

Case study

Olympic Park, London



Aggregate Industries were able to meet all the criteria set down for the construction of the Olympic park, such as sustainable products and alternative high quality supply chain

Key facts

Key vendors: Olympic Delivery Authority

Site: Olympic Delivery Authority

Sector: Recreational

Client: Olympic Delivery Authority

Contractor:

- One stop supplier
- Great sustainability rating for products and transport
- Bespoke products
- Solution provider for supply chain
- Easy accessibility to data for correct reporting

Brief

Products supplied by us:

With our wide range of construction products and services, were proud to win two contracts with the Olympic Delivery Authority for the supply of materials to the Olympic Park:

- The ODA Supply Agreement for the supply of aggregates, including crushed rock, sand, gravel and recycled fill materials
- The ODA Supply Agreement for the supply of ready-mixed concrete which was awarded to London Concrete, a subsidiary business operating within the Aggregate Industries group

Over 1 million tonnes of aggregate fill materials were delivered to the Olympic Park, in addition to the aggregates required for over 400,000m³ of concrete production.

In addition to the formal Supply Agreements, we also supplied other products and services to the Olympic Park including:

- Over £9 million of asphalt surfacing carried out including the laying of asphalt products with a high recycled content
- 1,500 bespoke precast units supplied to the Velodrome, including terracing and staircases
- Over 3 million tonnes of materials handled by Rail Freight Services through the Bow East Logistics Centre
- Over 4,000 tonnes of waste taken away from the Olympic Park by barge

Sustainable achievements and innovations

Our commitment to sustainability ensures we offer our clients responsibly sourced materials together with alternative recycled and residual waste products, combined with the ability to use our rail and barge capabilities, reduces the impact of CO₂ due to long haulage.

Solution

Transportation



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The ODA specified at the outset that 50% of all materials used on the Olympic Park construction should be brought on to site using sustainable transport, by rail or water.

We have substantially exceeded this target with the majority of the aggregates supplied by rail under both supply agreements. The logistics options, including the rail movement and materials offloading services, were delivered through subsidiary businesses within the Aggregate Industries group.

At the height of construction, up to 24 trains per week were delivering aggregate products to the Olympic Park, each carrying 1,200 tonnes. The products we have supplied through the Olympic Park railhead have saved over 100,000 vehicle movements to date.

Whilst the majority of aggregate materials have been delivered to the Olympic Park by rail, we have also been involved with the sustainable transportation of waste. Bennetts Barges, a division operating within Aggregate Industries, removed up to nine 20ft containers of waste per week by water.

Carbon emissions

Carbon measurement and reduction is something that has been very important on this project, and there has been encouragement to reduce the embodied carbon of the products we have offered to customers on the Olympic Park.

As part of the supply agreements, we calculated and reported the embodied energy of our aggregate products to enable the Olympic Park contractors to meet their obligations for reporting of carbon reduction to the ODA. The ability to deliver products to the site by rail had a significant impact on the embodied carbon of the aggregate materials. For example, the embodied CO₂ of the secondary aggregate from Cornwall was reduced by 73% by using rail transportation compared to the equivalent road journey.

This rail transportation of raw materials and sustainable mix design have reduced carbon emissions by a significant amount, representing a 42% reduction against the UK industry average for ready-mixed concrete.

Secondary and recycled materials

The ODA specified at the outset that 25% by weight of all materials used on the Olympic Park venues and infrastructure should be recycled or secondary products. We have supported the ODA and the Olympic Park contractors in a number of ways to achieve this challenging objective.

We identified and selected a range of secondary and recycled aggregate fill and single sized materials for inclusion in the supply frameworks. These materials complemented our primary products, and included:

- Secondary aggregates arising from the production of China Clay
- Recycled rail ballast
- Recycled construction and demolition waste
- Glass sand manufactured from recycled bottles

The secondary and recycled materials were all delivered to the Olympic Park by rail and offered as an alternative to primary aggregate materials.

Our businesses supplying

- Aggregate Industries Overseas
- Bardon Concrete
- Bennett's Barges
- Charcon Precast Solutions
- Charcon Specialist Products
- London Concrete



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- Charcon



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