

Arup SYSTRA JV set to support Network Rail in breathing new life into the rail network across Northern England

The transport engineering consultants will work together on the Network Rail Eastern region framework on key rail projects better connecting people, businesses and communities, and galvanising economic growth.

Arup and SYSTRA, in a 50/50 joint venture (JV) with strategic delivery partner Skanska, have secured a position on Network Rail's prestigious Eastern Region Development and Design Partnership Framework (DDPF).

The £300 million framework, which spans five years with potential for a three-year extension, will oversee multi-disciplinary design and development services, including the Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) portfolio, the Integrated Rail Plan and other enhancement projects across the Eastern region.

Arup and SYSTRA collectively bring a wealth of experience and geographical knowledge across the framework area, from their complementary involvement in the West and East Alliances of TransPennine Route Upgrade and the East Coast Main Line Power Supply Upgrade, in addition to the insights and relationships built during previous work for Network Rail and sub-national transport body Transport for the North. Skanska further enhances the JV through their experience of delivering large scale rail projects such as HS2 (alongside Arup).

Phil Harrison, UKIMEA Rail Leader at Arup, said: "Our JV will help Network Rail create a future-ready transport system for Northern England, offering more sustainable travel choices through well-designed schemes.

"This programme will deliver quicker, more frequent rail services; connect people to more job opportunities and improve connectivity between key northern cities creating an impact for generations to come."

Nick Salt, Chief Executive of SYSTRA Limited, said: "This is a significant strategic placement for SYSTRA, Arup and Skanska, putting us at the forefront of rail improvements for the region.

"Our combined expertise; dedication to delivering value for our client; and our passion for improving connectivity for the communities in which we live and work, will help bring these critical infrastructure programmes to life, with benefits for people, the environment and the economy."

James Corker, Skanska's Rail Operations Director said: "It's hugely encouraging to see such commitment to improving rail connectivity across the region. Through bringing together design



and construction expertise, we can improve how projects are developed and delivered – benefitting communities, the public purse and the safety of our people.”

Find out more at: <https://www.systra.com/uk/news/an-ambition-to-connect-people-to-places-and-opportunities/>

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Notes to editors*About Arup*

Dedicated to sustainable development, Arup is a collective of more than 18,000 designers, advisors and experts working across 140 countries. Founded to strive for humanity and excellence in everything that we do, we collaborate with our clients and partners, using imagination, technology and rigour to shape a better world.

For more information please visit <https://www.arup.com/about-us/>

About SYSTRA

SYSTRA in the UK and Ireland leads the delivery of sustainable infrastructure and environments through specialist engineering and consultancy services.

A world-leader in mobility and mass transit, we deliver planning and development consultancy, engineering design, project management, and specialist technical services, that enable the safe and efficient movement of people, goods and essential services.

With more than 1,000 employees throughout the UK & Ireland, and nearly 11,000 around the world, our shared mission is to help create and connect liveable cities and neighbourhoods, bringing people together and facilitating their access to employment, healthcare, education, and leisure.

For more information please visit www.systra.com/uk/