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Industry News
Planning & Design
Groundworks
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Interiors
Landscaping & External Works
Eco

Aug/Sept 2013



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Cover image: @James Latham
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Supporting the self-build surge – comment by Mark Prisk

Enthusiasm for self-build is growing.

Across the country more people are becoming aware that building your own home does not mean constructing a multi-million pound fantasy mansion.

A recent industry survey found that that one in eight people are expected to research undertaking a self-build project within the next 12 months, and around one in 50 expect to buy a building plot, obtain planning consent or start construction work during the coming year.

The industry is already sizeable with a lot of variety, accounting for one in 10 of the homes we build, and worth £3 billion a year to the economy.

Yet despite this, Britain lags behind the rest of the world – and that means many people who would like to live in a self-built home never get the opportunity to do so.

National Self-Build Week

This is not right.

It's why the government is supporting the industry's aim to double in size over the coming years. So I'm delighted that the first-ever National Self-Build Week has taken place now.

Running from 5 – 12 May, this dedicated week

of activity offered a one-stop shop for anyone looking to learn more about building their own homes.

It was organised by the National Self-Build Association and Grand Designs Live, and to mark the launch I attended Grand Designs at the Excel Centre with Kevin McCloud and Ted Stevens from the Association.

We answered questions on a whole variety of issues affecting self-build, from raising cash to finding the land.

Support for self-build

It was a good opportunity to set out how the government is supporting aspiring self-builders. This includes:

- Working with the self-build industry to launch a Self-Build Portal, with information for those wanting to build;
- Making £44 million available to help communities and individual self-builders get their projects off the ground; and
- Ensuring councils consider the needs of self-builders when planning the development of their area.



Tax relief

Under new proposals, self-builders will be given relief from paying the Community Infrastructure Levy, a charge levied by councils on new buildings over a certain size, potentially saving thousands of pounds in charges.

It shows the government is serious about helping aspiring self-builders, so more people will now have opportunity to turn their plans into reality.

Changes to streamline planning application process have been implicated - Planning Portal

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has published its response to its consultation on a package of measures to simplify and streamline the application process in England.

The response confirmed the administration would introduce proposed reforms to the validation regime for planning applications, Design and Access Statements and changes to decision notices. These changes came into force on 25 June.

New rules will mean only major developments, some applications in designated areas and listed building consents require Design and Access Statements.

"Reducing the number of applications that

require a Design and Access Statement removes statutory burdens on applicants, but it is not considered that this would be at the expense of good design and accessibility. As such, the proposal will be taken forward as consulted on," said DCLG.

In designated areas – conservation areas and World Heritage sites – a lower threshold will be involved: one or more dwellings or a building or buildings where the floor space created by the development is 100 sq m or more.

Proposals to remove some of the requirements for the contents of Design and Access Statements, including explanations of certain specific design principles and details of access maintenance, will also be instigated.

At the same time the government is introducing a new approach to the validation of planning applications under which the information a local authority requires must be 'genuinely necessary' and material to the application.

The department has also decided to press ahead with its plan to remove the requirement for local planning authorities to provide a written summary of reasons on decision notices when granting planning permission.

It argued that planning officer reports and committee minutes would explain the full rationale for a decision. "The summary on decision notices therefore adds little to the transparency or quality of the decision-making process".

netMAGevents support CRASH

This Christmas, netMAGevents will be supporting CRASH at their Best of British Christmas Party at the London Marriott Hotel, Grosvenor Square, and inviting guests to do the same.

CRASH is the construction and property industry's charity for homeless people. They are a practical charity that focuses on improving the buildings used by homeless people.

They do this in three ways:

- Providing pro-bono professional expertise
- Supplying free building materials
- Awarding cash grants

CRASH is unique. As an industry charity they encourage companies to get directly involved in helping homelessness projects that ask them for

assistance. Thanks to these companies, in the last year CRASH has helped over 60 projects.

The result of this generosity and practical sharing of materials and skills means that much needed renovation and development can be carried out to a far higher standard than would otherwise be possible, providing a safe and welcoming refuge for people in need. Go to www.crash.org.uk to find out more.



'We made 2012'... but has 2012 made us?



The Building Centre's summer exhibition, 'We Made 2012', opens on July 9. It takes a look at the venues, landscape and legacy of the London 2012 Games one year on, with a focus on those who made it happen. According to UKTI the Games will deliver £11 billion economic benefit for the UK, and with regenerated parkland and venues to open soon, the story of the London 2012 Games has only just begun. The London 2012 Games were a tremendous success and a welcome boost to national pride. Millions flocked to London to watch the Games and billions tuned in worldwide. The venues and infrastructure were delivered on time and under budget under the leadership of the Olympic Delivery Authority, and to an exceptional standard - largely thanks to the UK construction industry.

On 27 January the British Olympic Association launched the 'Suppliers Recognition Scheme'. Architects, engineers, manufacturers, suppliers and contractors can now apply for a free licence, which, once issued, allows them to talk more openly about their contribution to this historic event.

We Made 2012 takes a look at the Games one year on, it remembers the challenges and accomplishments of staging a monumental event in our capital, and importantly, looks towards its legacy for Britain. The Games acted as a catalyst of urban regeneration

for much of East London. They were the greenest and most accessible Games to date. Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park will open on 27 July, exactly one year on from the Opening Ceremony. The site, once largely derelict or industrial land, has been transformed into parkland, waterways and cultural space, with numerous landmark venues available for the use of London and the rest of the UK.

There are many lessons to be learnt from last year, 'We Made 2012' gives viewers a chance to understand the complexities of the Games through film, photo-graphy, architectural models and sketches. Components and materials will also be available to view close up, such as part of the Velodrome's distinctive cable-net roof. We Made 2012 credits a wide cross section of the industry that are deservedly proud of their contribution.

Andrew Scoones, director of The Building Centre said " 'We Made 2012' is the first exhibition of its kind, offering recognition to all; from the architects who were widely known to have designed venues, to the unsung heroes who ensured the venues, facilities and landscapes were a testament to British design and construction. We hope it increases understanding of design, innovation and construction, as well as ignite personal memories of an outstanding event."

Have the new planning reforms boosted residential conversions?

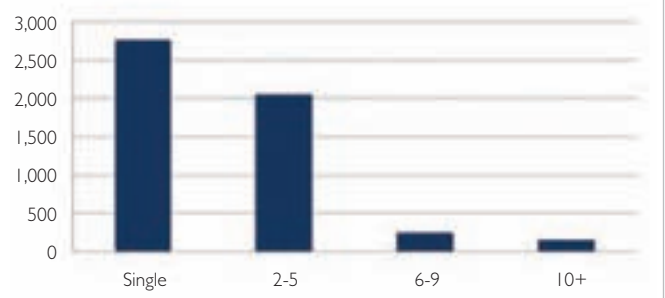
After the relaxation of planning rules on office to residential conversions, did June 2013 see developers rush to their local authorities with new plans for new homes?

Developers now have a three year window until the end of May 2016 to benefit from simplified planning rules should they wish to convert a commercial property for a residential use. Rather than the more costly planning application route, applicants are offered a simpler and cheaper prior notification process. Government ministers hope that this will help fulfil promises to both simplify the UK planning process while at the same time – and in a relatively painless way – boost housing supply.

Allowing parts of city centres to refurbish vacant or failing commercial properties also seemed to be one measure to help reverse the decline of town centres as widely reported in the Portas Review. Helping the high street and helping the housing shortage? What's not to like?

Opponents of the change are concerned about negative impacts on commercial office space while simultaneously see the potential for a rash of inadequate homes in unsuitable areas. The degree of vocal opposition was however relatively small – at least compared to parallel change permitting larger house extensions. Many argued that this relaxation of planning rules would have little practical impact in any event. Full planning permission would still be required for most (particularly external) work

All Residential Conversions 2013
Planning Units



Graph 1

required as part of any conversion – so the numbers taking advantage would be small. And if that safety backup wasn't sufficient, then councils could fall back on a range of other arguments and methods that would preserve both their local authority and the status quo.

Seventeen* local authorities were more vocal and argued successfully for an exemption from the regulations before they came into force. Many

'It is far from clear whether the new regime is positively driving more new conversions or even more larger conversion projects – at least as yet'

Paul Graham

The best in low carbon construction and innovation



Timber Expo will be taking place at the National Exhibition Centre (NEC) Birmingham this September. Now in its third year, over 5,000 visitors are expected at the UK's leading timber trade show including architects and designers, engineers and contractors, local authorities and a wide range of those working in the built environment.

It will be two days brimming with the latest products, innovations and developments across the timber sector – not just from the UK but from an increasingly diverse international market. It will also be the official launch venue of the rebranded UKTFA as the Structural Timber Association.

With only three months to go before the doors open, here are some essential highlights not to miss at the UK's truly national timber show.

Exhibition floor & international content – A huge range of 170 companies from all four corners of the timber industry will be unveiling their latest products and services plus giving advice on how best to use the construction industry's leading mainstream low carbon building material. Overseas exhibitors and representatives already include: Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Latvia, Malaysia, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Spain, Sweden and the USA.

Timber Talks – A key element to the show and a central part of the Expo experience. Timber Talks will deliver an unrivalled collection of high calibre speakers from all four corners of the built environment across both days including: Mace, Willmott Dixon, Land Securities, Architype and Waugh Thistleton. From niche areas to leading trends, the Timber Talks will be characterised by key industry topics, major names, super projects and big issues – and they are all FREE!

Seminar Theatre 1 – the Fabric First Theatre – Built by leading timber frame specialists Frame Wise, the Fabric First theatre will extoll the virtues of building with an airtight building envelope in mind and its superior thermal properties – making it ideal as the basis of a modern energy efficient building.

Seminar Theatre 2 – the Solid Wood Theatre – Built by B & K Structures, this eye-catching building will showcase the strengths of timber and advanced closed panel timber technology and show why solid wood use is beginning to soar in the UK.

Toolbox Talks – New for 2013, a new section of CPD presentations will focus on the detail of processes, technologies and solutions on display at the show. From manufacturing process to onsite engineering solutions, Toolbox Talks will comple-

ment the Timber Talks and will be held in a purpose built 30 seat presentation theatre.

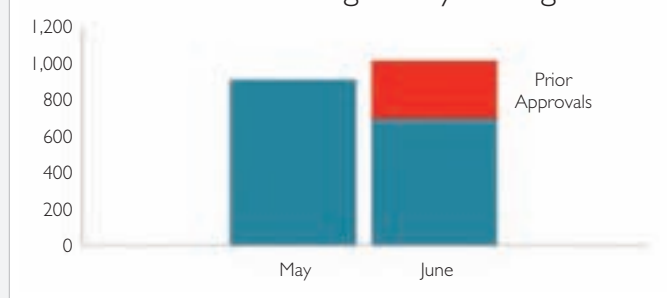
Timber Accord Pavilion – Sponsored by Timbmet and building upon the Timber Accord agreement signed in 2012. The Pavilion will be situated at the heart of Timber Expo on the main exhibition floor, this will be a unique opportunity to touch base with twelve leading trade bodies representing the supply chain of the forestry and timber industries, in the same place at the same time.

Wood Awards shortlist 2013 – The Wood Awards is the UK's premier award in the timber sector and will once again recognise outstanding design, craftsmanship and installations in wood that have taken place over the last 12 months. The 2013 shortlist will be unveiled and on show throughout Timber Expo and you will be able to hear more about the projects in the Timber Talks programme.

The show will also include the ProTimber Summit, the best entries from the TTJ Innovation Awards and a range of special invitation only industry events and association meetings.

Timber Expo will take place at the NEC, Birmingham, 24-25 September 2013. www.timber-expo.co.uk

Residential Conversions 2013: Pre and Post Regulatory Change



Graph 2

more authorities reportedly applied but were refused. So in the face of what could be described as lukewarm support and lukewarm opposition, has the change prompted a much hotter initial response from developers? Planning Pipe examined new plans submitted across the whole of the UK for residential conversions in 2013. Planned residential conversion projects as a whole tend to be dominated by conversions to a single unit, see Graph 1.

Looking specifically at May and June the regulations do appear to have made an impact – at least at first glance. New applications in June were up over 10 per cent on the previous month. The number of residential conversions across the UK – at over 1,000 – is the highest monthly total of the year to date. Significantly, around a third of all residential conversion applications in June were submitted under the new prior approval regime. See Graph 2.

In addition, looking at the 300 prior approval applications in June there

would appear to be more than three times the number of larger 10+ unit conversion schemes submitted under the new regime – than might be expected. However, with only 30+ larger conversions across the whole of the UK, extreme care should be taken before drawing conclusions at this early stage. While developers are clearly taking advantage of the new cheaper planning framework, it is far from clear whether the new regime is positively driving more new conversions or even more larger conversion projects – at least as yet.

Looking at the pattern of applications for the year, a double digit month on month increase is, in fact, far from unusual. The same level of increase was seen between January and February as well as April to May.

If the new regulations have indeed driven more residential conversions then in theory there should be a smaller month on month increase across the 17* local authorities that are exempt from the new regulations. The figures actually show that these local authorities also saw a double digit increase in residential conversions between May and June.

Notwithstanding the caveats of early days and small numbers, there would appear to be no clear picture emerging as yet. Critical to any measured assessment of the impact of the reform will be both the medium and longer term approval rates of local authorities – and ultimately, translation of new plans into new construction activity.

Paul Graham, MD of cost-effective, bespoke project lead provider Planning Pipe (www.planningpipe.co.uk)

*The seventeen local authorities so far exempt from this planning reform are Ashford, Camden, City of London, East Hampshire, Hackney, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Lambeth, Manchester, Newham, Sevenoaks, Southwark, Stevenage, Tower Hamlets, Vale of the White Horse, Wandsworth and Westminster. Brighton and Hove Council is proposing to overturn the impact of the reform in its borough.

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The UK's first eco town

By Steve Hornblow, A2Dominion project director for NW Bicester

Construction of the UK's first eco town at North West Bicester (NW) in Oxfordshire is due to begin in the autumn. This groundbreaking development will consist of 5,000 homes integrating cutting edge technology, economic opportunities and community engagement, with environmental integrity at its core.

The first phase, known as Exemplar, is led by developers A2Dominion. Exemplar will contain 393 highly efficient homes for existing and new residents of Bicester, built to be truly zero-carbon, meaning they will not

contribute to climate change. These houses will enable lower fuel bills for residents and meet the demands of a housing market that extensive research shows will welcome these innovative homes for the future.

Constructed in four stages over the next five years, the Exemplar design fosters a community



Easy to walk and cycle around

that is vibrant, resilient and sustainable and incorporates a school, district heating plant, eco pub and business centre.

The Exemplar phase will generate electricity from PV solar panels on every home, this is equivalent to the size of two and a half football pitches, making it the UK's largest residential solar array.

Heat and hot water will come from a gas fired combined heat and power plant (CHP). This is a very low carbon source of waste heat, essentially a by-product of the electricity that the plant generates. Excess electricity will be exported to the national grid.

It will also feature 40 per cent green space, specially designed cycle and pedestrian routes, plus a bus service with live timetable updates in each house, bicycle storage and charging points for electric vehicles. There will be a bus stop within 400m of every home. One of the key aims is to reduce car usage to 50 per cent. Currently 67.5 per cent of trips in Bicester are made by car.

All homes will have triple glazing, rainwater catchment and water recycling and have been designed to cope with climate change of up to 10°C.

Homes will be built to Lifetime Home standards and community space will incorporate communal barbecue areas, herb boxes, allotments and seating and will be designed to encourage children to play in the street safely.



NW Bicester is committed to the original planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development known as Policy Planning Statement 1-eco-towns (PPS1). It is this set of eco credentials which makes

NW Bicester unique and is also one of the reasons NW Bicester has been awarded One Planet Living status, one of only six developments in the world to achieve this coveted mark of progress in sustainability.

In order to secure this status, Exemplar has demonstrated methods to attain zero carbon, zero waste, sustainable water use and sustainable transport, as well as promote culture, community, equity, the local economy and the health and happiness of residents.

A funding award from the Technology Strategy Board will allow the Exemplar phase to become a working model that can define and improve construction techniques providing collective knowledge and lessons for wider adoption. NW Bicester intend to develop a set of detailed build system specifications that will meet environmental performance standards, be deliverable at cost and which can be reliably produced in high volume.

Work begins on BRE Refurbished House

Scottish building contractor Cruden Building & Renewals will start work today on the BRE Refurbished House, one of ten demonstration homes being built on the BRE Innovation Park at Ravenscraig that will be used to shape future housing in the country.

Using historical design information and traditional materials, the builders will recreate a full-scale 'four-in-a-block' typical Scottish apartment dwelling, of which there 265 thousand in the country and three million of a similar design in England.

This type of dwelling, where there are two flats on the ground floor and two on the first floor, is one of the worst performing apartment building types both thermally and acoustically in the UK.

Each of the four compartments of the dwelling will be refurbished employing different retrofit approaches and using different materials and technologies. The units will then be monitored over time to provide real performance data on energy efficiency and thermal comfort, indoor air quality, acoustic performance and cost. The embodied energy of the materials used in the retrofit will

also be considered.

The project, which is being delivered by BRE Scotland, Edinburgh Napier University and Historic Scotland will enable a robust assessment to be made on the cost effectiveness of fabric upgrades for this building style, for walls, windows, roofs and services. The adopted methodology will also allow an upscaling approach to be developed, which can be rolled out to multiple dwellings making them more energy efficient, less costly to run and with minimum carbon emissions.

BRE Scotland director David Kelly said: "Scotland has a high level of fuel poverty, with approximately 25 per cent of homes spending more than 10 per cent of their total income on energy bills. This is a shocking and unacceptable situation and one which we aim to change with the host of new knowledge this project will generate. We are delighted to be working with Cruden Building & Renewals on this project. Their expertise and knowledge will be hugely valuable in informing the outcomes of this research."

Allan Callaghan, managing director of Cruden



Building & Renewals, said:

"We are pleased to be co-funding and developing the 'Refurbished' house at the BRE Innovation Park @ Ravenscraig. We have jointly created a unique project, which will not only provide design, specification and cost data for retrofit installation, but allow post completion monitoring of performance."

He added: "Ultimately we hope to achieve a measure of cost effective improvements for Scotland and the UK's existing housing stock that will improve the quality of people's lives, address the fuel poverty issue and reduce carbon emissions in line with government targets."

Architecture student's essay claims international Berkeley prize

Sophia Bannert, a University of Lincoln student, was named as a winner in the Berkeley Undergraduate Prize for Design Excellence after submitting her essay, which was selected by judges out of 152 student entries from 26 different countries.

The international competition was established in 1998 by the Department of Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley College of Environmental Design, to promote the investigation of architecture as a social art.

Each year the Essay Competition focuses on a topic important to the understanding of the interaction between people and the built world. This year, undergraduate students around the world wrote on 'The Architect and the Accessible City', with Sophia's winning essay entitled 'A Day in the Life of a Wheelchair User: Navigating Lincoln'.

Her innovative study explores the challenges



faced by wheelchair users navigating around historical cities such as Lincoln.

For more information and to read Sophia's essay on accessible architecture in Lincoln, visit <http://berkeleyprize.org/competition/essay/2013/winning-essays/bannert-essay>

RIBA Stirling Prize 2013 shortlist and winner dates

The shortlist for the RIBA Stirling Prize will be announced Thursday 18 July. Six buildings will be shortlisted. The winner announced Thursday 26 September at an evening event at Central St Martins in London. This year the prestigious RIBA Stirling Prize for the best building comes of age and celebrates its 18th year.

The judges will look for original, imaginative and well executed designs, which excellently meet the needs of their users.

The shortlisted and winning buildings reveal the pinnacle of current architectural talent – buildings that on all fronts and in every detail inspire those who use and meet them.

Watch this space!

Mary Rose Museum opens

The design of the new £27 million Mary Rose Museum - by Wilkinson Eyre Architects (architect and design team leader) and Pringle Brandon Perkins+Will (architect for the interior) - is a story of collaboration, with the project team combining delicate conservation, contemporary architecture and specialist technical expertise. The result is a truly unique design that reveals the secrets of the famous Tudor ship, marking 30 years since the hull of

the Mary Rose was raised from the Solent where she lay undiscovered for 437 years.

Like crafting a jewellery box to house a precious gem, the design team has together created a building and interior that protects and showcases the Mary Rose. Designed from the inside-out, the Museum building takes many of its cues from the historic ship, allowing its hull, artefacts and exhibitions to take centre stage and create a visitor experience befitting this remarkable piece



of history.

For more on the architecture and interior, please visit our news blog at adf-news.blogspot.co.uk and enter the reference number. Ref: 96839

Wayfinding from the start – not signage at the end

By David Watts CCD Design and Ergonomics



Wayfinding is more than signage. It is the strategy to help people navigate in, through and out of a space or building – signage is only one part of the solution. The earlier wayfinding is considered as part of the master-planning for a site, the better the solution will be.

The process should look at how people will use a space, including researching the range of users, the differing needs they have, the variety of experience they bring, the different cultures they come from, etc. User models can then be created to help test the emerging design.

Masterplanning is also the ideal time to look at the broader user experience for a space of which wayfinding. It should also integrate with other elements of the operation of a space. For example, in a sports arena, the wayfinding should be considered alongside the ticketing strategy, retail offerings, the local transport plan, and parking plans. Remember how successful the 2012 Olympics spectator experi-

ence was? This is also true in sites such as stations and airports and is the approach being taken at the new London Bridge station redevelopment.

The wayfinding and architectural masterplans should complement each other. This is a great time to include the overall wayfinding strategy into the masterplan to ensure consistency between buildings and spaces. It is the right time to establish some ground rules that can be applied in the individual buildings within a site.

Architects generally want the building and its use

'Architects and wayfinding designers should work together to avoid littering a space with signs – it ruins the space and doesn't help the wayfinding'

David Watts

to stand on its own. The introduction of signage and other solutions can be seen as a negative and in some environments, like heritage locations, can be problematic. However the reality is that people can rarely navigate complex environments by intuition alone. Architects and wayfinding designers should work together to avoid littering a space with signs – it ruins the space and doesn't help the wayfinding.

The benefits of this approach are:

- Right first time - retro-fitting of is often a messy solution that ruins the architecture and provides poor wayfinding
- Cost saving - early consideration should result in fewer signs
- An integrated solution with ground rules for individual buildings within a development.

An early, holistic view of wayfinding delivers better wayfinding which is part of the architecture, rather than an unsatisfactory add on.

Continuing Professional Development

Maintaining and improving professional competence, skills, abilities and knowledge

MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC GUIDE TO BUILDING INFORMATION MODELLING



Mitsubishi Electric has launched a free, CPD-Accredited guide to Building Information Modelling (BIM) to aid understanding of this new method of collaborative working in construction. BIM methodology allows different project teams and building occupants to share a virtual, computerised model of the building throughout its entire life – from design and conception to renovation or demolition. Get your free PDF guide.

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A GUIDE TO RAINWATER HARVESTING, THE BENEFITS OF HIGH EFFICIENCY PUMPING AND SURGE PROTECTION – DESIGNING OUT HYDRAULIC SHOCK



Three Wilo CPDs: *A Guide to Rainwater Harvesting Systems* discusses the options available with rainwater, regulations, standards and installation examples. *The benefits of high efficiency pumping* helps you develop your knowledge as to the regulations concerning glandless and glanded pumps together with new motor regulations. *Surge protection – designing out hydraulic shock* explains hydraulic shock and corrects misconceptions of how to solve it.

01283 523000

training@wilo.co.uk

FIVE RIBA APPROVED CPD SEMINARS FROM TRITON SYSTEMS



Triton Systems, suppliers of systems for basement waterproofing, concrete waterproofing and green roof construction, have incorporated the benefits of specifying BIM objects into their five RIBA approved CPD seminars. Three of the seminars cover new build and existing basement waterproofing and focus on the requirements of BS 8102: 2009 (the Code of Practice for Protection of Below Ground Structures), including the grades of waterproofing required, the types of waterproofing systems available and relevant standards and regulations. A seminar on *Waterproofing Concrete Structures Below Ground* looks at the benefits of using concrete in basement construction as well as the available waterproofing systems as defined in BS 8102: 2009; and a seminar on *Green and Living Roofs* focuses on the benefits of green roofs, design principles and the construction process. Triton was one of the first manufacturers in the construction industry to have its products included in the NBS National BIM Library and architects can now download elements of structural waterproofing and concrete waterproofing systems, ground gas barriers and green roof water storage membranes as BIM objects, directly for insertion into a building model, via Triton's page at www.nationalbimlibrary.com/triton.

01322 318830

www.tritonsystems.co.uk

CPD SEMINAR FROM THE LEAD SHEET ASSOCIATION



The Lead Sheet Association provides accredited training and technical advice as well as producing a range of information for specifiers and installers. Its RIBA-approved CPD provides an introduction to manufacturing methods and the technical, life cycle and sustainability characteristics of lead. It also explores the main uses of lead sheet, looking at flashings and weatherings, roofing and cladding and the restoration of old and historic buildings.

01622 872 432

www.leadsheet.co.uk

LIABILITY & LEVER HANDLES – AN INTRODUCTION TO BS 8300 & BS EN 1906

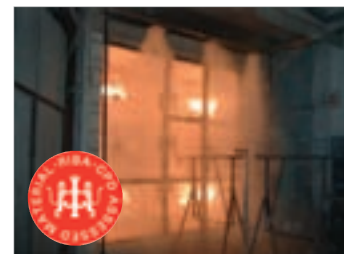


The latest presentation from HOPPE, manufacturer of hardware for the architectural and window and door sectors, looks at regulations affecting lever furniture and how standards can help specifiers and architects meet their requirements. Jam packed with informative and enlightening content, the presentation entitled *Liability and Lever Handles – an introduction to BS 8300 and BS EN 1906* includes ways in which to limit liability when specifying lever furniture.

01902 484 400

www.hoppe.co.uk

INTRODUCTION TO FIRE RESISTANT GLASS & GLAZING SYSTEMS



SCHOTT UK offers a comprehensive, RIBA-approved CPD called *Introduction to fire resistant glass & glazing systems*, which enables architects and specifiers to gain the knowledge required to select the appropriate fire resistant glass solutions for a building. It provides detailed information about the testing criteria, applications and range of products available. The CPD addresses key areas that are vital in the decision making process such as:

- Why we use fire resistant glass?
- What does fire resistance mean?
- Fire resistant criteria explained
- What types of fire resistant glass are available?
- The importance of suitable framing systems
- Compatibility of components
- What specific solutions are possible with fire resistant glass?

The protection of people and property is fundamental when developing new or updating existing buildings. Fire resistant glazing is critical when considering life safety and the building fabric. Let this CPD guide you through what matters most.

Please note that this CPD covers three points of RIBA core curriculum:

- Being safe: health & safety
- Compliance: legal, regulatory and statutory frameworks and processes
- Designing and building it: design, construction, technology and engineering.

01785 223 166

www.schott.com/uk

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FACTA publishes information sheet



FACTA (The Fabricated Access Covers Trade Association) has published a fact sheet on the forthcoming Construction Products Regulation (CPR), which comes into force on the 1 July 2013. As from then, it will become a legal requirement for any construction product manufactured under the scope of a harmonised European standard (hEN) to be CE marked in accordance with the CPR and failure to comply will be a criminal offence. It is also illegal to falsely CE mark products that are not covered by an appropriate hEN. The fact sheet explains, in simple terms, how the CPR applies to man-hole covers, access covers and gully tops, highlighting the relevant standards.

01827 52337 www.facta.org.uk

Minister praises Keystone Group's ambition



A company, which made its name manufacturing and supplying insulated steel lintels to the British and Irish construction industries has been praised for its drive, ambition and innovation on the opening of its new UK headquarters. Chris

Grayling MP, Secretary of State for Justice,

said the country needs more companies like the **Keystone Group**, which has created over 20 new jobs at the site and has already got ambitious plans underway for further development. The Keystone Group, which consists of Keystone Lintels, IG Lintels, Keylite Roof Windows and more recently IG-GRP and Smartroof, is the UK and Ireland's largest steel lintel manufacturer and Europe's fastest-growing roof window manufacturer.



New Bona finish chosen to restore hall floor

Floor Restorers of Cheltenham, have used a waterborne lacquer from **Bona** to finish the newly renovated hardwood floor in the Princess Hall at Cheltenham Ladies' College. The floor was installed in 1952 and is constructed from Gurjun planks, a warm, pinkish brown species that is particularly silent to the tread. There was considerable surface damage to deal with including scratches and scrapes and a build up of maintenance products. Bona recommended that Bona Traffic HD would provide the most durable finish for a surface that was subject to constant traffic from pupils and the public attending a wide range of events and performances. Traffic HD is a new waterborne formulation from Bona that is 40 per cent more hard wearing than classic Bona Traffic and with a VOC content that is 40 per cent lower. A key feature is its fast development time which means a floor can be put back in to use just 24 hours after application of the final coat.

01908 525 150 www.bona.com

UNIQA® high efficiency submersible pumps



T-T is delighted with the continued success of the new UNIQA® range into the UK market, since its recent launch. Considerable commitment has gone into the research and development of the product and now representing a real step forward in the market. The power range of the UNIQA® series goes from 4 to 200kw with 2,4,6 and 8 pole motors, 50/60Hz power and DN80 to DN400 discharge ports, vortex impellers with full free passage and channels with anti-blockage systems, make the Uniqa® series ideally suited to operation in any conditions. The motors have been designed to reach the Premium Efficiency Class IE3 according to the CEI EN 60034/30 regulations, can work in uninterrupted service S1 in water up to a temperature of 60°C, as per NEMA A.

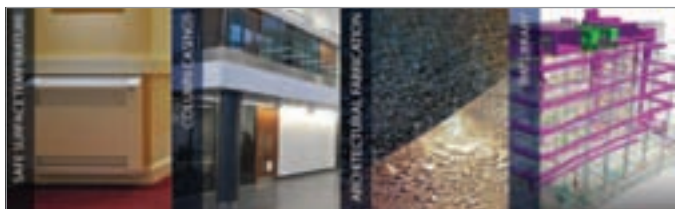
Densoclad 70 protects 1Km of pipework



Cofely Fabricom GDF SUEZ are near completion of a contract to install 1 km of protected multi technical underground gas systems for gas storage in the Cheshire brine fields. The coating selected was Winn & Coales Densoclad 70, this having been applied to 'in situ' field joint locations by the Cofely Fabricom GDF SUEZ

organisation on erected pipework sections ranging from 2" to 30" Diameter. Winn & Coales Densoclad 70 medium to heavy-duty tape is designed for anti-corrosion protection of medium and large diameter pipes, welded joints, bends and fittings, and is applied over Denso primer.

020 8670 7511 www.denso.net



Contour Casings' new BIM-enabled website

BIM is the hot topic with construction industry professionals throughout the UK. By modelling in the virtual environment first; problems are detected before construction begins, guaranteeing the building is constructed correctly first time, every time. The government is converting all appropriate projects into a 3D collaborative BIM environment by 2016. However, despite BIM being recognised as a vehicle with which time and cost savings can be levied, a lack of high-quality BIM components is currently a significant barrier to full industry adoption, with those that are available, not containing sufficient background data to allow the full potential of BIM to be levied. Contour Casings has recently launched the UK's first fully BIM-enabled fabrication website. At the heart of Contour's new website is the technical "Resource Centre", which includes an extensive range of BIM, DWG, project and product datasheets, brochures and interactive image gallery's.

Contourcasings.co.uk has been designed to be the complete toolkit that architects and consultants need to deliver their BIM projects. Contained within the resource centre is the "BIM Library", a bank of pioneering BIM objects which cater for both experienced BIM designers and new users. Contour's dynamic, intelligent and flexible BIM components are hosted alongside a full range of product specification downloads.

01952 290 498 www.contourcasings.co.uk

LINK&LOCK feature



Hauraton has developed an innovative linking system for their RECYFIX® HICAP® high capacity surface water drainage channels. The new LINK&LOCK feature facilitates the alignment of each one metre channel unit

with the next, providing a positive mechanical fix that makes the installation procedure of the whole channel run much easier. With their ductile iron slotted tops, in a choice of four configurations, the channels have proved very effective at draining large areas of asphalt and concrete. With on-site test installations in early June 2013 now complete, Hauraton are confident contractors will find the new system easier and quicker to install.

01582 501 380 www.hauraton.co.uk

Evolution Insurance Solutions Ltd



Evolution Insurance Solutions Ltd is an Insurance Broker authorised and regulated in the UK by the Financial Services Authority under FSA number 472438. Evolution Insurance Solutions Ltd is one of the UK's a leading brokers

in the 10 Year Structural Warranty market.

If you are undertaking a self build project in the near future then you are likely to require a mortgage compliant warranty and site insurance.

Evolution is a specialist in this market and will source the right product at competitive rates for your project.

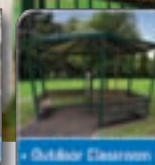
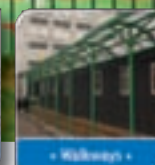
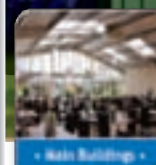
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Award winning waterproofing!

Two Property Care Association (PCA) award-winning companies have joined forces to waterproof the basement at a major residential refurbishment site in central London. **Triton**, which won the PCA's Innovation and Sustainability award for the pioneering subscription of its systems to the new NBS BIM Library, supplied the waterproofing system components. These included 1,000m² of cavity drain membranes, which were installed to the inner surface of all exterior walls, Aquachannel drainage conduit, which was installed to the perimeter, and associated sumps and pumps. The design of the drainage system was based on a gravity feed to existing outlets. Together these components provided an effective Type C waterproofing system as defined by BS 8102. Preservation Treatments will also carry out external waterproofing works in the new build section of the development later in the project.

01322 318830 www.tritonsystems.co.uk



Importance of sustainable bricks and cladding

Sustainability is a critical element in building these days and already we have seen new Energy Performance Certificates, for large commercial buildings as well as housing. As the BRE's Green Guide makes clear, sustainability is not just about the use of carbon-free materials. Nor is it just about the embodied energy accrued in its production and delivery from 'cradle to gate'. It is about the total energy consumption of a product – including that used to maintain it, once it's part of a building, and the fate of 'end-of-life' material. Continuing to demonstrate its long-term commitment to sustainability as was one of the first UK industrial sectors to publish its sustainability policy, the **BDA** produced its initial Sustainability Strategy Progress Report 2012. As a result of collating ten years of data summarised in this report, the BDA in 2013, reviewed all existing KPI's and updated them as necessary in accordance with emerging UK government Guidelines.

020 7323 7030 www.brick.org.uk

Everbuild



Clear Fix – a new adhesive from **Everbuild Building Products** – is clearly set to take the building industry by storm with its innovative, eye catching clear cartridge and seriously good adhesive qualities! Clear Fix is a clear hybrid polymer grab adhesive that has the ability to bond just about everything in both interior and exterior applications. It is a versatile product that can be used in almost every application imaginable – particularly for jobs that require

an invisible finish – even when immersed in water! Even more, Clear Fix comes in a completely clear cartridge, which illustrates the true clarity of the product.

0113 240 2424 www.everbuild.co.uk

Helifix confirms CE Marking compliance



Helical wall ties, fixings and masonry reinforcement specialist, **Helifix**, is pleased to confirm it has completed all CE marking requirements for its new build and masonry repair products. CE-marked Helifix products include the stainless steel new build wall ties **TimTie**, **TurboTie** and **StarTie**, plus the versatile remedial tying and pinning system

DryFix, the multi-purpose fully grouted **CemTie** and the widely used structural reinforcement and crack stitching bar **HeliBar**. Helifix's compliance follows an extensive programme of independent product testing, at approved facilities in the UK and Germany, in line with the demands of the European Standard EN 845-1 Specification for ancillary components for masonry.



High Clamping Force Hollo-Bolt

Lindapter has launched its **Hollo-Bolt High Clamping Force (HCF)**: an enhanced version of its original expansion bolt for steel hollow section, optimised for structural joints. The **Hollo-Bolt HCF** is available as standard in the largest **Hollo-Bolt** sizes and features Lindapter's patented HCF mechanism that produces a typical clamping force over three times higher than the same sized product without the mechanism. The increased clamping force results in a more secure connection, as a greater force has to be overcome before movement in the joint begins. The CE marked **Hollo-Bolt (HCF)** is recognised as a primary structural connection by the **BCSA/SCI** and is therefore ideal for heavy duty architectural connections, from securing glass and glazing spider brackets to supporting hollow section to fastening pre-cast concrete cladding brackets to SHS. The enhanced **Hollo-Bolt** was used in splice connections of hollow section framed roofing of the **Kimmel Center for Performing Arts** in Philadelphia.

01274 521444 www.hollo-bolt.com

Toolstation slashes another 1,300 prices



With the launch of its 50th catalogue, **Toolstation** is lowering prices on another 1,300 products, cementing its reputation as Britain's low cost trade supplier. Headlining the front cover is a fantastic deal on an SIP 24 litre compressor with accessory kit at £99.98. For outdoors, Liberon's decking oil is down 20 per cent plus price drops on paints, irrigation and landscaping tools. For all the latest prices and new products, pick up Catalogue 50 from one of Toolstation's 130 plus sales counters or contact Toolstation freephone on:

0808 100 7211 www.toolstation.com

BaitSafe™: best kept secret in pest control



P and L Systems would love to tell you all about BaitSafe's recent installation in a prominent five star London hotel, targeting severe rodent issues in the walls and ceilings of the kitchens and reception areas... And about BaitSafe's use in the kitchens of a high profile entertainment facility, targeting pest issues safely and securely out of the reach of employees... Or about the prestigious supermarkets using BaitSafe to secretly provide 24-hour protection against rodents and insects in the heart of their stores, under retail shelving and display counters... But you won't find them making headlines any time soon – They've all chosen an ultra discreet solution, protecting their customers and staff from the negative attention that pests can create.

0800 0851 451 www.sxenv.com



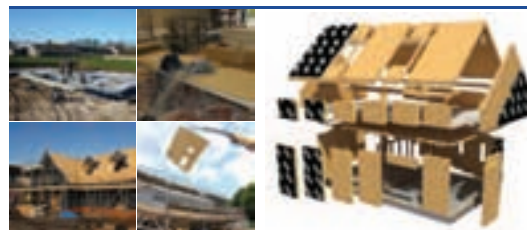
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Dickies



Dickies is proud to announce the UK Worker of the Year 2013 competition, which launched on 15 April 2013 to find Britain's top workers and ultimately the UK Worker of the Year. As a builder you need to be highly protected. As a result of the demands placed on personal protective clothing and equipment, Dickies supplies only the highest quality products. UK Worker of the Year is a competition that seeks to recognise and reward the British workforce. UK Worker of the Year 2013 is sponsored by Dickies, in association with Suzuki and TTC. This year's winner will be able to take home a Suzuki Swift car.

01761 419419 www.dickieseurope.com

Snickers



Snickers' revolutionary new XTR Kneepads take cutting edge knee protection to a completely new level. They're ergonomically designed and made from the advanced D30 material, which stiffens on impact and absorbs impact energy to reduce the effects of kneeling while you're working. D30 is an active and specially engineered material made up from 'intelligent' molecules that move as you do, but on shock will lock together to absorb impact energy. What's more, this highly durable material has an extremely low compression rate. The advanced pre-bent design of these Kneepads combines a soft but sturdy outer with high-tech, shock-absorbent D30 on the inside.

Dr Martens



Introducing the 101 ST boot – a classic style designed and developed from the Dr. Martens archive and based on a traditional policeman's boot from the 1970s. With six eyelets, the style has a slightly lower height than a traditional boot, but is still sturdy and dependable, made with high-quality industrial-strength leather in cherry red or black with a steel-toe cap. A hard-wearing air-cushioned sole unit and Smartmask® PU-cushioned footbed ensure total comfort and durability. Dr. Martens boots have a long history with Industrial workers, and were cited as standard uniform for the police, back in the day.

0845 437 3141 www.drmartens.com/industrial

SST's EU test lab dedicated to visionary



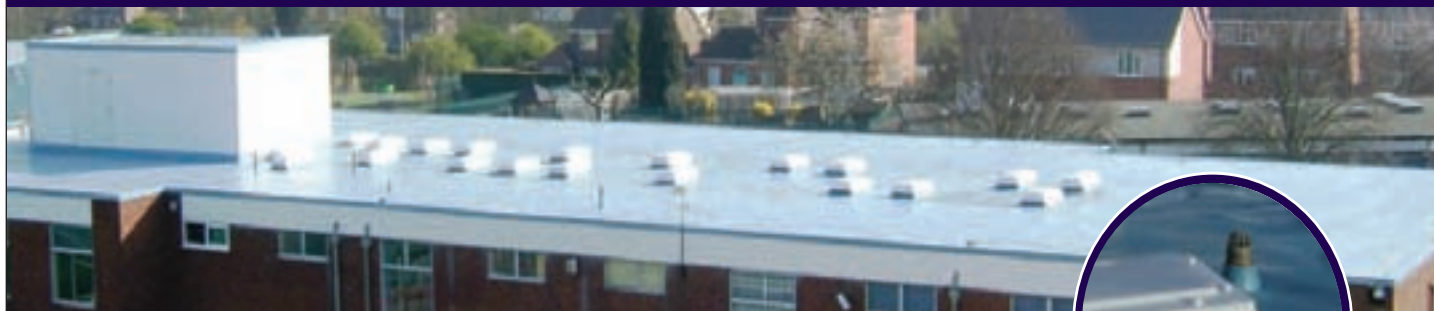
Simpson Strong-Tie has renamed its ISO17025 accredited world class EU testing facility in honour of the man who was responsible for the growth of the company in Europe. The purpose built testing site, which was opened in 2009 and conducts around 5,000 product tests each year, was recently renamed 'The Andris Peterson EU Test Laboratory' at a special ceremony attended by European branch managers and technical engineers. Ian Harrison, SST's European technical director said: "When Andris Peterson came to the UK to launch Simpson Strong-Tie operations in Europe he was the only employee. Over a number of years he made many acquisitions in the UK, Germany, France and Denmark."

01827 155600 www.strongtie.co.uk



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Sika supports young apprentices



Sika Limited, global provider of construction solutions, has supported a new initiative to help provide apprenticeships for young people in Lambeth. The company has donated 1,500 hi-vis vests to the scheme, as well as provided free of charge materials to help complete the

regeneration of Stockwell Community Centre. The relationship between Sika and Build-it first came about when George Clarke, from Channel 4's *Restoration Man* and Build-it Programme Ambassador, tweeted a request for companies to help provide PPE for the 1,500 young people involved in the programme. Sika came to the rescue with hi-vis vests for the whole team.

01707 394444 www.sika.co.uk

Axter at the NBS National BIM library



Axter has created, in partnership with RIBA, a series of Building Information Modelling (BIM) objects enabling design teams to include high performance, robust roofing in their 3D models. BIM is the way forward for building design and implementation, allowing all parties to share a common information pool. With BIM level 2 mandatory on all government projects by 2016, many designers, specifiers and main

contractors are already utilising BIM. Axter BIM objects include their most widely specified systems – WILOTEKT-PLUS® structural waterproofing, ALPAFLORE green roofs, EXCEL warm roof constructions and ECOFLEX single ply.

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Choose wood, choose FSC

Tallulah Chapman, communications manager, FSC UK discusses the reasons for choosing FSC certified wood for builds

The London 2012 Athlete's Village was completed last year using 18,508m³ of timber, which is enough to fill 7.5 Olympic swimming pools or stretch (in 2x2 form) the course of 304 marathons. That's a lot of timber, but what's special is not just how much there was, but where it came from: it was all FSC® certified – every last stick! The London 2012 Athletes Village (TT-PRO-002826) housed athletes and officials during the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics, before being cleverly adapted to form the East Village, providing homes for 6,000 Londoners.

In 2012, however, the gold medal for sustainable construction was shared between the East Village, to date the largest project in the world to achieve full FSC project certification, and the Olympic and Paralympic Park itself, which became a world first in securing both FSC and PEFC project certification (SA-PRO-003095), with 100 per cent of wooden inputs certified as 'legal and sustainable'. This joint-certification has been hailed as a major achievement and a procurement model for other large-scale projects to follow. FSC certified material made up 67 per cent of the 12,500m³ timber products procured.

Project certification is a one-off, site-specific certification that allows clients and contractors to make claims about the FSC timber inputs in a construction project, these claims are backed up by independent third-party auditing. Around the world, more than 70 projects have achieved this certification since the first certificate was awarded to a five-storey timber-framed residential development in London's Ilford Wharf (TT-PRO-002236) in 2006. Lendlease, who built the Olympic Village, are now committed to achieving certification for all of their projects, as are Marks and Spencer for all new-build stores; this includes M&S Cheshire Oaks (TT-PRO-003615), the biggest and greenest M&S store in the world, and the first retail store to feature a 100 per cent FSC certified Glulam roof.

The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) sets standards for good forest man-



An FSC certified tropical hardwood bench in the London 2012 Olympic Park with views to the East Village

agement, against which companies are audited to ensure they manage their forests responsibly. There is also auditing of the supply chain to ensure FSC materials can be identified from forest to consumer.

Worrying news coverage about forest destruction has caused some to shy away from using timber, feeling safer with concrete or steel, but FSC and Wood for Good, the UK's wood promotion campaign, hope that things will change. Boycotting



timber can devalue forests and encourage rampant deforestation and slash and burn practices. However, taking care of forests and paying for good wood from fair forests can help make the forests worth more alive than dead and preserve them for future generations. Wood, apart from being aesthetically pleasing, has many excellent construction properties, and wood from sustainably managed forests can be better than carbon neutral.

Last year, Wood for Good launched its Wood First campaign, calling for the introduction of a 'wood first' rule in local authority planning guidance. This would require sustainably sourced wood to be considered, where feasible, as the primary construction material in all new-build and refurbishment projects. In stating his support for the campaign, Charles Thwaites, executive director of FSC UK underlined the organisation's belief that timber, "when sourced from forests managed and certified to our exacting standards, can be regarded as one of the world's most sustainable materials".

Using FSC certified timber also helps to achieve top ratings under BREEAM and other such schemes. The Government's Central Point of Expertise on Timber Procurement (CPET) has stated that FSC certified timber meets its criteria for both legality and sustainability, of vital importance in public sector contracts. Then there's the EUTR, which came into effect in March this year; while certification is not accepted as automatic proof of compliance with EUTR, forest certification schemes can play a major role in establishing a 'negligible' risk of illegal timber in the supply chain and are an important consideration in risk assessment and mitigation. Purchasing certified timber or timber products with all their associated documentation, together with evidence on species and country of harvest, is commonly seen as one of the most straightfor-



The Olympic Velodrome's 250m FSC certified Siberian Pine track

ward routes to mitigate risks as an operator under the regulation.

There are a wide variety of FSC certified timber species available in the UK – woods from around the world from home-grown Sitka Spruce to exotic Massaranduba. With over 170 million hectares of FSC certified forests around the world, supplies of certified timber and building materials are increasing all the time. Timber may or may not physically carry the FSC trademarks. Your proof that contractors have actually purchased FSC certified timber products, as specified, is the invoice of the supplier, which should clearly state that FSC certified products were supplied and identify them on the invoice. There should also be a code, specific to the supplier that refers to their FSC chain of custody certification (XXX-COC-#####). The validity of certificates can be checked on the international certificate database at <http://info.fsc.org/>. Information on specifying and verifying FSC timber and gaining company or project certification is available via the FSC UK website at www.fsc-uk.org

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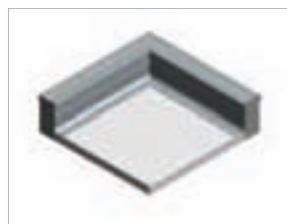
GEZE UK's new product guide is here



An updated product guide and price list is now available on request, ensuring architects, architectural ironmongers and specifiers have details of the very latest products at their fingertips. Featuring all the latest additions to GEZE UK's range of door closers, window control systems, sliding door fittings, RWA smoke and heat extraction systems, the Product Guide 2013 includes the compact and modular Levolan 60 sliding door system, which launches this month. With

detailed product information to help specifiers and architectural ironmongers select the most effective product for their needs, the illustrated technical guide replaces the contents of GEZE UK's existing stylish binder and is available electronically or as hard copy.

BIM sparks fresh interest in Dryseal



Hambleside Danelaw's Dryseal GRP flat roofing system has been attracting international interest from architects and specifiers since the system's AutoCAD Revit building information modelling (BIM) components went live on the online BIM Store. Available on the Store are the various components that make up the Dryseal

system, different roof build-ups and details. The BIM box gutter detail is getting the most views while the full system is the most downloaded component. Hambleside believes that Dryseal is one of the first flat roofing systems to be available via BIM – another innovation from the British manufacturer.

01327 701 900 www.hambleside-danelaw.co.uk

Kawneer's AA®540 window range



Kawneer has further enhanced its AA®540 window range, which combines value for money with a BRE Green Guide "A" rated frame*1, with a high-performance swing door. The AA®545 door uses the same multi-chamber thermal break core as the AA®541 casement, AA®542 pivot and AA®543 tiltturn windows in the range. This technology ensures thermal efficiency (Uw values down to 1.29 W/m²K using 0.6 W/m²K glazing)*2 and full compliance with Document L. Designed for direct

fix into prepared openings and within ribbon windows, the door suites with Kawneer's AA®540 window range, AA®100 and AA®110 curtain walling, 45IPT framing and door systems to give specifiers and architects even more flexibility for new-build and refurbishment projects.

Schueco Jansen façade system gains approval



According to Schueco Jansen, its VISS SG structural glazing façade system, introduced into the UK last year, has just been given European Technical Approval (ETA-13/0015). The rigorous ETA testing process means that architects and contractors can now be even more confident about

the fitness for purpose of this structurally robust, highly insulated steel façade system. The contemporary sought-after 'all-glass' appearance of a VISS SG Façade is achieved through a special toggle and channel system, which holds the glazed unit in place mechanically, without the need for the traditional mullion/transom pressure plate and cover cap profiles.

01908 282111 www.schueco.co.uk

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RMIG helps create a new image for Norwegian university

01925 839 600
info.uk@rmig.com
www.rmig.com

A new £30 million education development in Bergen, Norway is using more than 2,000m² of aluminium cladding from RMIG, which incorporates thousands of precision perforations to create a series of distinctive images on the building's exterior.

Developed on a site previously owned by Norwegian State Railways, the new Bergen University College building on Kronstad Campus brings together five separate listed buildings into a single educational facility that will house around 7,000 students when it opens in late 2014.

The overall architecture and facilities incorporated within this 51,000 sq m project were created jointly by HLM Arkitekter and Leigland Bygg in Norway and Cubo Arkitekter in Denmark. The perforated aluminium façade was designed by Norwegian artist and Bergen University College Masters graduate, Anne-Gry Løland, who won the commission against three other artists.

The patterns and images used for the façade follow a 'knowledge and education' design theme, which merge figures and detailed drawings in a layered effect to create contrast while also providing a dynamic effect as lighting changes during the day.

To ensure the artist's creative designs were captured accurately, RMIG used a unique scanning and mapping process to convert the artwork into 32 different perforation patterns that could be programmed and manufactured to the high precision standards demanded by Anne-Gry Løland.

As with all RMIG architectural projects, the production process was managed under the company's 'City-Emotion' programme, which was created specifically to support architects and contractors who require high quality perforated and

expanded metal products. All RMIG products are manufactured using the latest innovative technologies and can form a key part of the most exciting building projects.

The final panels, which measured 3,584mm x 798mm, were manufactured from 3mm thick untreated aluminium sheets and used circular perforations, ranging from 9mm to 13mm in diameter, to create the virtually photographic quality images that provide the building with its unique exterior.



Kemper helps to create 19th golf green

Kemper System's Kemperol V210 waterproofing membrane has played an important role in the development of a new sustainable club house at Richmond Park Golf Club. The new facilities incorporate a number of green technologies in order to achieve a BREEAM rating of excellent. Distinctively shaped like a bird in flight, the roof of the new club house has been designed to complement the building's surroundings and maximise its thermal efficiency. The building boasts a green roof over a warm roof build-up, which uses acid turf from the Royal Park at Richmond allowing the gently sloping building to blend into the rolling landscape of the course. Gary Millsom of roofing contractor, Garhigh, said, "In order to ensure the roof remained watertight, Kemper System's seamless liquid waterproofing system Kemperol V210 was selected for its FLL certified root-resistant properties, durability and proven performance in green roof developments."

019 254 45532 www.kempersystem.co.uk

Sample packs of NedZink's zinc finishes



Sample packs of NedZink's Naturel, Nova and Noir zinc finishes are now available to specifiers and contractors from SIG Zinc & Copper. The packs are designed to highlight top quality ranges made to EN 988 that are exclusive to the SIG national supply chain. They are suitable for roofing and

façade applications, gutters, rainwater and drainage elements. SIG Zinc & Copper offers a new, cost effective way to zinc a roof, reducing waste and conserving design and installation time. These titanium zinc products are being coil supplied and fabricated in the UK to bespoke specific requirements by Steadman & Sons and Metal Solutions.

Trespa develops environmental credentials



Trespa has a long track record as a leading innovator in the field of architectural materials and has a strong commitment to sustainability. The company works closely with architects, designers, installers, distributors and end users to ensure all its products not only meet the requirements of each individual project, but also maintain Trespa's credentials as an environmentally aware manufacturer. Trespa's policy "Do No Harm, Do Good, Do Better" is used to measure the impact on the environment throughout the life cycle of the product. Now Trespa has received the Environmental Profile Certificate from BBA for its Trespa® Meteor® FR and Trespa® Meteor® Standard product range.

01952 290707 www.trespa.co.uk

IKO's vital contribution to energy saving project

IKO PLC has provided 22,000 sq m of roofing material for a refurbishment project on a large housing estate in Milton Keynes

The Lakes Estate took some time to build, beginning in around 1968 and not being fully completed until 1975. During 2012, hundreds of residents on the estate benefitted from funding to make their homes cleaner, greener, warmer, dryer and cheaper to heat.

The Lakes Community Energy Saving Project (CESP) is a £9.5 million scheme that helped partially fund vital 'eco-upgrades' to people's homes – both council houses and privately owned or rented, 2- or 3-storey houses and bungalows. Work began on the major upgrade to the 469 council homes in March 2012, which could lead to them becoming up to 47 per cent more energy efficient (based on BRE study 2013). The scheme is mainly funded by Milton Keynes council with power giants npower providing grant funding that they earn based on the amount of carbon savings realised by installing the 'eco-upgrades'.

The refurbishment of the properties includes a 'warm roof', which replaced the un-insulated roof

spaces, new double glazing, insulation of lofts and cavity wall insulation, application of new insulated wall cladding and replacement of inefficient central heating systems.

For the warm roof, IKO's Guardian Ultra prevENt System was installed by IKO's approved roofing contractor Oxford Asphalt. This incorporates Systems S-A Underlay, Enertherm ALU PIR Insulation (an upgrade on the existing to achieve a revised U-value of 0.18W/m²K.), Challenger 180 Sanded Underlay and Ultra prevENt Torch-on Cap Sheet. New IKO Superlite roof lights and IKO refurbishment outlets were also installed and IKO's Rubershiel-Light breather membrane was used within the wall cladding.

Cllr Peter Geary, Cabinet Member for Housing & Community, said: "Residents of the estate who have already invested in warm roofs say how much warmer and comfortable their houses are than previously, and how much money they are now saving on their annual fuel costs..."

IKO PLC

0844 412 7224

nichola.clayton@ikogroup.co.uk

www.ikogroup.co.uk



Minus 7 – the true hybrid energy harvester

The **Minus 7** hybrid energy harvesting system is a solar-assisted heat pump technology. The NCM (SAP) identifier for this product is Minus 7 SEP3G10 1/2/3. It is a renewable energy system made up of an endothermic roofing system, a solar energy processor and a large thermal store. The system uses an endothermic tile plank to form a weather-tight interlocking roofing system, made from a 2.5mm thick, uniform profile, aluminium extrusion, dressed in a powder-coated, hard-wearing finish. The endothermic tile planks are flooded with a heat transfer fluid, which absorbs heat energy and solar thermal energy. The system provides hot water and heating for buildings. It is designed to keep a five bed house at a comfortable temperature of at least 21°C even in the worst case scenario of mid-winter. However the system is capable of servicing up to three dwellings at once making it highly suitable for housing associations as well as commercial buildings.

01922 419405 www.minus7.co.uk

BLUCHER roof drain wins best product



Beating off competition from some of the major players in the roofing industry, **BLUCHER** has been awarded "best product in show 2013" for their stainless steel roof outlet. The BLUCHER roof drain was a big hit with the judging panel for Roofex 2013, who commented that the drain was both innovative and a unique addition to the roofing products market. BLUCHER roof drains are manufactured from stainless steel and are a real lightweight low cost alternative to traditional plastic and other metallic rainwater outlets. They can also

offer some significant advantages over the competition.

01937 838 000 www.blucher.co.uk

Fakro



Fakro's new range of flat roof windows includes models with clear and opaque polycarbonate domes as well as a dome-free option. All offer excellent thermal qualities as their multi-chamber PVC frames are filled with polystyrene insulation. Energy-efficient U6 or U8 triple and quadruple-glazed units are also available to provide a glazing U-value as low as 0.3 W/m²K.

Added security is achieved through use of an internal pane of P2A anti-burglary glass and the window design provides a glazing area up to 16 per cent larger than other manufacturers' windows.

01283 554755 www.fakro.co.uk



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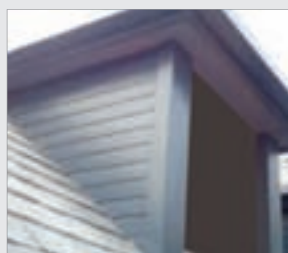
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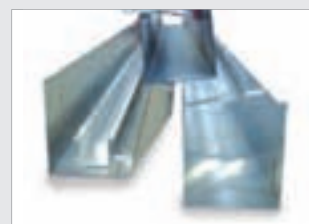
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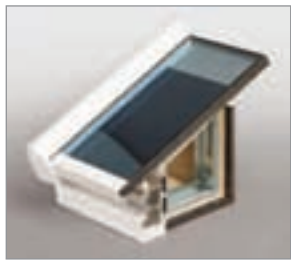


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www.stormguardrainwater.com

Synseal



When it was launched in 2011 K2's Capella fulfilled the simple promise of providing a single integrated internal bracket and aluminium gutter. Since then it has become a firm favourite and is now installed in hundreds of conservatories throughout the UK. Now K2 designers have evolved Capella to provide a number of internal and external options, while maintaining the inherent simplicity for which it became so popular.

Internal options now include single and double bracket PVC-U soffits, which offer a highly cost-efficient solution to giving a conservatory an authentic orangery look. In addition to superb aesthetics the option also provides homeowners with the ability to install low-voltage downlighters.

greenteQ Doctor & Pony Tail door knockers



Following the success of the greenteQ Kappa Slim and Classic Urn door knockers, VBH will add to the range with this summer's launch of the Doctor and Pony Tail styles. Both are hugely popular on traditional period properties, where timber doors were

personalised by a huge choice of furniture styles from local ironmongers. Doctor and Pony Tail allow modern door manufacturers to offer their customers increased personalisation through a wider choice of greenteQ knocker styles. The Doctor knocker features the flamboyant flowing lines often chosen by the Victorian professional classes. The Pony Tail knocker offers a more compact and subtle design that provides homeowners with another attractive alternative.

Supply and install service for windows



NorDan UK Ltd is the biggest supplier of timber alu clad windows to the social housing market in the UK and the firm is currently expanding its supply and install service to customers. With project management offices located close to the customer, NorDan has always

strived to be customer focussed and to offer complete de-risked solutions. Gloucester and Ipswich offices have a long track record in installing product as well as supplying windows and doors from the eight factories in Norway Sweden and Poland.

01452 883131 www.nordan.co.uk

New SGGUK website's eye-pleasing form



Saint-Gobain Glass UK Ltd has redeveloped its website to provide a fresh, exciting and easy to use experience. The site has been evolved in direct response to customer feedback. With a fundamental challenge to improve the experience of all groups using the website, whether homeowners or professional specifiers, SGGUK has ensured its new website enjoys a cleaner, crisper appearance and improved navigation – which for example allows the highlighting of sub headings within specific sections simply by hovering the mouse over any information required, ensuring that any references required by the user can be found quickly and easily. The site is also segmented by sector.

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Specifying glass roof lights

By Jeremy Dunn, technical director of Glazing Vision

Specifying a glass roof light can be a daunting proposition, especially when tasked with this for the first time. Even many experienced in specifying have tried and struggled in the past with so many considerations to take into account, ranging from aesthetics and functionality to safety and regulation compliance.

Function

A roof light can perform many functions and will often be multi-functional. For instance, an opening roof light to provide natural ventilation may also be able to open right up to also provide maintenance access to a roof. A glazed smoke vent may also be suitable to provide natural day to day ventilation. A roof light designed for roof terrace access may also be able to be used as a fire exit. It is therefore important to think carefully about how you wish to use, and consequently specify, the glass system. A roof light can be for much more than to cover a hole in the roof to admit daylight and can add significant value on top of just providing natural daylight.

Safety

There are a number of safety considerations to take into account with regard to both the type of glass you specify and the method of opening the roof light, if it is not fixed. These will be very much dictated by function. If the area is a roof terrace, or the roof light is at ground level allowing light into a basement, then the glass will have to be designed to be walk-on unless the roof light is going to be protected by balustrading. If it is intended to be walked on then it will need to be designed to carry the full floor loads of the rest of the floor in that area.

Glass when wet can be very slippery so some form of slip resistant surface is worth considering. A sandblasted top face or a screen print incorporating grit in the ceramic ink can provide slip resistance, giving a UKSRG rating of moderate/low for slip potential, as well as providing obscurity to the glazing.

Any electrically powered rooflight being used for roof access should have as standard safety features built in to prevent entrapment and possible injury whilst the rooflight is closing.

Opening roof lights

An opening roof light on a roof terrace has many more considerations, the first of which is planning height restrictions and protection of the hole when the roof light is open. A sliding box style roof light will ensure that the only opening is at the top of the stairs while the fixed sides act as a balustrade to protect the opening. Where planning restrictions mean that a flat roof light is the only option, a much bigger opening in the roof is generally required with the consequent loss of roof terrace space to ensure sufficient headroom as you ascend the stairs. This option also requires a balustrade around the roof light. A hinged roof light overcomes some of these issues, as it does not require the space to slide into and thus is more economic on the space requirements and the open lid can act as a balustrade on one side.

Glass & glazing

All overhead glazing needs to be a safety glass, either toughened, laminated or wired glass. It is common practice to have the inner pane as a laminated glass but BS5516-2 allows a toughened inner pane of no more than 6mm thickness where the glazing is up to 5m above the floor and between 5m and 13m above the floor where the pane size is no greater than 3m². Larger pane sizes can be achieved with a toughened inner pane than an annealed laminate inner pane for the same thickness and weight. It also avoids the risk of thermal heat stress breakage that can be a problem with annealed glass. Laminated glass should always be used above water where small pieces of glass may be difficult to locate and remove. Where safety on the roof and risks associated



© RB Photo - Romain BIND

with fragile roofs is a concern, the CWCT TN66 document provides good guidance and defines Class 0, 1, 2 & 3 roofs. Once you decide what classification you need your roof to be it is easy to specify any appropriate testing and performance requirements. CWCT TN67 sets out the testing regime but this is very onerous for smaller roof light projects with only small areas of glazing and so the recent publication TN92 aims to address this by providing some 'deemed to satisfy' criteria for class 2 roofs to help avoid expensive testing.

Continued overleaf...

'A roof light can be for much more than to cover a hole in the roof to admit daylight and can add significant value'

Jeremy Dunn



Thermal performance & U-values

Thermal performance and U-values can be confusing and care needs to be taken when comparing different manufacturers' data, checking it for compliance with building regulations and entering data into SAP and sBEM. Centre pane U-value takes no account of the frame design. The trouble with this is that the overall U-value varies with roof light size and there is no 'standard roof light' for providing comparative performance data like there is for windows. The overall U-value for the roof light is based on the structural opening area in the roof and this is used in SAP calculations, however, there is also the U-value for the developed area of the roof light U_d and this figure is used to confirm compliance with the backstop U-values

specified by the building regulations. Further information on this is available in document NTD2 (2010), published by the National Association of Roof light Manufacturers (NARM). An added complication to U-values for roof lights is that the Building Regulations specify performance figures for roof lights based on the vertical plane so a conversion needs to be carried out to calculate the actual U-value for the installation orientation, this information is available in BRE document BR443. It is therefore very important to establish what U-value you are being quoted by your supplier and make sure you are comparing like for like data when researching different manufacturers products.

CE marking

With the Construction Product Regulations replacing the Construction Products Directive this year the requirement to CE mark products covered by a relevant harmonised European Standard or ETAG takes effect. Where roof lights are concerned there is no harmonised standard for glass roof lights. There are various standards that cover plastic roof lights and EN14351 that covers doors and windows includes roof windows for sloped roofs. A roof window has been defined by the industry as: *A Roof Window (as distinct from a roof light) is a window which: comprises an individual window style frame glazed with a single insulating glass unit characteristic of*

windows installed in walls with regard to function, cleaning, maintenance and durability; is installed in the same orientation and in-plane with the surrounding roof at a minimum of 15 degrees pitch, weathered into the roof with an individual skirt or flashing.

Thus a roof window does need to be CE marked but not a glass rooflight unless it performs some other function covered by a relevant standard such as a smoke vent which would come under EN12101-2 and would therefore also need to be CE marked.

Electrically operated roof lights

Electrically operated roof lights come in many configurations depending on the method of opening as well as the functionality required. The better control systems should be flexible enough to be able to be adapted to suit the application. Typical types of options might be rain sensors, remote controls and temperature and wind sensors. If a roof light is being used for access to a roof terrace and a rain sensor is fitted, consideration needs to be given to how the roof light can be opened again to prevent people being trapped on the roof if the rain sensor closes it automatically

while at the same time ensuring security is maintained. Links to building management systems are also commonly required and it can be beneficial to not only have open and close control but also a status feedback so the system knows if the roof light is open or closed, which can also be useful for security systems. On larger installations such as a school you may want to link all the roof lights together to be timed to close outside school hours and provide a centralised control for the school caretaker to ensure all the roof lights are closed at the end of the day.

Factory assembled

There is no doubt that the build quality of a building component is superior when assembled in a factory. It is also less expensive for the manufacturer and is not susceptible to the vagaries of the British weather. Therefore it is sensible to source roof lights that come to site as a fully factory finished item including glazing where practical. Site constraints don't always allow this, particularly where there is difficult access. A crane

will usually be required with a fully factory assembled roof light and the method of lifting, in some cases a specialist lifting frame, needs to be provided by the manufacturer. Apart from the build quality the other enormous benefit to the client is the speed with which the building can be made watertight with large areas of glazing being able to be installed in a day.

Weather performance

The weather performance of a roof light is dependent on the design and build quality of the product itself but most problems are often due to poor design or weathering of the upstand to which the roof light fits. It is always best practice for the upstand to be at least 150mm above the weathered roof surface with the specific dimensions and details to suit your chosen roof light, the manufacturer should be able to provide you with drawings that show their requirements. Another common design flaw is where steelwork is used within the upstand to provide the structural support and it creates a cold bridge or where the roof cladding system is metal and it is lapped over

the top of the upstand and it ends up bridging the thermal break in the roof light framework. For peace of mind with regard to performance there is no substitute for independent testing so ask for evidence such as BBA Certification to underpin the claims being made.

There is potential to get it very wrong but delivering a good quality, reliable, high performing roof light solution for your client should be straight forward if you follow some basic guidance giving careful consideration to all the issues discussed above in your specification and sourcing of products and suppliers.

'Information on roof light U-values is available in document NTD2 (2010), published by the National Association of Roof light Manufacturers (NARM)'

Jeremy Dunn





Axis installs windows and doors

The Coombes CE Primary school is near Wokingham in Surrey and some of the buildings date back to the 19th Century. Planning permission was granted to demolish the old admin block and build a new extension to provide admin offices, year six classrooms, a junior library and a staff room. **Axis Automatic Entrance Systems** were appointed by main contractor Midas Construction to install doors, windows and some curtain walling. One pair of Stanley Dura-Glide automatic sliding doors and one pair of Stanley Magic Force automatic swing doors ensure full disabled access and a safe entrance and exit for all pupils. These were supplemented by four manual aluminium doors thermally broken to ensure optimum energy efficiency. A steel fire door completed the door requirements. 45 thermally broken Georgian style windows were also installed by Axis together with aluminium curtain walling above the automatic sliding door on the bridge that links the new building with the existing school. Axis managing director Rob Brunero said: "Although we are perhaps best known as sole UK distributors for Stanley Automatic Doors, this project at The Coombes School shows our wider expertise in the installation of all forms of doors, windows and curtain walling."

0844 504 6545 www.axisautomatic.com



Kent Union clean up with waterless urinals

Kent Union, located on the Kent University campus in Canterbury, has an enthusiastic programme of environmental sustainability and their latest project is the installation of 16 Waterless Urinals.

However, the Falcon Flax urinal – supplied by UK distributor **Relcross Ltd** to Eco Ad Ltd – is extra special because it can carry advertisements on a panel at the top. Eco Ad sells the advertising space and shares the income with the owner, giving a return of between 55 per cent and 103 per cent on their investment and a total payback on the capital cost and replacement cartridges within 12 to 24 months.

Kent Union spokesperson Hannah Wallington said: "This is certainly something we would be willing to explore in the future providing the advertising focuses on topics that have a positive benefit to our students." And then there's the saving of up to 150,000 litres of water per year, per urinal – a massive saving in water rates. Kent Union's facilities manager, Helen Close, added: "They are far less smelly than their predecessors and we're looking forward to making considerable savings on our water bills too."

01380 729600 www.waterlesscartridges.co.uk

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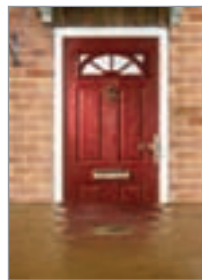
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DuoGuard against floods with Bowater



As the threat of flooding in the UK increases, **Bowater Doors** has unveiled an improved design for its flood defence door. The DuoGuard range is being relaunched following enhancements to its design. The superior appearance of the DuoGuard range is matched by the security it provides, as it meets or exceeds all current British standards, including PAS23, PAS24 and Secured by Design. As well as the 12 locking points securing it to the frame, it also has high security hinges and a six pin anti-drill/ anti-bump euro cylinder, and its steel reinforced PVC-U sub-frame is braced with steel corner supports.

01282 716611 www.system10aluminium.co.uk

Levolux picked for 'one' in Woking



Originally constructed in 1987, One Christchurch Way in Woking has undergone a comprehensive refurbishment to transform it into a landmark office development, boasting an external solar shading solution, courtesy of **Levolux**. Project managed by CBRE, One Christchurch Way has been revamped, providing 25,000 sq ft of Grade A office space, arranged over four floors with significant glazing

that extends along each elevation. To make the building more energy efficient and attractive to prospective tenants, Levolux was approached to develop a custom solar shading solution, applied externally to south and east-facing elevations. The addition of external solar shading would significantly reduce solar heat gain by absorbing and reflecting a proportion of the sun's rays.



RENSON® Linius® weather louvre

The new **RENSON® Linius® L.050W** high performance weather louvre allows architects and constructors to create aesthetically elegant louvre façades with excellent weather protection and still allowing excellent ventilation. This HEVAC tested louvre system achieves class A2 with intake suction velocities up to 3.0 m/s as well as a free area of 57 per cent. This means a low resistance louvre with exceptional water protection performance.

The system is easy to install and integrate with other façade elements. It is available in both continuous louvre and panel form. For places in the façade where the water-resistance is not so vital, **RENSON®** has developed the Linius® L.050WS, a cost effective blade that architecturally matches the L.050W. **RENSON®** also provides a range of structural mullions and fixing options, therefore reducing the need for structural steelwork.

This system can be provided in a variety of finishes, including anodising or polyester powder coating. These solutions provide architects and constructors with a new opportunity to create aesthetic and functional facades. Typical applications are electricity plants, data centres and IT-applications.

01622 754 123 www.rensonuk.net

Best external wall insulation testing



The BBA has made substantial investment in both personnel and equipment for the testing and assessment of external wall insulation /ETICS (External thermal insulation composite systems) in accordance with European Technical Approval Guideline (ETAG) 004. The BBA's UKAS accredited hygrothermal rig tests the performance of these systems by subjecting them to a series of extreme temperature cycles in accordance with ETAG 004. This is an accelerated ageing test and is designed to assess how these systems react over time to changes in moisture (humidity) and temperature.

01923 665300 www.bbacerts.co.uk

Builders to benefit from multi-purpose insulation



A new multi-purpose insulation board from **Dow Building Solutions** is set to bring the advantages of STYROFOAM – excellent strength, moisture resistance and long term durability – to smaller building projects. STYROFOAM extruded polystyrene insulation was

invented by Dow in the 1940s, and has been manufactured at the company's King's Lynn site since 1969. The blue boards have traditionally been used to insulate floors, walls and roofs of major construction projects such as schools, hospitals, retail outlets and cold stores. Now, new STYROFOAM 150-A has been added to the range to make the material more accessible to those working on smaller projects across the new build, refurbishment and self-build sectors.

Marmox Multiboard warms cottage



During the purchase of a delightful cottage in a rural location in Rutland the new owner noticed that the property seemed extremely cold. After considering the options available he decided that **Marmox Multiboard** fitted the bill. Multiboard is manufactured from

extruded polystyrene with both faces of the board covered with close woven fibreglass mesh embedded in a cement polymer mortar. This creates a board that is lightweight yet extremely strong with a high degree of thermal insulation a conductivity of 0.03 watt/mK and is totally impervious to any water penetration from outside.

01634 835290 www.marmox.co.uk

Get the VIP treatment with OPTIM-R



Kingspan Insulation has published two brochures for its new OPTIM-R Roofing and OPTIM-R Flooring Systems, detailing how the next generation vacuum technology can be used to achieve the thinnest possible roof and floor build-ups. With an aged design value thermal conductivity of just 0.007 W/m.K, Kingspan OPTIM-R Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIPs) are ideal for applications where space is at a premium. Kingspan OPTIM-R is available in a range of sizes and thicknesses to accommodate individual layouts and are accompanied with premium and high

performance rigid thermoset insulation infill panels.

01544 387384 www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk/optim-r

EcoTherm for new commercial development



EcoTherm's universal insulation solution, Eco-Versal, has been installed as part of two new Grade A office buildings at the Hermitage Court Business Centre in Barming. The new units were constructed by development owners the Gallagher Group and provide an additional 10,450 sq ft of

high quality office space. Sustainability was a key element of GDM Architect's design for the project with both buildings targeting a BREEAM Very Good rating. To help achieve this, Encon Insulation supplied EcoTherm Eco-Versal to be installed as part of the floor build-ups in both buildings.

01702 520166 www.ecotherm.co.uk

EPIC at the front of electronic CE Marking



Most manufacturers have geared up for the arrival of mandatory CE Marking in July this year, but members of EPIC, the industry voice for insulated panel manufacturers, is leading the way in adopting an innovative approach to this latest EU regulatory requirement in the shape of Electronic CE Marking. All EPIC manufacturing members have embraced the

scheme, and once the systems are in place their products will feature the approved abbreviated CE Mark label with a direct link to the relevant DoP, simplifying the whole process, removing the necessity for contractors and building owners to maintain excessive paperwork.

020 8786 3619 www.epic.uk.com

Kingspan a permanent exhibit at Jerwood



Kingspan Insulation's high performance Thermataper TT47 LPC/FM insulation was specified as part of the new £4 million, award winning Jerwood Gallery in Hastings. Situated among the unique Hastings net shops and on the edge of a working fishing beach. Kingspan Thermataper TT47 LPC/FM insulation was specified for

the roof build up as the tapered insulated boards not only provided the required fall, but also delivered excellent U-values, and therefore formed an important part of the project's energy saving performance.

01544 387 384 www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk

Kooltherm stars in Channel 4 restoration



Kingspan Insulation's Kooltherm and Therma ranges of products have taken a role in Channel 4's *Restoration Man* series, installed as part of a project to convert a Grade II listed church into a holiday home. The uninsulated roof and solid stone walls offered little protection against the cold.

Over 600m² of Kingspan Insulation's premium performance Kooltherm products were installed. To insulate the church's roof, 50mm thick Kingspan Kooltherm K7 pitched roof boards were fitted over a sarking board, with a further 70mm installed underneath it. For the wall build-up, 42.5mm of Kingspan Kooltherm K18 insulated plasterboard was installed above the wall cill, with 62.5mm below it.

01544 387 384 www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk

Bespoke Isokorb solution for sustainable home

A contemporary new build four-bedroom house, with sustainable energy saving features, had to look sympathetic with its surroundings in the traditional town of Bühl, south western Germany. The house borders a monastery garden on the fringes of the Black Forest with a panoramic view across the Rhine to the Alsace region of France.

The solution was a minimalist, even-faceted concrete building, with an uncomplicated interior design styling. It features waxed concrete flooring throughout the ground floor, complemented by exposed concrete stairs that contrast with the simple white walls.

There is a particular design focus on a pool to the south side of the building. During varying daylight conditions the water reflects light and shadow onto the walls and ceilings through the room-high windows. The use of large glazed areas and terraces effectively merge the interior and exterior spaces and at night the water can be illuminated in different colours to create its own ambiance.

One of the key criteria in the design is sustainable energy efficiency; achieved mainly by an air-to-water heat pump system, which supplies energy to heat the underfloor system throughout the house. Integral to this is the foundation plate, which



utilises concrete core activation.

Externally the house and garage appear to be a single architectural unit, however, the garage attaches directly to the building façade. In thermal bridging terms this was a potential problem as the 'cold' garage ceiling requires thermal isolation from the 'warm' residential area.

The optimum solution was a specially designed version of the Schöck Isokorb thermal break module type Q – a classic load-bearing connection for use with reinforced concrete slabs with thicknesses between 160mm and 250mm.

The Isokorb type Q not only provides thermal insulation protection, but transmits positive shear forces for full-length support. Consequently, by installing the units in the ceiling above the garage, they act as connectors to the outer wall of the house in the form of reinforced concrete binding beams.

01865 290 890
www.schoeck.co.uk



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Inspired Noise Solutions are sole UK distributors of Akustikmiljö high-quality sound absorbers. Contact us for specialist services and advice by calling **0151 348 8945**. Alternatively you can email us on sales@inspirednoise.com or visit the website www.inspirednoise.com



BB93's successor is finally here

By Michael Sellars, communications officer at CMS Danskin Acoustics Limited

There has been a lot of talk recently about the replacement for Section 1 of BB93, the constructional standards for acoustics for new school buildings. Unfortunately, the majority of this talk has taken place among acousticians, soundproofing specialists, building control officers and the Department of Education, but has yet to reach the ears of many architects. As the responsibility for specifying the necessary soundproofing and sound absorption materials to meet the new criteria is likely to fall squarely upon the shoulders of architects, we thought it would be worth dedicating a few paragraphs to the topic.

The word 'replacement' is probably a little misleading. The new regulations represent not so much a complete Gok Wan style makeover as a short back and sides. It, therefore, makes sense to revisit the original document before taking a look at the changes.

Out with the old

BB93 (or Building Bulletin 93, the Acoustic Design of Schools, to give it its full title) was conceived as a means of satisfying requirements E4 of Approved Document E of the Building Regulations with regards to sound insulation, reverberation times and indoor ambient noise in schools.

Broadly speaking, BB93 covers:

- Insulation from external noise
- Insulation between rooms through floors, walls and partitions
- Acoustic design of rooms for speech, music and for pupils with special hearing requirements.

The insulation aspect of BB93 deals exclusively with sound transmission and sets out clear standards for precisely how much noise might be allowed to penetrate a classroom or other learning environment. The acoustic design component of the regulations deals with the more complex issue of reverberation. Although distracting noise from external sources or adjoining rooms is problematic and must be addressed, reverberation is particularly detrimental to speech recognition and, therefore, a crucial factor in learning.

Reverberation is simply the reflecting of sound energy from hard surfaces. These reflections reach the pupil's ear after the original sound and so have the effect of 'smearing' the teacher's words. The gap between the original sound and its echo is referred to as the Reverberation Time (RT). The greater the RT, the more smearing occurs and the less intelligible the teacher's words become. Sound absorbent materials are used to reduce the amount of reverberation. Dense or thick materials tend to be used to reduce sound transmission.

In with the new

So, precisely what was wrong with BB93? On the whole, nothing. That is, there were no flaws written into the regulations, nothing that could be strictly referred to as an error. It's just that the way in which schools were envisioned, designed and built back in 2003 is quite different from the way in which they are envisioned, designed and built now. These differences aren't dramatic but they are significant. Unlike much revised regulation, the new document is rather balanced, with some aspects being made more onerous and some less so.

Although there are many small amendments, there are four key changes:

1. The removal of reverberation data from the equation to calculate resistance to impact and airborne sound transmission. This is good news for anyone



'The way in which schools were envisioned, designed and built back in 2003 is quite different from the way in which they are envisioned, designed and built now. These differences aren't dramatic but they are significant'

looking to control their budget as the previous equation factored in reverberation without taking into account the fact that said reverberation would be dealt with by the self-same regulations. This could easily result in over-engineered soundproofing measures, designed to combat a problem that would disappear once rooms were adequately treated with sound absorbent materials.

2. The reverberation time in sports halls has been relaxed from 1.5 seconds to 2 seconds, as it has been recognised that, although this is technically a learning environment, speech clarity is less of an educational factor. Again, the regulations as they stood were leading to over-engineered solutions.
3. A more onerous standard is now in place for open plan areas in recognition of the fact that more and more actual teaching is carried out in these areas.
4. Where pupils with Special Educational Needs are being taught, there is a requirement to treat a broader frequency range than just the mid-frequency that was covered in BB93. Research has demonstrated that low frequency noise creates difficulties for children with Special Educational Needs.

We've saved the worst until last, however. The new regulations have been given the concise and memorable title: Acoustic Performance Standards for the Priority Schools Building Programme including Technical Guidance Document TGD-021-5 Acoustic Performance in Schools.

Just be sure to take a deep breath before you say it out loud.



New pipe boxing and boiler casing brochure from Encasement

A new updated and expanded brochure has been launched by **Encasement**, which covers the company's complete range of market leading boiler casing, pipe-boxing and pipe protection products for social housing, private residential and education alongside a range of other key sectors. The new PDF brochure combines core information on key features and benefits for each product, as well as a range of project images and product specification data, which provides details on materials, finishes, sizes and fixings, as well as schematic diagrams and the available accessories. In addition to covering Encasement's pre-formed plywood products including Riva, Riva 'D' Versa 5, Versa 8 and Versa 8 'D', together with ex-stock and bespoke boiler pipe casings, the brochure also includes detailed information on the Arma metal pipe protection range, which is designed to protect external pipes from damage and vandalism. All of Encasement's pre-formed plywood products are guaranteed for two years and are fully compliant with the new EU Timber Regulations (EUTR), which ban the use of illegally sourced timber products in the UK.



A fresh solution from SE Controls

Birmingham City Council's award winning office development at Woodcock Street is using an advanced natural ventilation solution from **SE Controls** to create a comfortable environment for staff and visitors, while enhancing the building's sustainability credentials by reducing energy consumption. Designed by Associated Architects, the £38 million five-storey building provides a flexible working environment for around 3,000 employees and forms part of the local authority's plans to rationalise its office portfolio. In addition to rainwater harvesting, a 'brown roof' wildlife habitat and photovoltaic panels, SE Controls' natural ventilation solution also played an essential role in helping achieve the energy reduction targets. SE Controls supplied, installed and commissioned the extensive natural ventilation system, which involved 562 TGCO chain and tandem type actuators together with 101 OS2 type 22 controllers to ensure the precise operation of automatically opening windows and vents within the workspace and four atria, which are managed by the building's integrated BMS. The natural ventilation system's operation is also enhanced by the construction methods used with the building.


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ATAG Heating appoints field service engineer



ATAG Heating UK Ltd has appointed Nigel Gregson, as field service engineer. Nigel joins ATAG from heating and plumbing contractors, Frank Webb Ltd of Nottingham, where he was a gas engineer and supervisor for 35 years. Latterly he was also involved with training engineers at the company. He will be joining ATAG's growing team of field service engineers and will be responsible for servicing and maintenance work on all ATAG products, including the A Series, the Q Series and new XL Series of domestic and commercial boilers. His work will also involve supporting ATAG's extensive

network of Select Dealer service engineers.

EHC radiators available in bespoke colours



Sales of electric radiators in the UK heating market have increased dramatically over the past few years due to significant improvements in design and controllability. Previous types of electric heating were uncontrollable and inflexi-

ble with the main complaint from homeowners being that heat to the property was unavailable when needed most. Electric heating products have been proven to be affordable to operate when on the correct electricity tariff however with the increasing popularity of installing Solar PV, electricity bills can be cut substantially. The Electric Heating Company (EHC) offers the complete range with a choice of thermostatic controls or time and temperature controls.

01698 820533 www.electric-heatingcompany.co.uk

Pivot Stove & Heating opening for business



Pivot Stove & Heating, founded in 1876 and a long established brand in Australia and New Zealand, is opening for business in the UK and unveiling its first showroom and national distribution hub in Macclesfield, Cheshire. Supplying integrated home heating and cooking solutions, Pivot will be showcasing the best sustainable, renewable fuels heating resources from around the world. Pivot's huge product range will include freestanding and inset stoves, both wood

burning and multi-fuel, plus a range of efficient boiler stoves and range cookers. Brands being stocked include Esse, Jetmaster and Pyroclassic, the cleanest, most efficient wood fire in New Zealand for 30 years.

03333 231270 www.pivotstove.co.uk

Xpelair puts users in control



Xpelair Ventilation Solutions has launched the ConneX range of RF (radio frequency) controls – the ideal command solution for the commercial and housing markets that puts users in complete control of their ventilation requirements. The battery-less ConneX controllers can be used with up to 10 units of the same size at a distance of 25 meters, something that is particularly important in large commercial settings

where multiple units will be crucial to attaining appropriate IAQ levels. This means that rather than adjusting units individually, multiple units throughout commercial premises or homes can be adjusted at the touch of a button.

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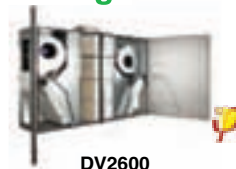
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SE Controls provides safe and comfortable environment for Staffordshire students

A £30 million Science and Technology Centre at Staffordshire University's Stoke Campus is relying on a combined smoke and natural ventilation solution from SE Controls to create a comfortable and safe environment for staff and students.

Designed by architect Sheppard Robson and built by Miller Construction, the extensive facility is part of a £200 million flagship regeneration scheme, transforming education in the region with the development of the 'Uni-Q' university quarter.

Working closely with façade and access specialist Norking Aluminium, SE Controls was responsible for the supply, installation and commissioning of the smoke and natural ventilation solution to ensure the fully automated system met design specifications and legislation for air quality as well as smoke safety in the event of a fire.

SE Controls supplied 240 SCCO and TGCO type chain actuators to the project, which were used in conjunction with 40 OS2 controllers to provide complete control over the vertical vents, louvres and atrium vents. In normal operating mode, the actuators and controllers ensure that carbon dioxide and temperature levels are managed effectively throughout the building to maintain a comfortable working environment using signals from the building management system. Night purging and cooling of the Science and Technology Centre is also handled automatically by the system.



In the event of a fire, the system operates in smoke ventilation mode to ensure that all corridors, escape routes and public areas are kept free from smoke to aid the rapid evacuation.

SE Controls' project manager, Darren Wainwright, explained: "Air quality is vitally important in educational buildings to ensure that carbon dioxide levels are managed effectively and temperatures are kept well within pre-defined limits."

01543 443060 info@secontrol.com
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www.vents.co.uk

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01536 511874











Synagogue benefits from Hunter Douglas

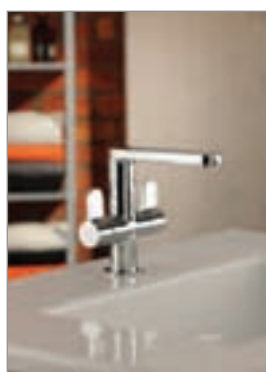


London's Mill Hill Synagogue, which formed more than 60 years ago and now serves a 1,200-strong community, has undergone an extensive refurbishment, which includes bespoke ceiling solutions from **Hunter Douglas**. Liaising with PCC Interiors, the main installers, Hunter Douglas provided 350m² of solid wood –

Siberian Larch – in the linear open system with class '0' fire treatment. The system features 92mm wide solid wood slats with a 19mm gap between them, which is closed off using a black non-woven acoustic fleece. The Linear Wood ceiling ensures a high level of acoustic absorption.

01543 275 757 www.hunterdouglas.co.uk

Bliss bathroom basin taps



The new Bliss range from **Abode** has been created especially for the UK market and forms part of a new collection of bathroom products which have a strong, yet versatile design. There are several basin tap options available which makes Bliss suitable for all styles of bathrooms. There are three heights of monobloc mixers, dual handle mixers with flat planate spouts with paddle style levers plus a wall mounted mixer – all available in chrome finish.

01226 283434 www.abode.eu

Abode



Storm is a range of stainless steel, flat slimline showers aimed at the design conscious consumer who has come to expect only the best from **Abode**. The stunningly designed showers are a feat of engineering excellence at only 3mm thick. All heads have a

spray pattern, which produces a Storm of water for an invigorating shower. The company now introduces the latest heads, which also incorporate a waterfall. The range combines long and square heads for wall mounting and square and circular heads for ceiling mounting.

01226 283434 www.abode.eu

High on technology, low on carbon footprint



Abacus Elements is a range of easy to install, tileable wet floor systems for domestic and commercial applications. Made by specialist manufacturer and distributor of bathroom products, **Abacus Direct Ltd**, the waterproof structural foam boasts high insulation properties and high compressive strength. Added benefits

include a lightweight, easy-to-handle structure, which is easy to cut, fire retardant and made without CFC, HCFC, HFC or CO₂, so it can also help reduce the carbon footprint of a building. New Abacus Elements shower bases offer advanced technological manufacturing for ultimate strength and peace of mind. They come with a 10-year guarantee.



New mobile patient hoist range

Gainsborough Specialist Bathing has launched a new series of Glide mobile patient hoists for the care environment. For over 25 years, Gainsborough, part of the Care in Bathing Group, has supplied specialist assistive bathing solutions from concept to completion, in a variety of locations from residential care homes to acute wards. Gainsborough can now also provide lifting and transfer solutions alongside its assisted baths with the launch of its new Glide range. The introduction of the Glide M150 Mobile Bath Hoist, M180 Mobile Hoist, M200 Stand-aid and M320 Bariatric Hoist, follows the successful launch of the Glide 200 ceiling track hoist system from Gainsborough. This new range of versatile hoists is designed to enhance the patient transfer experience and each model will deliver the same high levels of reliability, quality and safety associated with the Gainsborough range of powered baths. Gordon Farmiloe, Care in Bathing managing director explains: "The Glide 200 ceiling track hoist system has already proven popular with care providers and our new mobile hoists promise to deliver even more benefits. Moving and handling best practice is critical in all modern care environments along with maintaining high levels of safety. Hence these new hoists help to meet these challenges through industry-leading performance."

0800 542 9194 www.gainsboroughbaths.com

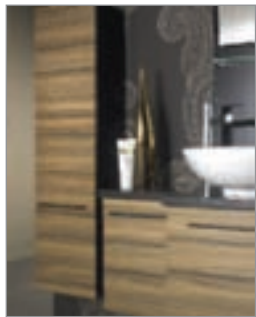


ESG

In bathrooms and wetrooms where privacy and discretion is vital, **ESG Switchable™** gives instant control over privacy or public gaze. **ESG Switchable™** increases the levels of light and space, opening up small bathrooms and creating a much more pleasant ambience. This makes the privacy glass the preferred choice for use in bathrooms as well as in larger wet rooms, pool areas and changing areas as a modern design feature. The system is safe and fully certified for use in wet areas, with a low working voltage from just 24v. Offering a full system solution, **ESG Switchable™** technology can be combined with coloured or decorative interlayers to complement interior design. It can be used on curved surfaces, cut into odd shapes or even hole punched, with bespoke hinges and fittings also available. **ESG Switchable™** LCD Privacy Glass integrates with building management systems, and is available in sizing up to 1,800mm x 3,500mm, the largest on the market. With a life expectancy of 25 years with due care, **ESG Switchable™** is manufactured in the UK with full technical support and installation service.

01376 520061 www.esgswitchableglass.co.uk

Mereway Bathrooms

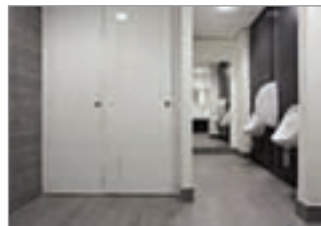


Storage is everything in today's modern bathroom, and designers can express their flare and style statement with Mereway's stunning collection of modular and fitted furniture. With such a broad selection of depth and width cabinets, not to mention the number of low level, base, wall and full height units within their range, Mereway can offer a storage solution for any size or shape of bathroom. The collection comprises 34 beautiful door finishes and an extensive number of

handle options, luxury components, design features and storage solutions.

0800 028 4466 www.merewaybathrooms.co.uk

Maximum style at a minimalist price



Utilising innovative design and value manufacturing techniques, Maxwood's new flush-fronted Mystiq toilet cubicle system offers maximum style at a minimalist price. Mystiq's full height, flush-fronted design delivers the elegant in-line look of a high-end washroom at a surprisingly low cost. Available in a wide

range of coloured and woodgrain laminates and with a choice of cubicle sizes, the highly versatile Mystiq provides an attractive and cost-effective cubicle solution for all kinds of public and commercial washroom applications. Full details of the new Mystiq cubicle system and other washroom solutions in Maxwood's extensive range are shown on the company's totally revamped website.



Lakes Bathrooms expands the Coastline

Shower specialist Lakes Bathrooms has expanded its Coastline Collection of 8mm walk-in enclosures, adding 24 new sizes to the range. The contemporary, sleek and minimalist collection of shower enclosures has proven so popular that new sizes have been added to each style to maximise consumer choice. The entire collection has almost doubled and now includes 46 designs and sizes. The range is designed to look stunning and be straightforward to fit, with discreet, silicon-free profiling providing for a high level of adjustability, with all the 8mm enclosures coming with a lifetime guarantee. Suitable for a range of situations, the two metre high enclosures are designed to fit with low profile tray mounting or in a wet room environment. The various styles work in alcove, corner, straight wall-mounted and free-standing situations. Lakes Bathrooms' stay-clean AllClear treatment is applied to both sides of the glass to help the enclosure retain its crystal showroom finish, saving on both cleaning effort and expense, while supporting improved hygiene and minimising environmental impact for real eco appeal. Retail prices for the 8mm Walk-in range in the Coastline Collection start from £263 plus VAT. The new enclosures are now shipping on the company's normal 24-48 hour delivery.

01684 853870 www.lakesbathrooms.co.uk



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Showering trends

David Osborne, managing director of UK shower manufacturer Roman, talks us through the latest trends in design, as well as giving a brief rundown of some important changes to CE mark legislation that we should be aware of

The bathroom has now become a key focus for homeowners and it is becoming more and more important for architects and housebuilders to create a space that will be appealing to homeowners.

Design trends

A real trend that has emerged over recent years seems to be to create a hotel inspired bathroom space. More of us are now experiencing luxury showering and bathing in hotels, with indulgent weekends away, and luxury holidays overseas. This has encouraged a real trend towards boutique hotel inspired bathrooms, and there is a range of showering products available that can create the feeling of hotel chic in your own home.

Wetrooms offer both practicality and style that helps recreate this boutique feeling of luxury. However, true wetrooms are still very much niche due to the lack of experience and therefore confidence with the trade and the perceived installation costs. However, simulated wetrooms with low-level shower trays have become increasingly popular. There has been an obvious shift towards wetroom panels or walk-ins being installed onto a shower tray, rather than a tanked and tiled floor.

In terms of more traditional enclosed showers, to fit in with this hotel feel, minimal framing and thicker glass is a must to achieve a designer

'A real trend that has emerged over recent years seems to be to create a hotel inspired bathroom space'

finish. Although often referred to as frameless, truly frameless is still very much niche because of limitations created by site conditions – this is a made to measure service. To install a truly frameless enclosure the walls must be exactly vertical. Therefore, due to building tolerances and the need for a speedy installation, frames are often a necessity. However, designers and manufacturers of shower enclosures are developing products that give a frameless finish, but that can be installed within the typical UK bathroom. Semi-frameless is very much where the mainstream shower enclosure specifications lie – this is certainly increasing as the look moves through all market sectors.

When specifying at the higher end of the market, alongside the overall look, the movement of the enclosure door has also become a key factor– it should be totally smooth and almost silent. Uniquely, within the bathroom the shower enclosure is one of the only bathroom items that

which contains moving parts and receives impact constantly, following installation. It is also expected to be watertight and act like a fish tank. Therefore it should be one of the most considered parts of the bathroom design.

Small bathrooms

With new build housing, if multiple bathrooms are offered, they are usually added within smaller spaces. Just because a bathroom has been squeezed into a small area, this doesn't mean you have to compromise on both style and performance. With the rise in multiple bathrooms there is the opportunity for one main family bathroom and then multiple shower rooms presented in an ensuite situation. Many shower enclosures are available in 800 and even 760mm footprints – this allows them to be squeezed into these tight spaces. Choose an inward opening door to avoid other fixtures and fittings, such as a bi-fold door.

For the main family bathroom, if space won't allow for a separate showering and bathing facility, you can add an additional showering facility positioned over the bath. There is a wide range of bath screens available, which will look stylish and contemporary with minimal framing and thicker glass. They can also come power shower approved so the homeowner can still enjoy that powerful and refreshing shower, while showering over the bath.

Continued overleaf...



CE marking

The most critical change to legislation, which housebuilders, architects and specifiers need to be aware of, is that all products used within construction must carry the CE mark as from 1 July 2013. Whereas previously this has been prominent on electrical items, it now applies to all products – including bathroom items such as the shower enclosure and shower tray. The CE marking indicates that a product complies with EU regulation, but as a self-certification scheme it is the manufacturer's responsibility to ensure their products conform to the relevant regulations. However, as the reseller of the product, it is important that you ensure the showering products you specify from the 1 July 2013 are conforming to this new regulation.

Checking whether a product carries the CE marking is fairly straightforward. The manufacturer will most likely include the CE marking on the product itself, and in marketing material, but it is also the manufacturer's responsibility to make the declaration of performance readily available. Where this information is not readily available, housebuilders, architects and specifiers should be cautious. Speak to your suppliers and ensure they have conformed to the scheme.

"In terms of more traditional enclosed showers, to fit in with this hotel feel, minimal framing and thicker glass is a must to achieve a designer finish"



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Relcross LCN Auto Equalizers aid democracy at Aylesbury Vale

The doors of Aylesbury Vale's Council Chamber can be now opened and closed by Relcross LCN Auto Equalizers. Both entrances to the 'Oculus' at the Council's Gateway offices and conference centre in Aylesbury feature two pairs of double doors at either end of an entrance vestibule. All these doors have been fitted with Auto Equalizers controlled by wall mounted push pads that each open and close one pair of doors.

Additionally, two single doors that provide access to the toilet facilities adjacent to the main room have been similarly equipped. Many standard door closers could not be fitted to doors of this size or could not cope with the fire specifications. Roger Hudman of installer Rowsman Ltd suggested the pneumatic powered Relcross system as he has had considerable success with it before.

The system has three main components. Firstly the door operator, secondly, a separate controller for each system (or group of doors) and thirdly the air compressor, carefully selected to accommodate the likely traffic profile. The Relcross Auto Equalizer has been independently tested to over three million full load cycles.

01380 729600 www.relcross.co.uk

Aqata – luxury walk-ins



Aqata has an extensive collection of luxury walk-ins and contemporary shower screens with hinged panels, which have been designed specially to create seamless wetroom style showering areas. The stylish Spectra SP446 walk-in screen with hinged panel in particular has become a best-seller for Aqata. Offering clean lines and a spacious contemporary showering space, the 1,950mm high corner walk-in has a practical 350mm hinged

panel to keep overspray to a minimum. This allows easy access and also maximum freedom of movement as the shower space is not fully enclosed.

01455 896 500 www.aqata.co.uk

SAS International compliant with new version



SAS International, British manufacturer of interior fit-out products, is pleased to announce it is fully compliant with the latest SKA criteria, offices v1.2. Commercial office projects registered after 31 May will be assessed and certified against this new standard. SAS International's environmental statements provide detail of the new information specifiers need to make

informed decisions for projects undertaking SKA assessments. Covering the full range of interior products, SAS International's solutions, including System 8000, its award winning fully glazed partitioning system, doors and suspended ceiling systems, are compliant with the new criteria.

0118 929 0900 www.sasint.co.uk/statements



Stylish column casings

Stylish column casings from Encasement's Circa range are being used to conceal structural columns and provide an integrated contemporary finish within the Pie Factory building at the innovative Media City development in Salford. Located at Salford Quays, Media City is one of Europe's most dynamic mixed use developments combining workspace, residential and retail, as well as one some of the world's most advanced HD broadcast studios and multi-media and production facilities, which are used extensively by the BBC and ITV. To meet the demands for a contemporary design and high quality finish that integrates with the building's décor, Encasement was chosen by the interior designers to supply and install a series of unique circular column casings, which are finished in durable polar white Formica laminate. Each 750mm diameter column casing stands 3,000mm high and is made up from 16 separate 'quartered' segments, which are secured to the structural column and connected by brushed stainless steel laminate feature joints. Matching brushed stainless steel header and skirt-collars are also installed, which add to the stylish finish.

Planet Partitioning wins gold award



In recognition of its work carried out at The Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Planet Partitioning has been presented with the Gold award for partitioning at the 2013 AIS Contractors Awards, held on 11 June at The Dorchester Hotel, London. The awards, which are designed to help

promote high levels of craftsmanship and design, are presented to AIS' contractor members who have delivered outstanding projects of exceptional quality and value. As such, Planet Partitioning was proud to receive the Gold award, acknowledging its hard work and dedication. Planet worked hard with their team of technical designers to create a bespoke system that fulfilled all of these requirements.

0800 328 9561 www.planetpartitioning.co.uk

Troldtekt helps R&D centre take the LEED



Vestas Technology's new R&D Centre in western Jutland is the first LEED building in Denmark to achieve certification in the platinum category. Designed by architects Aarhus Arkitekterne a/s, the latest building technology and materials have been used to create the most sustainable building as possible.

This includes ceilings formed with Troldtekt acoustic panels and Troldtekt lighting installed together to provide a combined 'one stop shop' package of energy efficient solutions and a perfect indoor climate. Troldtekt's lighting comprises a range of recessed spotlights plus round and linear fittings specially designed for installation within Troldtekt acoustic panels. This leaves the ceiling uncluttered but also easily accessible from below to facilitate relamping.



Rockfon has sound quality down to a fine art

October Gallery, the cutting-edge contemporary art space in Bloomsbury London, was searching for a solution to reduce the amount of noise in its exhibition rooms and café. The gallery appointed acoustic consultants, Sandy Brown Associates, to advise on improvements to the sound insulation and room acoustics. Having taken reverberation time measurements, Sandy Brown Associates put forward recommendations to control reverberation in these areas. Once a Victorian school house, the October Gallery was suffering from a lot of reverberation noise due to the wooden flooring and sound travelling through the ceilings as Chili Hawes, October Gallery owner, explained, "When there were more than 10 people in the gallery it became very noisy, making it difficult for visitors to hear each other." Panarc Interior Solutions installed 150m² of the Rockfon Mono Acoustic ceiling system using an MF framework, with 1 layer of 15mm soundbloc board; this provided additional sound insulation value to reduce noise transfer between the floors.

0800 389 0314 www.rockfon.co.uk

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Open workspace for Dutch defence staff



Hunter Douglas has worked with Sander Architects to develop a new type of Techstyle ceiling panel for the recently renovated Netherlands' Defence Ministry. The flat, lightweight Techstyle panels have a plaster-like surface and their cellular structure and non-woven material means they

absorb both high and low frequencies, providing highly effective sound absorption. Hunter Douglas adapted the panels specifically for this project to provide a flexible workspace. The innovative use of invisible, click-fastening mechanism ensures the panels can be easily replaced when installing partitions. A partition can be attached to an extra profile and clicked into the ceiling's narrow seam.

01543 275 757 www.hunterdouglas.co.uk

Polyseam's ISO 14001 certification



Polyseam has become one of the first companies to achieve ISO 14001 certification. "We are delighted that our hard work has been recognised and that our customers, staff and other stakeholders can now be confident in our commitment to the management of our environmental responsibilities," commented managing director

Andrew Sutulic. "Manufacturing, and in particular those including chemical processes, are often poorly viewed by the wider community. By achieving this recognition Polyseam is not only helping to enhance its own reputation and credibility but also that of UK manufacturing."

01484 421036 www.polyseam.co.uk

Mobilane launches LivePicture



Leading green screen company Mobilane is breathing fresh air indoors and out with the launch of its latest innovation, LivePicture – a framed arrangement of plants that can be hung on either interior or exterior walls. The living 'picture' creates a striking, space-saving focal point, as

well as offering a natural way to improve air quality. Mobilane has created LivePicture to meet the increasing demand for inventive ways to use plants. Each LivePicture features a specially developed nutritionally balanced mineral substrate able to support a wide variety of plant types

07711 895261 www.mobilane.co.uk

JB Kind advises vigilance with fire doors



A number of customers have contacted JB Kind, concerned about the validity of fire doors purchased from other door suppliers, where the certification supplied has been for an entirely different door. There seems to be confusion as to the standards that a fire door should reach and how to check they have been

met. Specifications may require the door to be a different size, perhaps with glazing or ironmongery that is not as tested. These variations can only be allowed if covered by an Assessment report issued by the approving body and JB Kind advises to request a copy as a matter of course.

01283 554197 www.jbkind.com

Egger launches solution for loft spaces

Wood panel manufacturer Egger UK has launched a new range of decorative floor panels specifically designed to make boarding out loft and attic spaces a simple job for DIY enthusiasts.

Egger Decorative Protect Loft Panels are easy to fit and feature an attractive decorative oak wood-grain finish. They are manufactured to a P5 grade making them moisture resistant and structural and they also provide the opportunity to span up to 600mm between joist centres.

The panels are simple to install, hard wearing, and the unique decorative oak-effect finish means no additional floor covering such as carpet or vinyl is required, which also offers the benefit of saving on project costs and installation time.

Previously, boarding out lofts and attic spaces was usually limited to a non-structural raw 18mm P4 grade tongue and groove panel, which cannot be walked on and only spans up to 400mm joist centres.

Egger's specification manager Daniel Clarke said: "Increasingly, households are seeking to add value and create more usable space within the home by converting loft, attic or utility spaces as a cost effective alternative to moving house.

"Our new Decorative Protect Loft Panels have been designed to add value to the home by offering an attractive, simple solution, which is both durable and versatile so it will fit through standard domestic loft hatches."

The panel sizes are 1,200 x 350 in a 22mm thickness, which will cover a maximum span of up to 600mm centres, three panels are supplied per pack for easy transportation and lifting and will cover approximately 1.26m².

Each panel has a precision tongue and grooved interlocking profile on the two long sides of the board to make panel installation quicker and easier when used in conjunction with Egger's D3 Adhesive. Step-by-step fitting instructions



are supplied with every pack.

Egger Decorative Protect Loft Panels are also suitable for use in structural applications when used in conjunction with structural floor timber or I Joist. This makes them ideal for use in a variety of settings such as cloakrooms, conservatories, utility rooms and garden buildings.



0845 602 4444

building.uk@egger.com

www.egger.co.uk



Tarkett launch new Luxury Vinyl Tile range

Flooring expert Tarkett has launched an innovative new range of Luxury Vinyl Tiles (LVTs) for the home – iD Inspiration 70. The company has used its years of experience developing LVTs for the commercial sector to produce the range that will sit alongside its iD Selection 40 collection. The ranges retain commercial specifications meaning that they're extremely hard wearing. But Tarkett has designed these new collections for the smaller room sizes and interior aesthetics of consumer homes. Both ranges are 100 per cent recyclable and include a minimum 48 per cent recycled content. Tarkett's LVT range is also the only product on the UK market that is manufactured and designed in Europe. This means both products have a carbon footprint lower than those manufactured in the Far East. VOC emissions are also below quantifiable levels, contributing to an optimal indoor air quality.

01622 854040 www.tarkett.co.uk

Hansgrohe – ShowerTablet Select 300



The innovative Select collection from Hansgrohe includes Raindance Select hand showers, overhead showers and showerpipes with ShowerSelect and ShowerTablet thermostatic bath/shower controls – all with simple push button 'select' operation. As a highly functional solution for exposed installations, the Hansgrohe experts have developed

the ShowerTablet Select 300, an attractive and generously dimensioned shelf for storage, in a unit that also does the work of a thermostat. A new shut-off valve allows turning the flow of water on and off by simply pushing a button and no longer by rotating, making it easy to use for all ages.

01372 465 655 www.hansgrohe.co.uk

Another first from Franke Washrooms



The inclusion of an innovative single-piece P-Trap and an improved shape to the bowl in all Franke Washrooms Systems' WCs means each one is quicker to manufacturer and as a result delivers a tangible cost saving on the retail price on all models of up to five per cent. Improvements to the design, created by a new integral single-piece P-Trap replacing the previously three-piece assembly, is expected to provide the very

best flush performance at six or four litre and dual-flush. Effective from April 1, the new P-Trap and bowl design will be on all WCs in the Franke Washrooms Systems line-up including the floor-standing and wall-hung units.

ws-marketing.gb@franke.com www.franke.com



Forbo supplies Novilon cushioned vinyl for social housing scheme

Yorkshire Housing recently specified **Forbo's** Novilon cushioned vinyl products for kitchens and bathrooms as part of a refurbishment project to ensure that its 20-property social housing scheme met the Decent Homes Standard. The comprehensive portfolio of styles and designs available met the housing provider's aesthetic needs while Novilon's Diamond Seal and Noviclean features, which help guard against scratches and scuff marks, met requirements for easy cleaning, low maintenance and long term durability. A selection of designs were specified from the contemporary Novilon Viva and Viva Fusion ranges, which comprise a sophisticated mixture of metallic tiles and modern style wood effects. Novilon's Aquagrip lacquer, delivering R10 slip resistance, provided Yorkshire Housing and its tenants with peace of mind, reducing potential slip and trip hazards. "We were thoroughly impressed with Forbo's range of colours and designs," said Andy Kelham, investment programme manager. "It as critical to specify floor coverings that would have long lasting performance as well as being hardwearing and easy to maintain – and the Novilon products easily met these needs."



A healthy dose of Tarkett flooring

When tasked with replacing the flooring in two respite care centres, for Ward Flooring Solutions, **Tarkett** was the obvious choice. The Shaw Healthcare and Kent County Council centres needed updating and, wanting to create a more homely feel, Ward Flooring selected Tarkett Safetred Wood. The Tarkett range provided the functionality needed for a respite care centre without compromising on aesthetics. More than 1,400 sq m of the flooring has been installed in numerous dining areas, bedrooms and hallways used by patients. Chris Ward, director of Ward Flooring Solutions, said: "We had a number of challenging requirements to fulfil when picking the flooring for the care centres. Probably the biggest consideration was that it had to be pleasing to the eye, but also non-slip and suitable for a healthcare environment. The Tarkett flooring selected met all of our needs. It was natural in appearance and offered numerous advantages to our fitters."

01622 854040 www.tarkett.co.uk

Remmers provides anti-slip protection



Having previously provided flooring solutions for the Snowdome, **Remmers** were again contacted to provide a flooring system to the newly refurbished ski hire centre. The client required a seamless, hard wearing non slip surface that was easy to maintain. 600m² of Remmers Floormix DQ was installed to the wash bays and toilets, locker and changing areas as well as the open staircase leading in from the main foyer area. The DQ System was also applied to the insitu coving and full wall height rendering in the wash bay area. As a tight installation schedule was in place, fast curing resins were used where possible.

0845 373 0103 www.remmers.co.uk

The year of the hexagon



Hexagon tiles are the breakout success story of 2013, and to meet this demand **Solus Ceramics** has developed a range composed entirely of hexagon shapes. Hexagram is an exciting new series of hexagon wall and floor tiles that consists of 13 bold colours in a matt

finish in a 100mm x 115mm size. Due to the equal vertices, the hexagons can be fitted together perfectly and can be arranged in infinite patterns. Tiles from the Hexagram range can also be used as borders or special decorations and can be mixed with tiles from the Program range to create even more interesting patterns. The range has been specifically handpicked so that colours work well individually and mixed together.

0121 753 0777 www.solusceramics.com



A Bona finish for a fir floor

The John Hope Gateway is Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh's biodiversity and information centre. It's a shining example of green construction and sustainability, and the restaurant features a Douglas Fir floor, which has just been finished with **Bona Traffic HD**! The 500m² floor was sanded and finished over just five days by Fife based Cleaning Systems UK. The team treated the floor in four sections, which allowed the restaurant to remain open while the floor was renovated. The whole area was initially sanded back to bare wood using Bona's DCS 'dust free' sanding system, which meant there was no need to 'tent' the adjacent mezzanine area. The sanding dust was recycled by being bagged up for use by local riding stables. Each section was then primed and given one coat of lacquer at night, ready for two further coats of lacquer the next day. Bona Traffic HD was specified for the final two coats to provide the required level of durability in such a busy space with inevitable food and drink spills.

01908 525 150 www.bona.com

Light me up

Michael Linsky, managing director of Sensio, discusses the importance for planning the correct lighting for your project

A well thought-out lighting scheme can dramatically enhance the appearance and usability of any kitchen design. No matter how much or how little you are investing in the kitchen itself, lighting can allow any kitchen to make an impression.

Lighting is often left as an afterthought, but it should be a key consideration during the initial stages of planning your kitchen. There has never been so much choice when it comes to kitchen lighting and choosing the right products can be quite an overwhelming task as there are so many different fixtures and fittings now on the market. However, taking the time to think carefully about the lighting you need will most definitely pay off. It is important that the retailer or manufacturer that you are purchasing the kitchen from discusses the lighting options available to you and specifies lighting that meets your needs and requirements in accordance to how the kitchen is most likely to be used.

You want your kitchen to have longevity, so when it comes to lighting LED's are the future. Incandescent bulbs are no longer available to purchase and with plans on the horizon to also phase out halogen, LED is the only lighting option that is here to stay, but what's more, it is the most energy efficient and cost-effective source of lighting available.

While the initial cost of purchasing LED lighting for your kitchen is likely to be more than it would be for halogen bulbs, the long-term benefits certainly outweigh this start-up cost. One 20W halogen fitting costs approximately £9.66 per year to run (based on 8 hours usage per day). One 1.65W HD LED fitting will provide the same level of brightness, yet cost only 90p per year to run, resulting in a saving of £8.76 per fitting, per year!

LED's are both lighter on your pocket and kinder to the environment as the wasted energy that is produced is minimal, meaning that your energy consumption is significantly reduced. In fact, 90 per cent of the energy used with halogen bulbs is wasted and converted into radiant heat. LED's are a far safer option as they will not over-heat or produce UV or IR rays.

In purchasing LED's you will also eliminate the cost of replacement bulbs as the average lifespan of LED's is approximately 12.5 years, that's 40,000



'You want your kitchen to have longevity, so when it comes to lighting, LED's are the future'

hours. On average, a halogen bulb will last for around 1.5 years, or 3,000 hours. With LED's there's no need to climb up a ladder and change the bulbs, as the chances are the light fittings will outlive the carcass of the kitchen itself!

In the past, LED's have been thought of as producing a cold, blue light, but this is a thing of the past. LED fittings are now available in a cool white or warm white shade of light and the option you choose should mainly depend upon the style and finish of the cabinets and work surfaces you have opted for.

Warm white lighting will produce a shade of light similar to that of halogen. It will have a yellowish glow and is well-suited to traditional kitchens as it

highlights the grain of the wood in the cabinet doors. It will also complement marble and sandstone work surfaces, which are a popular choice for traditional settings.

If your self-build is the ultimate in modern design and you are fitting a sleek, contemporary kitchen design with high gloss cabinets, cool white lighting is the better option. Providing more of a clinical, bright light, cool white creates a more dramatic effect that suits the crisp, clean lines and minimalist styling of a modern kitchen.

A good lighting scheme will have an ideal balance of task and mood lighting; however the fittings you include will depend upon the purpose of your kitchen. Task lighting aids the more practical tasks in the kitchen such as food preparation, cooking and cleaning and should be fitted underneath wall-hung cabinets to illuminate work surfaces. It can be purchased in the form of spot or strip lighting. You may want to consider cool white light fittings here, as they will provide a brighter light.

Continued overleaf...



Situate mood lighting above wall-hung cabinets, along the plinth of base units and also use it to illuminate shelves. If your kitchen design includes an island, placing subtle strip lighting around the base will create a floating effect and will provide your kitchen with a dramatic focal point.

To make your kitchen more user-friendly, you may also want to consider convenience lighting. This comes in the form of in-drawer and in-cabinet lighting to illuminate these areas to help you find the ingredients and utensils you need. Some fittings may have a sensor integrated into the design so that the light automatically turns on when you open the door or drawer, and turns off when you close it to save energy. If the fitting doesn't have a sensor built-in, it is possible to purchase one separately.

Lighting plays an important part in any kitchen design and the results can be seen in not only the way the kitchen looks, but also the way it functions.



Medical lighting support to developing world



Manufacturer of high-efficiency medical lighting, **Daray Ltd**, has supplied over 1,300 lights to medical facilities in Nigeria. The Derbyshire manufacturer provided lights from its X200 and X350 LED medical examination range to four separate projects within the country. LED lights

consume significantly less power, produce less carbon emissions and are much more robust than halogen, meaning they can cope with the conditions in these remote areas. Phillip Wright, managing director of Daray Ltd, commented: "It is pleasing to see the government using the UK overseas aid budget to not only provide vital medical health and support to those who are in need of it in the developing world, but to do so through the use of British manufacturers."

Sapphire Balustrades selected



Beautiful glass balustrades from **Sapphire** provide the perfect balance between high style and student-proof performance at the new £32 million Shoreham Academy in West Sussex. Sapphire was selected to manufacture and install high quality internal balustrades to complement the three-

storey building's contemporary design and deliver the durability demanded by such a high traffic education environment. Balustrades to atria and stairways combine elements from Sapphire's core range of handrails, balusters (uprights) and infills, with custom detailing to satisfy the design criteria of each application. Project manager for main contractor, Balfour Beatty, says the state-of-the-art education facility is finished to the highest standards.



Brochure shows Techdek's design versatility

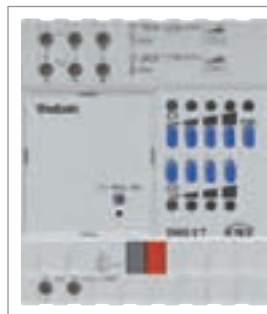
Neaco has released a comprehensive new brochure outlining its acclaimed range of Techdek modular aluminium grille systems.

The brochure provides details on a range of open-grille profiles and uses a variety of case studies to illustrate the unrivalled versatility, which has seen them used in a multitude of applications, including roof access walkways, decking, flooring, staging, solar shading, cladding, screening, balustrade infills, stair treads and ventilation.

A new section is dedicated to Techdek's use as pedestrian and cycle ways in a wide range of high profile and award-winning bridge designs. The system's many unique benefits are outlined alongside essential technical information, performance figures and updated fixing instructions.

Neaco's national sales manager, Richard Richardson-Derry, said: "Our Techdek range performs an enormous variety of architectural functions and the new brochure provides examples of this with a series of project case studies. Architects and specifiers will be able to appreciate how these modular grille systems can offer a definitive solution to numerous design requirements." Like all Neaco products, Techdek comes with a class-leading lifetime guarantee.

Universal dimmer is KNX product of year



The Universal Dimming Actuator from KNX UK member Theben is the KNX UK Association Product of the Year 2012. It has solved the problem of designing LED lighting systems in a world where there is no agreed standard for LED drivers. This has made specifying a universal device to control dimmable LED lighting challenging. One of the key challenges for KNX systems designers is the dimming of LED lights. The new Universal Dimming Actuators provide step less

dimming using optimised dimming curves included in the KNX ETS configuration software, and new dimming curves can be imported via the ETS as they become available.

MK Electric greets UK's mobility boom



MK Electric is expanding the largest range of wiring devices in the UK with the launch of a new USB charging module. A recent study by research house, Gartner, suggested that by the end of 2013, the number of active smartphones around the world is expected to total 1.2 billion. Given USB is becoming the principal method of

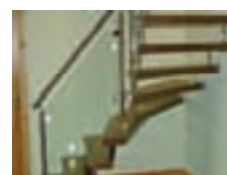
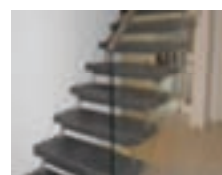
charging these devices, MK's new USB charging module has been designed to meet this rising consumer demand. The product – which is part of MK's comprehensive range of TV, data, power and audio Euro modules – is capable of charging touchscreen tablets, mobile phones, satellite navigation devices, cameras, e-readers and games controllers, as well as smartphones and PDAs.

01268 563000 www.mkelectric.co.uk

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HIPPOBAGS to feature on TV



Striking yellow HIPPOBAGS™, from HIPPO™, are being used to provide the waste clearance service for the second series of ITV's garden makeover show *Love Your Garden* with Alan Titchmarsh. HIPPO was selected for use on the programme because it offers a nationwide

network for efficient collection, 90 per cent waste recycling and on-site space saving. For the building and gardening trades HIPPO not only offers cost savings over the use of skips. The flexible material takes more waste than the equivalent sized skip, saving money too, typically between 15 per cent and 30 per cent.

0870 880 2430 www.hippobag.co.uk

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A&G claims a first with CE Marking



Acheson & Glover (A&G), a leading manufacturer of premium quality hard landscaping and pre-cast concrete products, is pleased to announce its products are in compliance with the new CE marking standard. It is the first hard

landscaping manufacturer to confirm this and apply the new CE symbol to all packaging, literature and delivery dockets. As from the 1 July, all products governed by a BSEN Standard must carry a CE mark in order to comply with new EU legislation. The new regulation was introduced to ensure products meet EU health, safety and environmental requirements and enable free movement of those products within the European market.

0845 601 5207 www.acheson-glover.com

Strobe the multi-sensory recycling unit



The launch of Wybone's multi-sensory, solar powered Strobe signifies an industry first in interactive recycling. This all-encompassing design includes audio-visual feedback and tactile Braille text ensuring inclusivity. Every aspect of this unit has been designed to encourage and promote recycling and ultimately boost your recycling rates, while also engaging the user. Transparent panels

help to quickly identify waste streams on approach, while audio messages "thank you for recycling"; trigger the deposit counter and flashing LED's. Bespoke audio messages and artwork options make the unit unique to each location whilst solar power creates a standalone unit with minimal installation.

01226 744010 www.wybone.co.uk



Berry Systems protects British exports

Associated British Ports has developed over 80ha of dedicated vehicle storage and distribution compounds. The facilities include four multi-deck vehicle terminals, the most recent of which was constructed by Morgan Sindall who selected a wire rope solution from Berry Systems for the perimeter protection. The standard Berry Brisafe system consists of three tensioned wire ropes running through a mesh panel that provides an integrated anti-climb feature and pedestrian handrail. However, the particular usage at Southampton meant that the anti-climb mesh and handrail was not required as there is no public or general pedestrian access. So a combination of five and six wire systems were developed, employing four low level wires at a typical vehicle impact height and to cater for the varying range of vehicle sizes encountered.

01902 491100 www.berrysystems.co.uk

London Zoo visitors see rare tigers up close thanks to specialist glass

Visitors to ZSL London Zoo's new £3.6 million Tiger Territory have a clearer view of the rare Sumatran Tigers – thanks to specialist glass installed in their enclosure.

The specialist anti-reflective glass processed by ESG means that visitors can come face-to-face with the big cats without annoying reflections spoiling their view particularly on sunny days.

The AMIRAN anti-reflective glass offers less than 1 per cent residual reflection and gives up to 98 per cent light transmission, which is ideal for enclosures and exhibits. The glass needed to be strengthened to guarantee visitor safety, and ESG toughened it with a triple laminate including an SGP (SentryGlas®Plus) interlayer that preserved the clarity of the glass, while giving it the essential strength.

Wharmby Kozdon Architects (WKA) specified the AMIRAN anti-reflective glass from international special glass technology company SCHOTT, which had previously worked with WKA on the Galapagos Tortoise enclosure at London Zoo, where the advantages of the anti-reflective AMIRAN glass were clear.

At an amazing 2,500 sq m, Tiger Territory is five



JaeJae the Sumatran Tiger within his new glass enclosure

times the size of the previous tiger exhibit at the zoo. With just 300 individuals left in the wild, Jae Jae and Melati are thought to be Europe's most genetically important pair of Sumatran Tigers,

matched by a global breeding programme for the critically endangered species.

Over one million visitors a year are expected to visit Tiger Territory, and it is hoped that the new enclosure will encourage the pair to produce the first tiger cubs at ZSL London Zoo for more than 15 years.

Scott Sinden, managing director of ESG, said: "ZSL London Zoo's Tiger Territory is a fantastic exhibit, and we were delighted to be chosen to supply this exciting project. Projects like this show how versatile glass can be, and the technical developments that solve problems such as reflections and glass being too weak. We are proud to have been part of this great project – and can now claim that we can make glass tiger proof!"

01376 520061
sales@esguk.co.uk
www.esguk.co.uk



RECYFIX® NC Category Class E600 drainage

Hauraton has introduced a new surface water drainage channel designed specifically for civil engineering projects such as industrial yards, street delivery bays, fuel stations and car parks where goods vehicles may have access.

The RECYFIX® NC channels are economically designed yet provide reliable performance, being suitable for load capacities up to Category Class E600.

The new channels are made from tough, 100 per cent recycled Polyethylene-Polypropylene (PE-PP) and offered eight sizes with the largest channel only weighing 20.9kg per one metre unit, including its 10mm slotted ductile iron grating, which is securely held in position with eight high tensile bolts.

As with all Hauraton surface water drainage channels, the performance of the new range complies with European Standards (hENs) and carries the CE mark.

The RECYFIX® NC catalogue, showing sizing and installation details, is available digitally on the website:

01582 501 380 www.hauraton.co.uk

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- Design advice
- Colour matching and sourcing
- Touch up remedial paints kits

A wide range of high quality powder coating finishes: The company uses the highest quality Qualicoat class 1 and class 2 architectural powders and is an approved applicator of Syntha Pulvin, IGP and Dupont (Axalta) architectural powders and Plascoat thermoplastic powders. Powdertech also uses Tiger Drylac and Akzo Nobel/Interpon powders.

Expertise: Powdertech is a leading contributor to

the development of the main UK and European standards for powder coating and an active member of leading industry organisations. The company has over twenty-eight years’ experience in powder coating and has maintained ISO9001 approval continuously since 1989.

Support: The team is always happy to discuss your project, share experience and provide technical advice.

Timing and turnaround: Powdertech’s dedicated transport is ready to collect and deliver your work to meet with your schedule.

No project too small: Powdertech’s systems are designed to process small batches, one-off specialist projects as well as handling large contracts.

Dedication to quality and research: All of the services are based at the modern facility in Corby, with a product and quality tracking system and a dedicated laboratory for off-line testing. Powdertech is involved in metal finishing research projects to ensure that it stays ahead of the curve and can offer you best advice.

Powdertech’s purpose-built Corby factory boasts one of the most up-to-date and flexible powder coating facilities in the country, with a coating envelope of 6,500mm long, 2,200mm high, and weight up to 1,000kg.



Powdertech is pleased to provide metal finishing services to projects run by industry-leading companies in the construction, house building, retail, rail, transport and infrastructure industries.

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To find out more visit hyperlimeco.com or telephone Limeco on 01833 689 005



James Latham

James Latham is now offering Lifecycle by UPM, a wood-plastic composite decking that has the luxurious look and feel of a real hardwood decking. However, unlike timber decking, with the minimum of maintenance, Lifecycle will continue to look good year after year, in fact, made in the USA, it is backed by a 25-year manufacturers guarantee. A further advantage of Lifecycle over other composite or timber decking is that it has a unique, stain resistant, ‘closed-surface’ that does not absorb oil, spills or drips – something which, after a few BBQ’s or sun-bathing sessions can often make other decks quickly look unsightly. Lifecycle is made from recycled American red and white oak fibres plus polyethylene with a patented process where the fibres are heat treated and encapsulated in a hard polymer shell. This produces an exceptionally solid and stable board. It’s also extremely environmentally friendly and sustainable. 95 per cent of the materials used to manufacture the boards are recycled, including the oak fibres and plastic polymers. Plus, giving these high quality materials a second life reduces landfill and waste incineration.

0116 257 3415 www.lathamtimber.co.uk

When performance is everything...



Greenwood Airvac, is pleased to announce the launch of Samika, the latest development in intermittent ventilation technology for kitchens and bathrooms. Designed for social housing Samika introduces the unique and innovative concept of adaptive extraction. This means Samika can be adapted at the point of installation for any application to

enable it to meet guaranteed installed performance (G.I.P) first time and assure Building Control sign-off. By focussing on GIP and adaptive extraction, Samika provides peace of mind that the ventilation installed performs as it should.

01903 771021 www.adaptive-extraction.co.uk

New intelligent heat recovery with Vireo



Greenwood Airvac announces the launch of Vireo – the next generation of intelligent heat recovery ventilation. Vireo is all about guaranteed installed performance (G.I.P) and has housing provider and tenant satisfaction high on its agenda. The result is an easier, better and smarter application of heat recovery ventilation in new homes, with the correct ventilation

being installed from the outset to Building Regulation requirements. Loaded with additional Greenwood Apps, Vireo continues to assist in the delivery of G.I.P beyond the installation stage and throughout the lifetime of the product. Vireo requires no adjustment from tenants.

01903 771021 www.fresh-intelligence.co.uk



Specflue

The recently announced exclusive distributorship of the famous MCZ brand by Specflue in the UK has been tangibly underwritten by the 4th Carbon Budget target of 100,000 biomass boilers in the UK by 2020 and rising to 1 million by 2030. This relates to the sector's meaningful and positive collaboration with government on the decarbonisation of domestic heating in the UK by 2030. Biomass boilers generate heat for space and water heating through the combustion of organic matter. Domestic installations, with efficiencies of over 90 per cent, are typically fuelled by wood pellets. Wood pellets are a carbon neutral fuel as the carbon dioxide released through combustion is equal to or less than the carbon dioxide removed from the atmosphere during the growing process (photosynthesis). Notable and relevant MCZ product portfolios include advances in the popular Compact range and the unique 'Still' concept which ensures total operating silence via a continuously geared motor, specially designed shock absorbers and a pellet tank completely separate from the smoke fan for maximum relaxation. The heat is diffused naturally by a convection transmission method and an attractive large flame creates the pleasant effect of burning wood.



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