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PRESS RELEASE
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Minister Confirms Chief Construction Adviser At NSCC Event

Ian Lucas MP, Minister for Business and Regulatory Reform, confirmed the appointment of the Chief Construction Adviser at the NSCC Annual Lunch in London on Wednesday 25 November.

In front of representatives from all sectors of the industry, the Minister announced that the new role would be undertaken by Paul Morrell OBE. One of Paul's first tasks will be to lead the Low Carbon Review of the construction industry to ensure that it is 'fit for purpose' for delivering a low carbon future. There was more good news for Specialist Contractors with confirmation from the Minister that the Bill containing amendments to the Construction Act had received Royal Assent and the Government would be holding a series of events in early 2010 to facilitate fair payment throughout the supply chain on public sector projects.

NSCC Chief Executive Suzannah Nichol MBE said:

"For a long time now, there has been a need for a focal point to bring together construction-related issues across both Government and industry. The new Chief Construction Adviser has the opportunity to do just that and NSCC and its members are looking forward to working with Paul over the next year to address the issues facing the industry."

The NSCC Annual Lunch, supported by B&CE Benefit Schemes, Centor Insurance and Risk Management, ConstructionSkills, CSCS and Yell, was the biggest yet with over 160 guests enjoying a champagne reception and 3-course lunch.

~ Ends ~

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Notes to editors:

1. The National Specialist Contractors' Council (NSCC) brings together the common aims of 29 specialist trade organisations within the construction industry and is the authoritative voice of 7,000 Specialist Contractors in the UK.
2. A full list of NSCC members can be found at www.nsc.org.uk.

3. Ian Lucas MP was appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills in June 2009 where his responsibilities include the construction, automotive and aerospace industries.
4. Paul Morrell OBE was previously senior partner of construction consultants Davis Langdon as well as Deputy Chair of the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment. He was awarded an OBE for services to architecture and the built environment in 2008.
5. The full ministerial statement on the appointment of Paul Morrell OBE can be found at www.bis.gov.uk.