

Terrapin completed a £1 million computer centre, for Bishop Auckland College, County Durham. The contract was awarded following a competitive tender and was handed over after a 24 week programme.

Named the Digital Factory, this ultra modern digital technology building was designed and built by Terrapin using our steel framed, element-build construction technology. It has a projecting curved roof providing brise soleil to the upper windows along the full length of the building with similar shading constructed above the ground floor windows.

The entrance to the building is via doors set within a full height double storey, glazed reception area. This leads on one side to the stairwell and lift, or straight on to the main ground floor area. This consists of a large open plan training and seminar area, office, laboratory, kitchen and dining room.



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The first floor has various computer suites, a large seminar room with moveable dividing partitioning and a clients' lounge. All computer areas have three compartment trunking set at dado height, category 2 lighting and are fitted with the most up to date computer technology available in the area. Both floors have toilet facilities. This is all contained within a total floor area of 900 square metres.

The new facility will be used not only by the students of Bishop Auckland College, but also by industry and schools. It is sited on the Aycliffe Industrial Park, Newton Aycliffe.

The Prime Minister, Tony Blair, witnessed the commitment signing of the project partners, Bishop Auckland College, Sedgefield Borough Council and IBM. The building is within his constituency and he described it as, 'an important northern centre to upgrade local skills, boost the regional economy and provide excellent opportunities for young people to train in leading edge technology.'

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