

## Britco's 2010 Winter Games Athletes' Lodge Wins International Award

**LANGLEY, British Columbia (March 12, 2010):** The innovative and stylish Lodge where athletes stayed during the 2010 Winter Games in the Whistler Athletes' Village has won a prestigious international award. The Modular Building Institute (MBI), selected the Whistler Lodge as the best modular building in North America at its Annual General Meeting in Orlando, Florida earlier this week. The award was presented to the manufacturer and builder of the Lodge, Langley-based Britco Structures.

The Lodge is a four-storey building with 100 rooms that was built to accommodate 200 athletes during the 2010 Winter Games. The 59 modules assembled to form the top three floors of the building were manufactured at Britco's modular manufacturing facility in Agassiz. Next door, Britco also built a 20-unit Townhouse Complex using 56 modules. In selecting Britco, the MBI highlighted the Lodge's architectural excellence, technical innovation and energy efficiency.

"From the outset our goal was to design and manufacture a building that would exemplify excellence and that all Canadians could be proud of when the world came to Whistler and Vancouver in 2010," stated Britco Co-Founder Rick McClymont who was on hand to receive the award in Orlando. "This is our gold medal and it belongs to our team at Britco who delivered a spectacular 2010 Winter Games legacy project."

Britco designed the buildings to LEED™ Silver-equivalent, and incorporated a hydronic heating system utilizing the Resort Municipality of Whistler's in-ground District Energy System.

Executive Vice President Mike Ridley believes that Britco's Whistler Lodge and Townhome Complex demonstrate that a modular approach to construction may be the best way to deliver high-quality, sustainable buildings. "Factory-built is consistent with the highest standards of environmental sustainability because there is much less material waste, significantly reduced impact on the site, and far fewer issues related to moisture intrusion." Ridley added that the demand for sustainable buildings will be one of the key drivers of the modular industry in the coming years.

By building modules in a controlled factory environment and taking them to the site for assembly, many challenges common to site-built construction were eliminated in the lead-up to the 2010 Winter Games when the construction sector was booming and VANOC had a tight timetable to meet. While site preparation was underway in Whistler, modules were being manufactured in Britco's factory ensuring that the Lodge was completed and turned over to VANOC in the summer of 2009, well in advance of the start of the 2010 Winter Games.

Co-Founder David Taft noted that Britco's role as an Official Supplier to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games, presented a unique opportunity for the Company to showcase its design-build expertise on the world stage. "The 2010 Winter Games provided us with a platform to profile our modular design-build capabilities in ways we could not have imagined when we embarked on this adventure with VANOC three years ago."

Britco also manufactured temporary accommodations used by almost 600 additional team officials in the Whistler Athletes Village. Built from 74 modules, all components were built indoors and under controlled conditions at Britco's factories in Agassiz and in Penticton.

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## Backgrounder

### **Britco's 2010 Winter Games Athletes' Lodge Selected Best Permanent Modular Building Over 5,000 sft by the Modular Building Institute**

#### **Architectural Excellence**

Britco's in-house design team worked in collaboration with architectural advisors and interior designers to create an exceptional home for the world's athletes during the 2010 Winter Games. The 4-storey, 43,043 sft Lodge includes 100 rooms and is constructed with a cast-in-place concrete section and partial basement. The 2-storey, 27,042 sft 20-unit Townhouse Complex consists of 2 four-plexes and 2 six-plexes, each with two or three bedrooms. The exteriors are enhanced with elaborate site-built truss roofs and heavy, natural timber canopies to complement Whistler's architecture and provide protection from the elements. Inspired by the Olympic rings and medals, the interior is designed in gold, silver and bronze colors with circle motif features in the ceiling and floor details, millwork, wall finishes and lighting fixtures.

#### **Technical Innovation**

Designed to LEED™ Silver standards and stringent "Whistler Green" guidelines, the project incorporated a comprehensive Sustainability Plan. All areas of the village are heated and cooled with an innovative hydronic system. The system involves a mat of small capillary tubes manufactured to fit between the ceiling joists and sandwiched against the gypsum board to turn the entire ceiling surface into a large radiant panel.

#### **Cost Effectiveness / Energy Efficiency**

The hydronic heating system utilizes the Municipality's in-ground District Energy System with low temperature radiant ceiling panels used to deliver the heat. The water source is heated by a central plant that extracts heat from Whistler's Waste Water Treatment Plant and is supplemented during peak demand by boilers fired with gas extracted from a decommissioned landfill. Heat pumps in each building exchange heat between the capillary mat system and the District Energy System.

#### **About Britco**

Britco was founded in 1977 by Rick McClymont and David Taft. With two large factories located in Agassiz and Penticton, Britco is the largest modular manufacturer in the Pacific Northwest. Britco leads the industry in the innovative application of factory building technology and is one of the largest manufacturers of work force housing in Canada. One of BC's Top-Ten construction companies, Britco is headquartered in Langley with branch offices in Nanaimo, Kelowna and Edmonton. Britco has the largest lease fleet of temporary offices, construction site trailers and storage containers in BC.

[www.britco.com](http://www.britco.com)

#### **About the Modular Building Institute (MBI)**

The Modular Building Institute is the trade association representing companies involved in the manufacturing and distribution of commercial factory-built structures across North America. Based in Charlottesville, Virginia, the MBI was founded in 1983 and is a non-profit association whose members include manufacturers and dealers of commercial modular structures as well as companies supplying building components, services, and financing. The MBI's mission is to grow the modular industry and its capabilities by encouraging innovation, quality, and professionalism through communication, education, and recognition.

[www.modular.org](http://www.modular.org)