

Community and divestment

During 2007 a significant proportion of our non-core businesses were sold. This has been a turbulent year for the employees affected by the sale and the communities where they live.

Our connection with the community where we live and work is of paramount importance to AMEC and in particular during 2007 where we saw major divestment of the Built Environment a non-core business. (For more detail on divestment please refer to the customer service section.)

This year we said goodbye to a good number of colleagues through the divestment process many of which live in the locality in which they work. They contribute a great deal to their local community through taxes, retail income and through various engagements with their home environment and so it was essential in the divestment process to ensure that AMEC chose new owners that would provide a bright future for the Built Environment companies being sold.

Samir Brikho, Chief Executive, committed to supporting the Built Environment management in building strong and successful companies which could sustain growth under their new ownership. These businesses were included in AMEC's STEP Change programme even though they would ultimately be sold. The STEP Change programme is aimed at improving

the productivity of all AMEC companies making them more valuable for their stakeholders.

This was an important part of the divestment strategy and extremely important to the employees and communities where they live and work in maximising potential job security and marinating investment in the local economy.

AMEC were able to secure new owners for the Built Environment businesses, who were committed to taking these businesses forward. Through investing in the improving the businesses prior to sale AMEC ensured a more sustainable business and future for employees which inevitably impacts on the security and well being of the communities where they live.