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Wenta awarded big contract for Stevenage Business Innovation Centre.

Stevenage Borough Council has just announced the appointment of Wenta, one of the leading Enterprise Agencies in the East of England, to manage its exciting and new Innovation and Technology Centre located in Bessemer Drive, Stevenage. Since 1983, Wenta has provided business advice to more than 13,000 clients and helped more than 3,500 businesses to get off the ground. In addition Wenta has accommodated more than 1,000 firms at its business centres in Watford and Potters Bar.

This exciting new development is the Council's vision to create quality business space and support in the heart of the town's business community, and it is part of a £7M investment funded jointly by the Council and EEDA, the Regional Development Agency and the Government Growth Area Fund.

This multi million pound development is destined to be the primary Innovation and Technology Centre in Hertfordshire, aimed at supporting knowledge based businesses and promoting innovation within the local community. The new building, which is due to be completed next month, offers the very latest building technologies and business support to new and growing companies.

Councilor Simon Speller, the Council's Executive Member for Economy, Enterprise and Transport said, "We are very pleased to have Wenta as our new partner in providing these Incubator and Innovation facilities and services. It's more important than ever in the current economic crisis to support entrepreneurs and innovation, so we are pleased to be able to offer Stevenage the very best facilities and support from a leading provider in the region."

Wenta, who this year celebrated their 25th anniversary and are renowned for their innovative schools and education programmes, were delighted to be awarded this contract. Chris Pichon, the Wenta Chief Executive said "It is a fantastic opportunity and a privilege to be awarded this contract. We are keen and eager to get going and work with Stevenage Borough Council and other key partners to make it a success. We are passionate that innovation and entrepreneurship is encouraged at all levels and this centre of excellence will be at the very heart of our community."

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The information contained in this press release was correct on the date of issue.

Notes to Editors:

- Wenta is the leading Enterprise Agency in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire and has been delivering its services to clients since 1983.
- The agency is independently funded through the ownership and management of its two business centres in Watford and Potters Bar. These business centres comprise workshops and offices with a combined space of 60,000 square feet, let on monthly licence terms to small businesses.
- They also attract funding from a number of public sector organisations including Business Link East, Job Centre Plus and EEDA through the Investing in Communities programmes.
- Services provided include business advice, guidance, training, incubation and managed workspace, and a comprehensive enterprise awareness programme to schools, colleges, and universities.