

WSP announces acquisitions in the USA and Germany

01 October 2007

WSP Group announced two separate acquisitions today in line with its strategy of global diversification

In the United States, WSP has acquired Chas. H. Sells, Inc. the transport and infrastructure engineer with particular expertise in bridge design and engineering. In Germany, WSP has acquired CBP Consulting Engineers AG, a leading German engineering and project management group.

The acquisitions bring additional capabilities into WSP and opportunities to expand into new market sectors in both countries. CBP additionally provides a platform for growth in Eastern European. Combined, the acquisitions boost the size of WSP by more than 500 employees which means the company now has a worldwide workforce in excess of 8,000.

Chris Cole, Chief Executive Officer of WSP, said:

“Both SELLS and CBP Consulting Engineers are regarded as leaders in their respective fields and I am delighted we have secured the services of the entire management teams of both companies who are committed to the vision and values of the WSP Group.

Details of the acquisitions follow.

WSP acquires Chas. H. Sells, Inc.

WSP has acquired Chas. H. Sells, Inc. the New York-based transport and infrastructure engineering firm, well-known for expertise in bridge design and engineering.

SELLS operates from eight offices across eastern USA. The firm is currently working on a number of major transport projects in New York City, including the \$500 million

interim reconstruction of the four-mile long Gowanus Expressway Viaduct and the \$250 million replacement of the approach structures to the Bronx Whitestone Bridge. Additionally, SELLS provides regular inspection services on some of the world's largest bridges including the Verrazano-Narrows Suspension Bridge, the Brooklyn Bridge and the George Washington Suspension Bridge.

SELLS is known also for its expertise in the planning and infrastructure design of large-scale developments which include homes, shops, offices and other community buildings.

The 250-strong company brings capabilities which make the WSP Group truly multi-disciplinary in the United States and increases the total number of WSP employees in the US to more than 1,000. WSP already owns property and high-rise specialists Flack & Kurtz and WSP Cantor Seinuk and operates WSP Environmental Strategies in the US. Current WSP projects in the US include work on the Freedom Tower, together with three of its adjacent towers, and the Hearst Headquarters in Manhattan.

Chris Cole, Chief Executive Officer of WSP, said: "SELLS is a recognised leader in its market sectors. I am delighted the firm is to become part of the WSP Group as part of our strategy of diversification because it will enable the Group to access new opportunities and cross-sell our services in the United States."

Steven W. Smith, President of SELLS, said: "By joining the WSP Group, we gain a global presence and the business and staff opportunities that go with it. Becoming part of the WSP Group will allow us to continue our recent strong growth and enable us to become the platform for growing WSP's transportation and infrastructure services in the United States."

The acquisition was announced on the London Stock Exchange on Monday October 1.