

Leeds City Region Hub of the Royal Academy of Engineering: Research Day
Main talk: Wednesday 30 January 2019, 18:15 – 19:00

HALLEY VI – LIFE IN THE FREEZER

Michael Wright, Regional Director, AECOM, St. Albans



Halley VI, the British Antarctic Survey's new 'space-age' Antarctic research station, is one of the most technically challenging projects ever delivered. Halley VI is designed to lift itself out of the snow to prevent it from being buried by the ever-increasing snow accumulation and has the ability to be relocated to avoid an unstable ice shelf that could potentially break up during its lifetime.

Since opening, it has won a series of major awards, has appeared on a British coin and even the UK Government is using Halley VI to promote British innovation. Halley VI also features in the recent **ICE200** book of most notable Civil Engineering projects in the past 200 years.

The talk will be the full story from design competition where we were one of eight-six teams bidding for the design, the fact-finding tour of the previous station, Halley V, the winning design and the construction in one of the most extreme and remote parts of the world.

Following our Post Project Evaluation visit in 2015 where a major crack developing in the ice shelf was first identified, the Base has been moved to a safer part of the ice shelf and the move was featured in a recent BBC documentary.

Michael Wright

Michael studied Civil Engineering at the University of Leeds and also studied a Masters at Leeds. He has worked with AECOM since 2000, and prior to that was with Ove Arup.

He has won a number of awards for his work, including the IStructE Special Award for the Oracle Headquarters Building, the IStructE Sustainability Award in 2007 for the Adnams Distribution Centre and the IStructE Award for Halley VI in 2013.

He has designed a series of 35 storey commercial buildings at Heron Quays, Canary Wharf, and was responsible for the Wellcome Wing at the Science Museum. He is currently working on a variety of projects in healthcare, education, pharmaceutical, commercial and retail.

BOOK your place here - this event is free of charge but delegates must pre-register as places are limited.