we follow through our design ethos and environmental intelligence in the way we run our own business, and I think this was reflected in the VIBES award.’ said Morton.

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