

**MIKE COWLEY**  
**FACILITIES MANAGEMET DIRECTOR- SMG EUROPE**

Mike started his working life in June 1976 as an Apprentice Electrician under the CITB training scheme, with Balfour Kilpatrick, Manchester where he worked on a wide range of major industrial and commercial contracts across the North West.

Progressing to Junior Engineer, responsible for contract estimating, liaison with specialist manufacturers, contract agents and Local Authorities. Responsible for defining and planning client requirements based on information from site surveys and planning meetings. Responsible for defects liability and final update of the clients drawing-set at contract completion.

In February 1982 he left the contracting industry to take up a position with Granada TV, initially to assist in the network launch of Channel 4.

In the following years responsible for estimating, ordering of materials, installation, inspection, testing and commissioning of all types of electrical / electronic circuits and equipment including general building services, studio facilities and various technical aspects of broadcast projects. This role included development work for Electronic News Gathering, installation of the digital graphics facilities, Liverpool News Center and Specialist responsibility for computer network installations at Manchester, Liverpool and London,

To achieve these objectives required continuous personal development and formal higher educational qualifications, together with the ability to communicate well at all levels and manage a team of up to 7 permanent project staff and additional contract labour.

In May 1995 he joined the Operations team at the Manchester Evening News arena as the Building Services Coordinator and progressed to the position of Building Services Manager for the arena shortly after the end of the first successful year of operation. Later given the additional responsibility as Director of Operations for the Bridgewater Hall, demonstrating an ability to multi task and maintain the high standards required by both venues. As part of his role he has also been involved in producing an operational review of the Velodrome, commissioned by the Sports Council, consulted on the operational aspects of venues for the Sydney Olympics and Commonwealth Games. In addition to this he has also worked on the SMG business development team headed by Keven Habeshaw to secure the contract for the operation of Sportcity for the 2002 Commonwealth Games.