



# BIG PLAYERS

in Milton Keynes: Sports, Arts & Media

## Pete Winkelman and Stadium MK



Pete Winkelman

*'We have huge ambition and we want to grow from our success.'*

(Pete Winkelman quoted on Sky News 22nd June 2008 after the announcement of MK Dons Manager Paul Ince moving to the Premier Club Blackburn Rovers)

The MK Dons won huge success in the 2007-8 season - the League Two title and promotion to League One, as well as the Johnstone's Paint Trophy at Wembley, as witnessed by 33,000 MK citizens.

*'We're the biggest city in the region outside London. We're only 40 years old, and in 20 years' time we'll be among the 10 most populated places in the UK. We attract the highest proportion of under-16s for games at any League club. Some 200,000 people moved here and began new families - an audience that will come to fruition in the next 10 years.'*

(Pete Winkelman in The Observer 30th March 2008)

*'The leadership and enthusiasm of Pete Winkelman has helped us achieve a unique stadium worthy of Milton Keynes' ambition for a world class venue.'*

(John Barrow, Senior Principal at architectural design company HOK Sports, who has been responsible for the project since its inception in 2002)

Designed by HOK Sports, Stadium MK was officially opened in November 2007 by the Queen. Complying with UEFA's Elite Stadium specifications, it includes Desso GrassMaster playing surface - 100% natural grass reinforced with synthetic grass fibres injected into the pitch, giving both durability and strength. The complex includes the Arena MK to be the home of the Marshall Milton Keynes Lions professional basketball team from mid-2008.



*'Stadium MK is the first in the UK to feature a top-loaded 360° open concourse... and is borne of a strong, yet deceptively simple idea, a building with an architectural narrative that conveys something of the club, the client and its context.'*

(Mike Trice, Associate at HOK sport architecture)