

construction

# St Helena airport takes off

A view of Jamestown on St Helena.



RMS St Helena.



Currently the only means of reaching St Helena is on the RMS St Helena, which takes an average of five days on a one-way trip. The island spans 17km by 10km and is home to a population of some 4000 inhabitants.

“One of the key challenges facing St Helena is the number of youngsters leaving the island in search of opportunities.”

In a bid to invigorate the island economy, the St Helena Government, together with funder Department for International Development (DFID) (UK Government Department) allocated more than R3bn for the development of the airport.

In November last year, construction contractor Basil Read won the contract to design, construct and operate the St Helena airport.

Phase 1 of the two-phased project is scheduled for completion in the next four years and

Construction on Phase 1 of the R2.7bn St Helena airport project is well under way, Basil Read’s special projects and executive director Jimmy Johnston tells *built*’s Nelendhre Moodley. The airport will unlock massive economic opportunities for the small island located between southern Africa and South America.

