

Project Summary

Corby East Midland International Pool



More than 40 years after its opening, Corby Leisure Centre (25m pool), was replaced by Corby East Midlands International Pool (50m) as part of a £19 million replacement -- including state-of-the-art equipment from Colorado Time Systems.

Paul Smith of HS Sports, a CTS partner specializing in the supply of sports timing, training and display solutions, discusses the installation, and the importance of the new facility for local residents and for Britain's 2012 Olympic hopefuls.

"The existing pool was more than four decades old and had to be rebuilt from scratch, and with any project of this size," he noted, "there is a lot of hard work required to install all of the cabling under the ground and around the various cable routes. This took a considerable amount of time, as we wanted to make sure everything was installed to the highest possible level [of quality]."

Designed by S&P Architects, the Corby facility is a full-service fitness center that also includes a 20-meter 4-lane learner pool, a fun pool, a 70 station fitness suite and aerobic studio.

Strictly Come Swimming

The pool's grand opening was attended by Mark Foster, an Olympic swimmer and star of the hit British television program "Strictly Come Dancing." As the Corby facility is only one of a small number of 50m pools in Great Britain, it fully deserved the media attention as was evidenced by the BBC's coverage of the grand opening.

The first person to take a swim in Corby's new pool was also the first -- and last -- person to use the old Corby pool. Former competitive swimmer Bob Apel had that honor, and said the pool was as good as he'd seen anywhere.

"This has got to be the biggest 'wow factor' I've ever seen," said Apel before christening the new pool with a dive and demo swim.

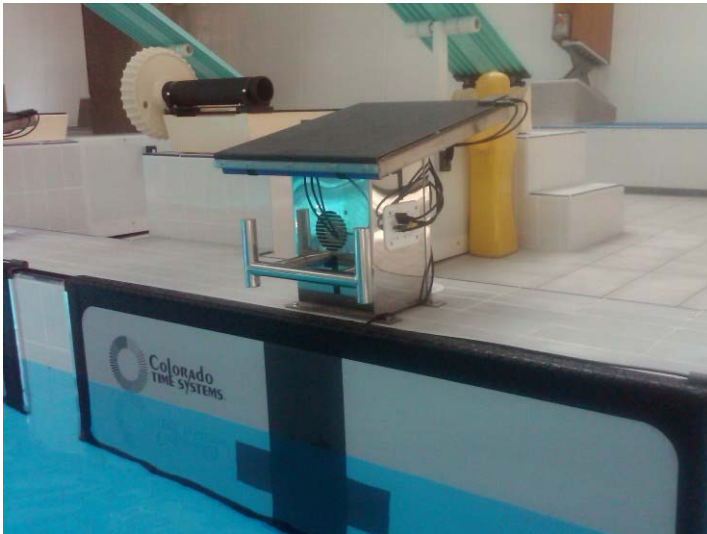
The pool compares well with other 50m pools that he's seen around the world, Apel said. He noted that the new facility "will encourage swimming tremendously" and would be put to good use by Corby town council, which will use the pool to encourage young people to swim for good health as well as competition.

And Apel says the size of the pool is crucial for Olympic training, as a 50-meter pool helps swimmers train and builds swimmers' stamina much better than a 25-meter pool.

The fact that Corby chose Colorado Time Systems for this major project is indicative of how well-known and highly regarded CTS products are throughout the swimming world. HS Sports, which has partnered with CTS for the past four years, was happy to work with CTS on this important project.

But how did the Corby facility's owners decide on CTS equipment?

"They trialed equipment from all of the manufacturers, and after much deliberation, decided that Colorado Time Systems was the equipment they needed," says HS Sports. "The facility wanted to make sure they had the latest technology available, which is where Colorado Time Systems was really able to deliver."



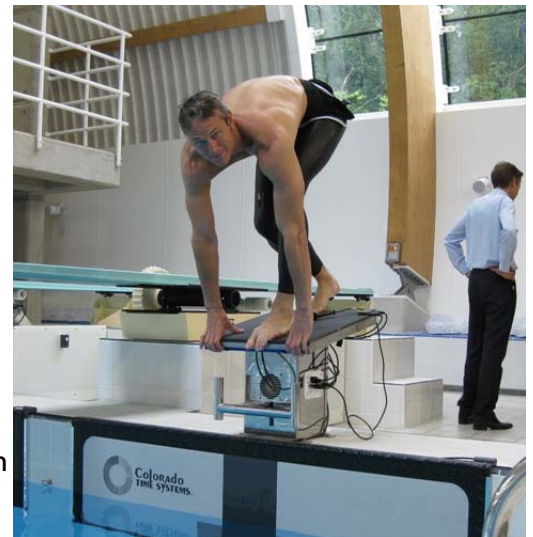
The Corby East Midlands International Pool features:

- 23mm Full Color Indoor LED Matrix Display - 2.2m x 4.8m (7.2 ft x 15.8 ft)
- System 6 Timing Console
- AquaGrip touchpads
- Championship Start Systems
- Diving/Synchronized Swimming Judging Terminals
- Lane Speakers
- Relay Judging Platforms with Speedlights
- Backup buttons
- LED Pace Clocks
- Quick Connect in-deck system

The new Corby facility has several features that make it ideal for training Olympic swimmers. It has moving floors, a partition that allows the 50-m pool to be split into three sections, and of course, all the latest and best equipment from Colorado Time Systems.

HS Sports will continue to work closely with Corby East Midlands International Pool, making sure that the equipment is functioning well and that the swimming club staff are using it to the best of their ability.

"This is clearly a great installation for Colorado Time Systems and it will be used as a flagship reference for many of the other projects we are working on," says HS Sports. "There is a huge amount of investment being made within the United Kingdom in the lead-up to the 2012 Olympics, and we hope we can help other facilities with the provision of cutting-edge timing, training and display solutions -- which will leave a legacy post-2012."



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