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## Winner announced for the 2014 Wood in Architecture Award



Arup Associates beat a line-up of five other amazing contenders to claim the 2014 Wood in Architecture Award with its Sky Believe in Better Building, which is the UK's largest timber office structure.

After much discussion and comparing the merits of each shortlisted project, the team of judges including, Meredith Bowles – Founder of Mole Architects, Russell Brown – Founding Partner of HawkinsBrown, Benjamin Garcia Saxe – Founder of Benjamin Garcia Saxe, Harley Grusko – Associate as well as Project Architect for Perkins+Will Vancouver, and Mette Melandsø – Founding Partner at PIR 2, and winner of last year's Wood in Architecture Award, finally made their decision to award the prize to Arup Associates for its Sky Believe in Better Building in London.

The judges felt that this project best fulfilled their criteria, which were its extensive use of wood in the

structure, and the sustainable message it gave out. For them it was a clear winner due to the fact that it was the biggest and most challenging entry. Judge Harley Grusko stated: "I know the complexity that goes into a building like this."

One of the facts that also amazed the judges was the short turnaround for finishing the building. The project was taken from inception to site in just three months and the project was completed in one year from inception.

But what really swayed the judges was the sheer size of the building. Harley Grusko said: "It is the biggest, most challenging project that we have seen here today. It was the only one that uses wood to such a high degree and with such precision. Large scale matters."

Russell Brown added: "It is pretty amazing for a commercial building of that size to have a timber structure."

### EDUCATION

## University of Reading to offer £3,000 a year scholarship to first architecture students

The University of Reading is to offer a £3,000 a year scholarship to the first cohort of architecture students starting in September 2016.

The scholarship, a total of £9,000 over three years, will be awarded to each student who successfully secures a place on the new degree course in architecture. It will comprise a cash transfer of £3,000 at the start of each academic year. The scholarship will support course costs and encourage applications from students who may not have previously considered a

degree in architecture. It will not affect students' ability to apply for funding through the Government's loans system.

The University of Reading is pleased to be the only university to offer a scholarship of this scale for architecture students.

The School's Foundation Professor, Lorraine Farrelly, is establishing an industry-focused School of Architecture. Working with practising architects, students will gain experience of 'real-world' projects, thereby helping prepare them for practice when they graduate.

## PLANNING PERMISSION

## The 'gateway' to the City of London given radical modern overhaul

24 King William Street has received planning permission. The building is located at a key entry point to the City from London Bridge, close to the capital's most important heritage landmarks and very close to The Monument. This project, for Beltane Asset Management, creates a new mixed use building from the bones of an existing one with two additional floors, an entirely new facade and a new interior.

The design of the new stone skin of 24 King William Street responds to the surrounding urban and historic context. This new facade is layered with a deep Portland Stone outer skin, punctured by a series of large glazed openings that will provide the development with a contemporary aesthetic. These openings are arranged in a playful, yet rational manner and allow natural light to pour into the new office spaces while limiting solar gain.

Nestled behind the new building a previously unloved green space (that incorporates a portion of St Martin Orgar's churchyard) will be dramatically transformed to create a lush, urban pocket park. The reinvigorated green space, coupled with new retail spaces at ground floor level, will enliven the building at the street edge and help to dramatically improve the vista of the 'Southern gateway' to the square mile.

Originally constructed in the 1980s the existing building will be re-invented for 21st century tenants and their needs. Basement car parking spaces will be replaced with bike racks, lockers and showers. Existing dark interiors



will be transformed through large areas of controlled glazing that provide much improved daylighting. The roof, once dominated by rambling plant rooms, will be home to dramatic offices overlooking the City and the Thames, with a viewing terrace on the 8th floor. 24 King William Street will become a contemporary landmark for London while respecting the heritage of its immediate context and the key protected views into the city.

Ben Adams said: "This project is a grand gesture for the City of London which respects the rich mixture of heritage and contemporary design that make up the heart of the capital."

## Pozzoni picks up a Pinders Award

North West architect Pozzoni has beaten tough competition to win 'Best Care Complex' at this year's Pinders Healthcare Design Awards.

Pozzoni, who nominated Pencric Extra Care in Penkridge, Staffordshire on behalf of clients Housing Plus (owner) and Care Plus (operator), received the award at the London Lancaster Hotel in the company of 18 other finalists who were up for accolades across the six award categories.

Pencric offers 82 extra-care apartments for the elderly with a range of on-site facilities including a craft workshop, gymnasium, IT suite, roof terrace, community lounge, bar and restaurant. Pencric also won 'Development of the Year for the West Midlands' at the CIH Housing Awards in 2014.

The Healthcare Design Awards are sponsored and organised by business valuation company, Pinders.

The awards aim to promote the very best developments in all types of care-related property and show recognition to the clients, designers and architects for their contribution towards the wellbeing and quality of life of those who live there.

Charlie Riley, head of development from Housing Plus, said: "We are thrilled and proud to have won the Best Care Complex award. The scheme is a fantastic achievement by all concerned to have designed and developed a truly award winning project".

John Cooke, partner at Pozzoni, said: "We're delighted that the Pencric project has won the Best Care Complex awards. We have a great deal of knowledge and experience of working in the senior-living sector and we know that a well-designed building can have a real impact on the quality of life of the residents".

## events

### EXHIBITIONS

**The Modern Lens:**  
International Photography and the Tate collection  
Until 10 May, St Ives  
[www.tate.org.uk/stives](http://www.tate.org.uk/stives)

### FESTIVALS

**Clerkenwell Design Week**  
19 - 21 May, London  
[www.clerkenwelldesignweek.com](http://www.clerkenwelldesignweek.com)

**London Festival of Architecture**  
01 - 30 June, London  
[www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org](http://www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org)

### TOURS

**Open House London**  
19 - 20 September, London  
[www.openhouselondon.org.uk](http://www.openhouselondon.org.uk)

### TRADE SHOWS

**SustainabilityLive / NEMEX**  
21 - 23 April, Birmingham  
[www.sustainabilitylive.com](http://www.sustainabilitylive.com)

**May Design Series**  
17 - 19 May, London  
[www.maydesignseries.com](http://www.maydesignseries.com)

**Design in Mental Health Conference & Exhibition**  
19 - 20 May, Birmingham  
[www.designmentalhealth.com](http://www.designmentalhealth.com)

**Vision London**  
2 - 3 June, London  
[www.visionlondon.com](http://www.visionlondon.com)

**Eco Technology Show**  
11 - 12 June, Brighton  
[www.ecotechnologyshow.co.uk](http://www.ecotechnologyshow.co.uk)

**FIREX / IFSEC International**  
16 - 18 June, London  
[www.ifsec.co.uk](http://www.ifsec.co.uk)

**London Build 2015**  
18 - 19 June, London  
[www.londonbuildexpo.com](http://www.londonbuildexpo.com)

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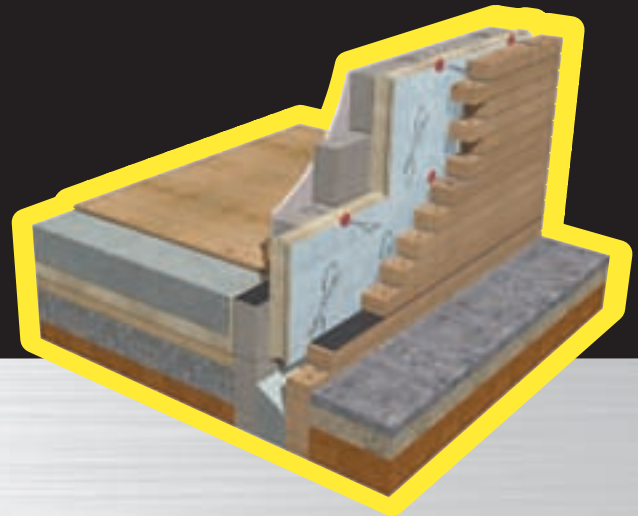
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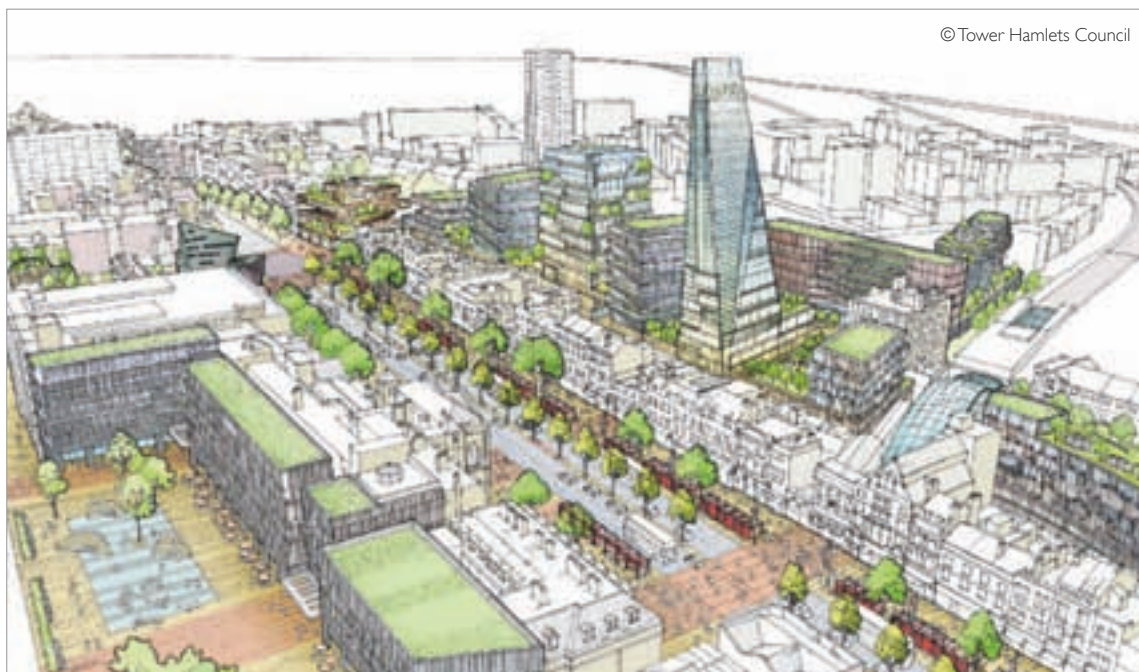


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## PLANNING AWARD

# Whitechapel Vision nominated for top planning award



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*‘Work is currently underway to deliver a bigger and better Whitechapel for everyone that lives and works in the area’*

Aman Dalvi, Corporate Director for Development and Renewal, at Tower Hamlets Council

Whitechapel Vision has garnered more praise – this time at the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Awards.

Following its ‘silver’ win at the national Planning Awards in November, Whitechapel Vision is now following up with yet more awards – nominated for the Excellence in Plan Making Practice Award.

Aman Dalvi, Corporate Director for Development and Renewal, at Tower Hamlets Council, said: “Whitechapel Vision has been recognised time, and time again, as one of the leading regeneration projects in the country. Being nominated for this award is yet another credit to the hard work of our planners in the council.

“Work is currently underway to deliver a bigger and better Whitechapel for everyone that lives and works in the area. We are confident that, by 2025, Whitechapel will be even more of an exciting and dynamic place.”

With the Crossrail station opening in 2018, Whitechapel was identified

as a huge growth opportunity for the borough.

Tying in with these improvements in transport infrastructure, the council launched their plans for Whitechapel in March 2014. These plans were met with support and excitement from residents and businesses, along with strategic partners involved in the delivery of this project.

Once the developments and other improvements have been completed, Whitechapel will have:

- A brand new civic hub based at the old Royal London Hospital site
- Up to 3,500 new homes delivered by 2025, including a substantial number of family and affordable homes
- 5,000 new jobs
- A completely transformed Whitechapel Road
- Seven new public squares and open spaces
- A rejuvenated town centre

In recognition of these ambitious plans, the Greater London Authority

(GLA) recently awarded over £500,000 into the area through their High Street Fund. This will be matched by funding and other resources provided by the council.

This will be used to support local businesses, bring empty buildings back into use, provide affordable workspaces, and attract investment. It is hoped this will deliver a huge economic boost to the Whitechapel area.

Projects funded through this money will include:

- The creation of affordable workspaces through the conversion of empty or underused buildings
- Providing support to local businesses to take advantage of opportunities arising from change in Whitechapel
- Holding annual events and activities to celebrate Whitechapel.
- The council will find out if Whitechapel Vision is the prize-winner at the RTPI Awards Ceremony held on 6 July at the Pullman London, St Pancras



Stourbridge College, Birmingham.

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## COMPETITION

# Hard-fought competition recognises three outstanding projects



The WAN Commercial Award saw a huge range of fantastic projects entered into this category from offices, retail, hotels and tourism resorts. Having two sub categories: future and completed, they held two separate jury sessions to review the work. Judging the best commercial completed projects they had tEarle Arney , Chief Executive of ARNEY FENDER KATSALIDIS; Jacqueline Beckingham, Director and Design Leader at Benoy and Stephen Pey, Associate Director at EPR Architects.



Judging the Commercial Award future projects a separate jury in LA was held, generously hosted by the AIA LA which had a fantastic line up including; Mehrdad Yazdani, Director of the Yazdani Studio at Cannon Design, Ross Wimer, Head of AECOM's national architecture and interiors practice and Jose Esteves De Matos, Director of De Matos Ryan who was judging remotely.

After the WAN Commercial Award panels selected their shortlists for the completed and future sub-categories, the real debate started when choosing the winners of this diverse award.

In the UK the jury panel were very impressed at the standard of all six shortlisted projects especially with both Bates Smart's TransGrid Headquarters, 180 Thomas Street and Pearl Izumi North American Corporate Headquarters from Arch11 Inc. ZGF Architects LLP Jacqueline Beckingham commented on the process of picking a winner for this category: "The rest of the projects have merits but these two stand out. I think I would like the Pearl Izumi North American Corporate

Headquarters to win just because I think it is a beautiful response to the landscape and it is just so elegant and refined but I think that the Bates Smart TransGrid Headquarters is so clever it's hard to say it shouldn't be a winner also."

Earle Arney also commented saying: "It's quite a challenge isn't it, I really appreciate the problem solving of the Pearl Izumi North American Corporate Headquarters and I think it's very clear and I am really taken by the shaping of Bates Smart TransGrid Headquarters spatially and formerly, the interlink of the landscape and the product. It's quite interesting looking at the Pearl Izumi North American Corporate Headquarters juxtaposed to the Bates Smart TransGrid Headquarters. There is quite a delight to TransGrid Headquarters, there is rusting cladding, open fields, mountains and its almost exotic because it's so unfamiliar to us yet the Pearl Izumi North American Corporate Headquarters is an urban repair which is a challenge in itself and very well executed indeed."

After a lengthy discussion it was decided to award both Bates Smart's TransGrid Headquarters, 180 Thomas Street and Arch11 Inc Pearl Izumi North American Corporate Headquarters the winners of the commercial completed sub-category. Both of these projects are so different but show excellence in design with outstanding presentations.

The jury session in LA for the commercial future projects award had a selection of high standard presentations making it very difficult for jury members to pick a winner. After lengthy discussion The Noble Quran Oasis by Gerber Architekten came out top and was awarded commercial future projects winner. Jose Esteves De Matos a remote juror was very impressed with this project commenting:

"Not an 'object' building, the cracked crust roof planes allows a potentially interesting series of spaces to develop beneath. The build's 'story' has a careful and not overtly explicitly relationship with the brief as a centre for the study of the Quran, delivering a sustainable and contemplative environment for study."



**'Not an 'object' building, the cracked crust roof planes allows a potentially interesting series of spaces to develop'**

Jose Esteves, Remote Juror

Pictured top left:  
Commercial Completed  
Project Winner: Pearl  
Izumi North American  
Corporate Headquarters,  
United States (Arch11 Inc,  
ZGF Architects LLP)  
© Raul J. Garcia  
Pictured bottom left:  
Commercial Future  
Project Winner: The  
Noble Quran Oasis,  
(Saudi Arabia  
Gerber Architekten)  
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Pictured bottom right:  
Commercial Completed  
Project Winner: TransGrid  
Headquarters, Australia  
(Bates Smart)  
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## AWARD

# Official opening of new city hall in Buenos Aires



Lord Foster has attended opening celebrations in Buenos Aires for the new Buenos Aires Ciudad Casa de Gobierno, a sustainable new city hall for the Mayor and 1,500 staff – and the practice's first civic project in Argentina. Spanning an entire city block in Parque Patricios, the building is a catalyst for the regeneration of the neighbourhood and combines an environmentally efficient design with an innovative, highly flexible internal arrangement of terraced working floors.

Entry is through a soaring four-storey-high atrium. Full-height glass walls fill the space with natural light and create a visual connection with the adjacent park. The four tiers of workspaces step back to create a sequence of internal terraces. All floors are connected by top-lit circulation routes and punctuated by two large landscaped patios. The activity spaces are open, naturally lit and visible, ensuring good communication between departments and promoting a sense of community.

The generous floor plates are based on an eight-metre grid, which allows for a wide variety of layouts – the building was originally commissioned as the headquarters for Banco Ciudad, and the inherent flexibility of its design has enabled a seamless transition into government offices. Further facilities include a café and a 300-seat wood-panelled auditorium, which can be used for events by the local neighbourhood.

Externally, the building is characterised by its flowing roof canopy, which is supported by pillars and extends in a deep overhang to shade the entrance plaza and facades. Inside, the concrete barrel vaulted roof is textured and exposed. The use of industrial materials reinforces the formerly artisan character of Parque Patricios, while the thermal mass of the concrete soffits, combined with chilled beams, help to naturally regulate the temperature and keep the offices cool. It will be the first public building in Argentina to achieve the environmental award for sustainability of LEED Silver standard. Every aspect of the scheme was designed in response to the local climate, including the composition of each facade – the eastern and western elevations are shaded by a screen of louvres, which rise the full height of the building.

## HOUSING SCHEME

## Multi-million pound Prescott housing scheme gets off ground

Manchester-based Harbur Construction has started work on a new multi-million pound extra care housing scheme in Prescott.

The 70-unit development will breathe new life into the former 6.75 acre site of the historic Lancashire Watch Company on Albany Road.

The Grade II listed factory building will be converted into 54 extra care apartments while an additional 16 extra care bungalows will be built on site, boosting the supply of much-needed assisted living accommodation in the area.

Harbur is building the properties on behalf of Liverpool-based developer Iliad Group for Knowsley Housing Trust (KHT) which will make the homes available for affordable rent and shared ownership.

Manchester-based Formroom Architects has designed the scheme

which is part of a two-phase masterplan that will revitalise the area. A further 62 residential properties will be built on site in the future.

Tim Groom, who is a director at Formroom Architects, said: "It has been wonderful to work with such a fantastic building. The factory has a striking modernist partly glazed facade which we are completely overhauling.

"The new build extension will frame a central courtyard with the bungalows enclosing the eastern boundary of the site providing access to the courtyard and facilities within the main building. This layered approach allows permeability through the site between accommodation types and allows for social interaction through both the built facilities and landscaped areas."

Based on Albany Road, the site was the former home of the Lancashire

Watch Company which closed its doors in 1910.

The new development is expected to be completed April 2016.

Pictured: A winter view of Harbur Construction's new extra care housing scheme at Albany Road, Prescott



## Landmark planning permission granted for £17 million Auckland Castle restoration project

Durham County Council has this week granted planning permission for the £17 million restoration of Auckland Castle in Co. Durham, marking a key step in the wider £60m renovation of one of Britain's most important historical sites.

This landmark decision will enable Auckland Castle, the 800 year old former palace of the Prince Bishops of Durham, to be restored to its former glory as one of the most important episcopal complexes in the world.

The renovation project forms part of a wider heritage-led social regeneration initiative for the North East that will transform Auckland Castle into an internationally-significant must-visit

heritage destination, welcoming 120,000 visitors annually, creating over 100 full-time jobs and generating £3m in annual revenue.

The restoration of Auckland Castle will be supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and undertaken by a team comprising some of the UK's pre-eminent heritage conservation specialists.

A dramatic two-storey extension and remodelling of the 16th century Scotland Wing designed by Niall McLaughlin Architects will reflect the castle's religious background, echoing wooden Anglo Saxon churches of the 6th and 7th centuries. Planning consent has also been granted for a

striking £2.5 million Welcome Building, also designed by McLaughlin, offering panoramic views across the surrounding area of Co. Durham.

An immersive new museum experience, designed by Casson Mann across 11 galleries, will explore man's relationship with belief in the British Isles, whilst extensive renovations by Purcell will give new prominence to a key series of paintings, Jacob and his Twelve Sons, by the Spanish Golden Age master Francisco de Zurbarán, originally purchased by Bishop Trevor in 1756 and saved for the nation by collector, philanthropist and chairman of Auckland Castle Trust, Jonathan Ruffer.

### news bytes

Visit the website [www.architectsdatafile.co.uk](http://www.architectsdatafile.co.uk) and enter the reference number for more information

**Eric Wright completes £13.5 million Blackburn leisure centre project...  
Ref: 10118**

**LK2 Architects appoint new regional director...  
Ref: 69788**

# Getting the balance right between the environment and the project budget at the Eco Technology Show

Sustainability, energy efficiency and green building are growing concerns to architects and designers, and the profession is often the source of the most innovative ideas. However, getting ideas from the drawing board to the building site can be a whole new ball game.

That's why a visit to the 2015 Eco Technology Show at Brighton's American Express Stadium on 11 and 12 June will pay dividends. Architects can listen to some of the best thinkers in their field deliver free talks, join in the Q&A sessions and debates, and see new products and technologies on the exhibition stands.

Faced with managing a 'design and build' contract, developers may find that they need to minimise costs wherever possible and, so often, the designers' use of words like 'or similar' gives them perhaps a little too much leeway to focus on build costs rather than carbon footprint or the long-term

running cost of a building. If the architect strikes the right balance at the design stage, and is more specific where necessary, energy efficiency can still be optimised.

In an ideal world, every new home would achieve the defacto standard, Passivhaus, and visitors to the Eco Technology Show will be able to hear about some of the most exciting projects from the UK's Passivhaus Trust during one of the many free talks at the Show. In practice, of course, there will more often than not be a need for a degree of compromise and, as Nicola Thomas, Co-Owner of ARCH Angels Architects and a certified Passivhaus Designer says: "Not everyone can afford a fully-fledged zero-carbon eco home. By placing the building owner right at the centre of the design process, we can respond to particular circumstances while doing some good for the environment along the way and achieve a sensitive balance

between beauty, sustainability and affordability."

ARCH Angels is offering discounted fees to visitors who go on to commission designs from the practice, but is also happy to share its award-winning experiences with fellow architects. Register for the Eco Technology Show for free on the website.

[www.ecotechnologyshow.co.uk](http://www.ecotechnologyshow.co.uk).

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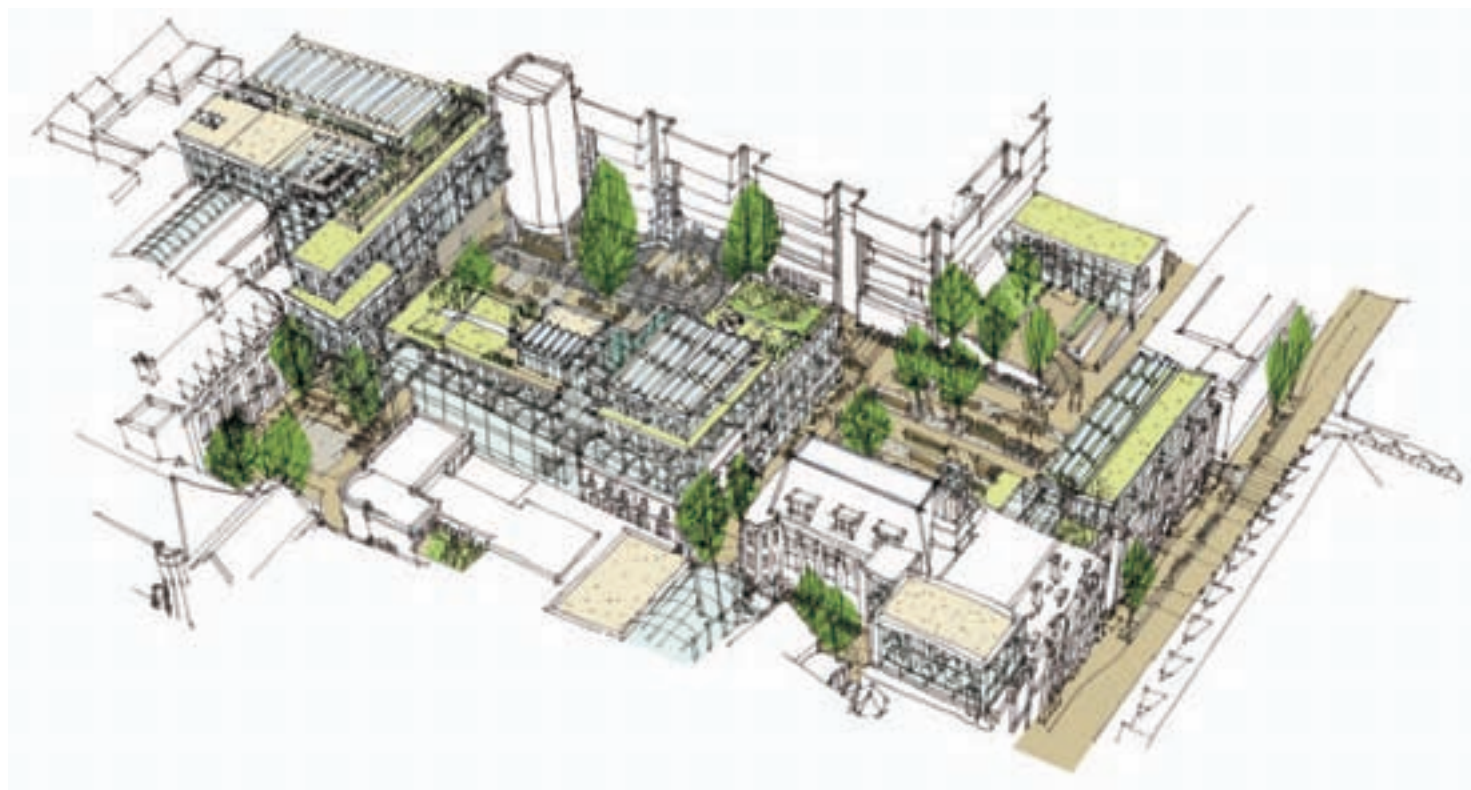
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## MASTERPLAN

# New vision for the University of Cambridge's city centre campus



A new masterplan for a city centre campus in Cambridge, designed by independent design, environment and sustainability consultancy LDA Design, has been approved by the University of Cambridge.

The unique site is one of the university's most prominent, and has a globally important cultural heritage, including as the former home of the Cavendish Laboratory where ground-breaking research took place, such as the discovery of the structure of DNA.

The masterplan establishes a strong spatial structure to regenerate the site. Existing buildings will be re-modelled and new buildings built to provide accommodation for academic departments and central facilities, such as a new student centre, as well as high quality city spaces and improved accessibility.

LDA Design led the consultant team and worked closely with the University of Cambridge's Estate Department, Cambridge City Council and English Heritage to ensure that the redevelopment optimised the site's development capacity and was balanced with conserving buildings of heritage merit while delivering sustainable, flexible building uses interlinked with high quality urban spaces.

Key aims of the masterplan include bringing new life to the site, conserving the existing historic buildings, establishing new public spaces, improving links and enhancing biodiversity.

LDA Design is currently supporting the preparation of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for Cambridge City Council and the university, which will establish the future

development policy framework for the site. The masterplan will be implemented in a number of phases. The first phase is being prepared by Bennetts Associates and is supported by LDA Design as masterplan advisors and landscape architects. Phase two will be submitted for planning in spring.

Alister Kratt, Partner at LDA Design, said: "We are very pleased that the University of Cambridge has approved the masterplan for such a prestigious project. The challenge was to develop a masterplan that met the academic and administrative needs of the university while promoting the understanding of the site's heritage and also transforming the city centre site into a new attractive, vibrant and sustainable environment for the future".



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## CAMPUS SCHEME

## ISG appointed on £50 million UWE Bristol Campus scheme

ISG has been appointed on a £50 million project to create a striking new home for the Faculty of Business and Law at UWE Bristol. The landmark building is a key element of the University's development masterplan at Frenchay Campus, occupying a strategic site in the central heart zone, adjacent to the currently under construction student union and plaza facilities.

Enabling the relocation and significant expansion of facilities available to students on Business and Law courses at UWE Bristol, the new five-storey, 185,000 sq ft building includes collaborative space to further strengthen relationships between the university and wider business community. Professional organisations will have a base in the new building and judges, accountants, small business owners and start-ups will be able to mix with staff and students in specially designed social learning areas.

The concrete frame structure incorporates large glazed expanses to maximise the volume of natural light entering the building, with a full-height central circulation area providing both access



and informal break out space. The building boasts a comprehensive range of state-of-the-art teaching facilities, including a 300-seat tiered double-height lecture theatre and a further two Harvard-style lecture theatres, as well as two simulated court rooms and a high-specification trading room.

The scheme also incorporates a Soft Landings approach from the outset, which sees the entire project team working closely with UWE

Bristol to maximise efficiencies and enhance performance during the design, construction, commissioning and final occupation phases, so that predicted performance and expectations are fully met in the completed building. UWE Bristol is set to use the construction of the Faculty of Business and Law as a direct learning resource, showcasing advanced building methodologies for students on its built environment courses.

*'UWE Bristol has significant built environment expertise as the university of choice for students looking to pursue a career in the industry'*

Rob Martin, ISG's Western regional managing director

## Preston Eco House given green light from planners

Preston's first carbon-neutral eco-mansion has been approved by the city's planning committee.

The £8 million Grand Designs project, of which architectural and planning consultancy, Cassidy + Ashton, is acting as the agent, is set to become a trendsetter for eco development, raising the bar for future projects in the region.

Designed with an energy efficient and environmentally-conscious philosophy, the 22,000 sq ft home in Goosnargh, Lancashire, includes its

own micro solar farm and ground source heat pumps. It also features high levels of insulation, heat recovery ventilation throughout, lighting control systems and a waste water heat recovery system.

It is set to become the first dwelling in Preston built to Level 6 of the Code for Sustainable Homes (CSH).

The development will be set in extensive grounds, landscaped to reflect a traditional Bowland wild-flower meadow but also boasting

beehives and an allotment, which will play host to parties of local schoolchildren.

Work is expected to start on site in summer 2015 and is due to complete in late 2016.

Alban Cassidy, chartered town planner and environmental consultant at Cassidy + Ashton, said: "It's a privilege to be involved in the first new grand country house to be built in Preston for more than a century. A home for the modern family; the design is outstanding."

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## GARDEN INITIATIVE

# British Homes Awards supports Garden City initiative



The British Homes Awards already have a reputation of having established an effective legacy in pioneering innovative home design and build solutions, while championing the use of exciting new technologies and products. Continuing in this essential role the award organisers have just announced that, in partnership with H+H UK Ltd, Redrow Homes, BRE and the Architects Journal 'The Sunday Times British Homes Awards 2015', will be supporting the Garden City initiative. The awards will invite submissions for a single stage open design competition for visionary designs for a potential standard house type suitable for planned Garden City developments and constructed with H+H UK's environmentally friendly aircrete building materials.

Architects are challenged to innovate, while ensuring their submission is buildable, replicable, compliant with current building regulations and conforms to NHBC/Premier Guarantee standards. Organised by The British Homes Awards, all enquiries should be made to the promoter through [www.britishhomesawards.co.uk](http://www.britishhomesawards.co.uk) or for further information on Aircrete visit: [www.hhcelcon.co.uk/british-homes-awards-2015](http://www.hhcelcon.co.uk/british-homes-awards-2015)

It is hoped that the successful design submissions will help form the blueprint for the UK's future housing stock as new neighbourhoods of homes are developed within the planned Garden Cities.

The house design will be evaluated as a prototype house type for new build sites and built by one of the UK's premier and most enlightened homebuilders, Redrow Homes.



Brandon Lewis

Showing his support for the design award initiative, just before the government broke up prior to the national election, the then Minister for Housing and Planning, Brandon Lewis said: "It gives me great pleasure to launch the design brief for 'Homes for Britain' – the 2015 Sunday Times British Home

Awards. The competition has a long track record of producing cutting-edge designs of real excellence and innovation across a broad range of categories. This year's competition, which challenges architects and designers to produce a standard house type suitable for Garden City type developments, with a focus on innovative designs which are both buildable and replicable, promises to continue in that vein....

"This year's Awards presents an exciting opportunity to respond to this challenge. In the UK we have some of the most innovative and creative architects and designers in the world, and I have no doubt the competition will produce new ideas for homes which are of practical and lasting benefit."

## INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

# Benoy's 'The Beach' in Dubai named National Champion in the MEED Quality Awards

Benoy, the international, award-winning firm of Architects, Masterplanners, Interior and Graphic Designers, is thrilled to announce its project, The Beach, Dubai, is a National Winner in the Middle East Economic Digest (MEED) Quality Awards in association with Mashreq.

The Beach has been named a National Winner for the United Arab Emirates of the annual awards which recognise project excellence in the Gulf Coast Countries (GCC). This is a double honour as The Beach was recognised in both the Building Project of the Year category and the Leisure and Tourism Project of the Year category.

An unprecedented addition to the Dubai culture and retail scene, The Beach is an open-air, low rise development in a stunning location. What was once a car park has now been transformed into a 600m stretch incorporating around 70 shops, restaurants and cafes.

The architecture is contemporary and dynamic and perfectly complements the surrounding area. Utilising the existing urban language, the buildings cascade towards the beachfront creating shade and relief along the extent of the promenade. Punctuated by 'Jewel' icon buildings, the scheme is integrated with hard and soft landscaping into its context.

The Beach appeals to all demographics, families, young and old, locals and visitors and offers something special to all. Enhancing an already great community, the project includes casual and high end dining with terraces, retail units, excellent parking and premium public and beach facilities.

The Beach is significant for the region as it is the first retail destination that does not rely on an artificially controlled environment. This development has now become the new leisure destination in the region, proving that by using an innovative design, outdoor environments in the Middle East are not only possible but can be highly popular and commercially successful.

Paul Priest, Director and Head of MENA Studios said: "We are thrilled to have been named a National Winner for The Beach as this project is a testament to the great design work



Benoy is producing around the region and the world."

"We were able to design a destination which is not only a fresh and new style for Dubai but something that is functional and commercially viable. We pride ourselves on our originality and innovation when it comes to design concepts, and The Beach is an example of our ongoing dedication to the continuous generation of ideas that will become benchmarks of architectural design."

The Beach will now compete in the regional finals of the MEED Quality Awards for Projects, in association with Mashreq, in both the Building Project of the Year and the Leisure and Tourism Project of the Year categories.

Richard Thompson, Editorial Director at MEED, said: "These awards recognise the best achievements in project delivery in the region and I'm delighted The Beach received the recognition it deserves, the project stands a very good chance of wider recognition at the GCC level in May. The projects that are being built today are laying the foundation for the future and MEED is honoured to be able to recognise and celebrate the very best project achievements the region has to offer."

Now in its fifth year, the MEED Quality Awards for Projects, in association with Mashreq, is a highly sought after distinction that recognises projects based on a rigorous selection process, with the winners determined by a distinguished panel of independent judges who are all acknowledged, regional and international experts in the projects market.



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## REVIVAL

**'The regeneration of College Green is central to the revival of Croydon's cultural quarter'**

## Croydon's cultural revival moves a step forward

Croydon-based consultancy Mott MacDonald and architects Rick Mather, renowned for working on some of the biggest theatres in the country, will oversee the design of the redevelopment of College Green, at the heart of which will be Fairfield Halls.

Mott MacDonald, of Sydenham Road, has been appointed as the lead consultant for the project, which promises to breathe new life into Croydon's cultural offer.

Rick Mather Architects will be a key player in the project team, and has a strong track record in renovating theatres. Rick Mather boasts an excellent CV having previously worked on projects for the Royal Festival Hall in central London and the Lyric Theatre in Hammersmith.

Mott MacDonald was lead engineering consultant for the Sage Music Centre in Gateshead and for the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff. The consultancy also has a broad portfolio of international urban regeneration projects.

The project team's objective will be to deliver a planning application for the College Green area, which includes a full scale refurbishment of the famous Fairfield Halls.

This includes exciting new elements helping to reinvigorate the centre and ensure it is able to grow further and play its part at the heart of Croydon's cultural life.

The team begins work on the College Green project this



month with a view to submitting a planning application by autumn this year.

The regeneration of College Green is central to the revival of Croydon's cultural quarter, and has the potential to offer an innovative and inspiring area with a lively and sustainable mix of homes, offices, shops and restaurants.

The wider scheme will create a high quality public space and provide a through route to and from East Croydon station, quickly connecting visitors with Queens Gardens, the Clocktower, Surrey Street and Exchange Square.

It is planned to integrate the Fairfield Halls into the scheme, potentially including in the long-term a new entrance on the Ashcroft side of the building on to College Green.

## Shaylor Group named as Principal Contractor for Franklin House refurbishment

National contractor Shaylor Group has announced being appointed as Principal Contractor on the £16 million refurbishment of former Cadbury headquarters Franklin House in Bournville. Working closely with developers Court Collaboration and local architects BPN, Shaylor Group will carry out the refurbishment works to convert the 1960s commercial office space into high-spec urban apartments, worth £6.4m of the overall budget.

The project will see Franklin House, reportedly the birthplace of the Curly Wurly, developed into 79 one and two-bedroom apartments, including four penthouse suites featuring internal courtyards. The property will subsequently be re-branded as 'The Franklin', a collection of stylish modern residences, and is on target for completion in March 2016.

The contract is the latest in a string of commercial to residential projects Shaylor Group has been awarded nationally. In London, Shaylor Group has recently completed 2 similar projects in Croydon with a combined



value of approx. £6.5m and work has recently started on a third residential conversion project in the capital which will see a former office block converted into over 140 studios with a contract value of just under £5m. Equally Shaylor Group has gained an excellent reputation in the student accommodation arena carrying out a number of high value refurbishment projects for national providers including Mansion Group, Unite and Greystar.

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## Keppie Design appointed as architect for new state-of-the-art centre

Architectural practice Keppie Design has been appointed as architect for the new state-of-the-art Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre (AECC).

Aberdeen City Council has recently approved the financial proposals for the development of the new AECC as well as the redevelopment of the site of the existing conference centre. Councillors backed the £333 million project – a joint venture between the Council and Henry Boot Developments – at a full council meeting recently.

Keppie Design Ltd has been selected by Henry Boot Developments as part of the multi-disciplinary team which will deliver the proposed new conference centre at Bucksburn, next to the Rowett Institute, and redevelop the Bridge of Don site which will be vacated once the existing AECC closes.

The new conference centre will form part of the wider development of the Rowett North Masterplan, just south of Aberdeen International Airport. The masterplan also includes three hotels, an energy centre, an estimated 60,000 square metres of office space and 6,000 square metres of leisure space and open space, parkland, public realm, access routes and car and coach parking. Richard MacDonald, director at Keppie, said: “Keppie is thrilled to be architect for this unique project



and I look forward to realising the vision of creating a world class facility for Aberdeen.”

Nick Harris, Henry Boot’s Scottish director, added: “The new AECC facility is a vital element of Aberdeen’s future growth and development, not least as a World Energy City and the Energy Capital of Europe. Therefore, the new conference centre and associated facilities will be developed with the ambition to make it the most sustainable facility of its kind in the UK.”

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## AWARD

## Mike Schlaich awarded Gold Medal

Mike Schlaich, managing director of schlaich bergemann und partner and Professor of Structural Engineering at Technische Universität Berlin, has been awarded the prestigious Gold Medal by The Institution of Structural Engineers.

Mike's award-winning career has brought him in touch with architects like Frank Gehry, the offices of Richard Rogers and Sir Nicholas Grimshaw, engineers like Ted Happold and Fazlur Khan, and even with the artist Christo – on the remarkable Mastaba project.

A specialist in lightweight structures, Mike is a firm believer in a holistic, conceptual design approach, and in engineers'

responsibility to contribute more to "baukultur" – that is the concept of producing quality structures to improve quality of life. He also has an enduring interest in creating free, clean, renewable energy by developing solar thermal power plants in the North African desert.

Examples of his remarkable designs can be seen around the world, from the Christian Garden in Berlin, to the Ting Kau cable-stayed bridge in Hong Kong and presently the new Yamuna cable-stayed bridge in New Delhi, India. All the projects reflect his belief that engineering should always strive to be elegant.

*'Receiving the Gold Medal is a wonderful honour. When I think of the award's previous winners, many of them my heroes, it makes me blush'*

Mike Schlaich

## ARTS CENTRE

## Benoy's First Arts Centre in Jakarta – Ciputra Artpreneur

Benoy, the acclaimed global studio of Architects, Masterplanners, Interior and Graphic Designers, is excited to share an inside look at its first Arts Centre which has opened in Jakarta, Indonesia – Ciputra Artpreneur.

Ciputra Artpreneur is one of Jakarta's latest and most significant cultural venues, uniquely integrated into the top levels of the Ciputra World Jakarta Mall, a commercial landmark located at the heart of the city's Golden Triangle. As a major addition to the Arts for Indonesia, the scheme delivers 14,000m<sup>2</sup> of performance and art facilities including a 1,200 seat theatre, flexible and permanent exhibition galleries, a museum, and multifunctional rooms.

"Benoy is thrilled to be involved in the development of Ciputra Artpreneur. As we grow throughout the dynamic Southeast Asia region, we are excited to have one of Indonesia's leading arts and culture venues as part of our portfolio," said Global Design Director, Simon Bee.

The highlight of Benoy's Interior Design for the Arts Centre is the state-of-the-art Ciputra Theatre. As the first international-standard venue in Indonesia, it is capable of hosting large touring productions from around the world including opera, symphony and ballet. A proscenium style auditorium with seating over two levels, the space accommodates 865 seats at stalls level and 365 in the balcony.

Jakarta is an emerging global city and Benoy has captured this essence by creating a truly unique visual for the space. Designed with a striking geometric interior, the Theatre is brought to life with faceted walls and ceiling detailing. The distinctive form was created with soft cell panels covered by stretch fabric and further accentuated with illuminated strips.

"Increasingly, purely commercial mixed-use developments are demanding more innovative additions to their programmes to attract and retain visitors. By adding new and varied cultural



Ciputra Theatre, Ciputra Artpreneur, Jakarta

experiences like Ciputra Artpreneur, a new 'Place' is established and becomes that much more exciting for the consumer," continued Simon.

Benoy was also behind the Interior Design of the Main Gallery. Flexible interchanging walls allow the space to accommodate either major exhibitions or a series of smaller exhibitions simultaneously. Taking advantage of the views over Jakarta, a tall glass wall runs along one side offering glimpses of the city centre. At each end of the gallery space, two striking spiral staircases help lead guests to the Theatre above.

Developer Ciputra has long promoted local art and, in particular, that of the renowned Indonesian artist Herman Gunawan. Throughout the interiors and Benoy's design, Gunawan's highly expressive and richly colourful style has been thoughtfully integrated, further ensuring the venue becomes a truly integral part of Jakarta's cultural landscape.

With Ciputra Artpreneur, Benoy expands its growing portfolio in Indonesia. The firm has a number of ongoing projects currently on the drawing board across the major sectors including Interior Design for Thamrin Nine, Jakarta; Architecture Design for W Hotel Jakarta; and Mixed-Use Developments in Pluit City, Jakabeka and Bali.

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### FIRE DESIGN CONSULTANTS AND ENGINEERS HOST FREE CPD SEMINAR



Fire engineering experts **FDS Consult** and Fire Design Solutions are offering architects, M&E consultants and contractors the chance to extend their knowledge this May with their latest free CPD seminar. Providing an overview of fire engineering, achieving building regulations compliance and value engineering solutions, the seminar will utilise examples to demonstrate the use of both smoke ventilation and sprinkler system solutions.

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### EFFECTIVE DESIGN OF SINGLE PLY ROOF SYSTEMS



**Sika-Trocral** is pleased to announce the new RIBA-approved CPD entitled *Effective Design of Single Ply Roof Systems*.

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### SAINT-GOBAIN'S 1ST MAY CPD – SERIES FOURTEEN



**Ecophon** will deliver an introduction to room acoustics, highlighting the relationship between a room, the people using it and the activity taking place there. The presentation will also explore the design options available for acoustic ceilings and wall absorbers in different spaces. This will be followed by **SageGlass** offering an introduction to electrochromic glass. Using the glazed façade as an alternative to blinds and brise soleil to reduce building energy use. Control heat gain and light transmission using electrochromatic glazing.

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### DESIGN AND SPECIFICATION OF WESTERN RED CEDAR SHINGLES



This CPD from **John Brash** is suitable for architects and specifiers. The CPD presentation covers: An introduction to shingles and shakes; Legal and ethical procurement (including EU timber regs); Using shingles to help meet low carbon targets; Performance (including durability, treatment, life cycle analysis); Standard details Blue label certification – why is it important?; Installation and maintenance. For more information visit the website.

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### INTRODUCTION TO THE LIQUID ROOFING AND WATERPROOFING ASSOCIATION



The **LRWA** has launch its RIBA approved CPD, available online for specifiers, architects, and surveyors. "CPD's are crucial for anyone working in the construction industry," commented Terry Wain, LRWA technical secretary. The CPD should take around 25 minutes to complete and includes information on the history of liquids and the various ways in which LRWA aims to promote best practice within the industry.

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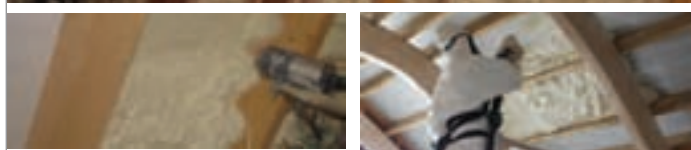
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enq.119

## COMPETITION

*'The design will focus on the architectural qualities of the Grade II\* listed building'*

## ENO appoints architects Robin Snell and Partners to open up London Coliseum

English National Opera (ENO) and Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) announced the winner of the competition for the revitalisation of the ground floor foyer of the West End's largest theatre, the London Coliseum. This prestigious redevelopment will be designed by award-winning architect Robin Snell and Partners, the architect behind the multi-award winning Garsington Opera Pavilion, the Island Pavilion at Wormsley and Arnolfini Centre for Contemporary Art.

The design strategy is inspired by the cultural identity of the London Coliseum, one of the country's finest theatres. Designed by the UK's most prolific theatre architect Frank Matcham, it opened its doors in 1904. The design will focus on the architectural qualities of the Grade II\* listed building and reclaim the Edwardian elegance of its front of house spaces to reflect the legacy of this great 2,359 seat theatre.

The first phase will concentrate on opening up the ground floor foyer, to provide uninterrupted views from the street, to create a sense of the excitement of the productions that take place within the Theatre. It aims to create a welcoming foyer space for a new wine bar and café.

Funded by restaurant group, Benugo, the first phase £1.2 million renovation



will revamp the ground floor and point towards the building's future.

The London Coliseum, built in 1904, was extensively restored in 2000-2004 and this is the second stage of the restoration project that aims to bolster the future of this iconic building. A shortlist of architecture firms were approached to proceed to the design phase, with the winner selected by the judging panel which included Prof. Alan Penn, dean of the Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment at University College,

London, Ben Warner, founder of Benugo, John Berry, artistic director of ENO and Keith Williams, director of Keith Williams Architects, acting as the RIBA Architect Adviser.

This proposal is currently at its initial design phase. ENO and Robin Snell and Partners will be seeking consultation from Westminster City Council, English Heritage and the Theatres Trust for the project. The work, subject to planning permission, will get underway in early 2016.

### Tony Bicknell is Gerflor's new recruit



In seeking a new challenge to build upon his 21 years in the flooring industry, Tony Bicknell has joined global vinyl flooring manufacturer, **Gerflor**, in the UK as Specification and Contract Sales Manager – London. Tony's strong track record, sales and technical experience and last position as UK Projects Manager for Kährs (UK) Ltd made him a

winning candidate for Gerflor's role dedicated to growing its specification business. Having worked across all routes to market of the flooring specification and contract sector, Tony will develop sales and manage specification projects by creating a vital link between architects and contractors.

01926 622600 [www.gerflor.co.uk](http://www.gerflor.co.uk)

enq.120

### Kingspan Insulation leads sustainability charge



Becoming a true champion of sustainability and responsibility means going beyond grand gestures and continually looking for improvements in every single business process, no matter how big or small. Critically it also means enabling the process of being held to account, by regular, thorough reporting. **Kingspan Insulation** has blazed a trail with its commitment to this practice for over a decade and it

has now gone further than ever before with the publication of its latest Sustainability and Responsibility Report. This is a must read publication for all who share a common interest in delivering a more sustainable future.

01544 387 384 [www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk](http://www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk)

enq.121

## Elementary my dear...“SIMONSWERK”



The TRITECH solid brass hinge from **SIMONSWERK** has been used on the entrance door to the home of the Sherlock Holmes museum. The museum has over 100,000 visitors pass through the doors each year, which over time had worn out the existing hinges on the door. The TRITECH solid brass hinge was specified as the ideal solution due to its unique concealed bearing and suitability for heavy traffic doors. Opened in 1990 the museum gives visitors the chance to sit in Sherlock Holmes' fireside armchair and enter his bedroom adjoining the study with Doctor Watson's room on the second floor. According to the stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson lived in the Victorian lodging house at the world's most famous address, 221b Baker Street, from 1881-1904. The TRITECH solid brass hinges incorporate a 25-year performance guarantee, high performance, maintenance free concealed bearings and a weight carrying capacity of 160kg – Grade 14. TRITECH hinges are available with CE marked and 60- or 30-minute fire rated options. The comprehensive range of finishes now includes a corrosion resistant PVD finish ideal for entrance doors which have to withstand the many varied effects of weather. SIMONSWERK is one of Europe's leading hinge manufacturers with a history spanning over 125 years.

0121 5222 848 [www.simonswerk.co.uk](http://www.simonswerk.co.uk)

enq.122

## Greensquares opens new UK showroom

**Greensquares**, one of the UK's leading suppliers of quality outdoor living products, has opened a new Slough showroom in response to increasing demand from customers in the London and South East area. The move follows UK-wide promotion of new brand launches, a substantial widening of the company's well established TimberTech decking offer, the introduction two years ago of imported porcelain paving and the addition of a new range of high quality German designed garden buildings to the Greensquares catalogue. Greensquares Managing Director Jason Cole said: "We have always had really good custom from London, the Home Counties and south coast but in the last twelve months we've really seen a surge of sales from the region. The 496, Ipswich Road, Slough location was chosen because it's close to many of our new and longstanding customers, sitting adjacent to the M25, M4, M3 and M40. We know there are many, many more potential clients in this area who are interested in seeing the quality at first hand of our existing market-leading brands- TimberTech maintenance-free composite decking, which we exclusively import from the United States, and PrimaPorcelain tiles and paving, individually sourced from Italy." Visitors to the Slough Greensquares showroom can also view the new SunSpaces flexible garden building system.

029 2080 3750 [www.greensquares.co.uk](http://www.greensquares.co.uk)



enq.123

## AXESS4ALL The perfect lift every time



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enq.124

## Kingspan Tarec® rebrands



Kingspan Tarec®, the industry leading manufacturer of premium performance pipe insulation, has now been renamed as **Kingspan Industrial Insulation Ltd.** Over the past decade, the firm has blazed a trail with its forward thinking approach to product development. The combination of its award winning continuous pipeline

manufacture process and slotted board technology allows it to offer a fully bore-coated solution for pipe sizes between 15 - 610mm, a matt theatre black facing, provides a subtle option for exposed applications and it has even launched the first product specific pipe insulation BIM object.

01544 388601 [www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk](http://www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk)

enq.125

## Celebrations for the original edge profile



Schlüter-Systems is celebrating 40 years of providing second-to-none edge protection and the perfect finishing touch for ceramic and stone tiled flooring with its world renowned edge profile Schlüter®-SCHIENE. Schlüter®-SCHIENE original finishing threshold strip is made to last. Now in its third revision, it boasts

features such as the 87° angle which improves edge protection, whilst its unique design also guarantees uniform grout spacing. These new features make the profiles stand out for their superior quality, while also ensuring they blend in to an overall design or act as an accent when a design calls for it. Schlüter-Systems has an essential role to play in every professional tiling project.

01530 813396 [www.schluter.co.uk](http://www.schluter.co.uk)

enq.127

## Synseal's new specialist will help boost digital



Synseal's Marketing department welcomes new Digital Marketing Manager Max Muscroft, who has joined the company after 19 years working at major car dealers TC Harrison Group. "There's a daunting learning curve on joining the Synseal team", says Max, "we've taken the bold step to totally overhaul Synseal's digital assets and ensure that our company websites are fully responsive and will

work well on all available viewing platforms. I'm currently renewing Masterdor and Sheerframe websites in the wake of the recent acquisition and we will be launching a new and improved web-building (...) to benefit Synseal purchasing account customers and Synseal Registered Installers in the very near future."

01530 813396 [www.synseal.com](http://www.synseal.com)

enq.129

## Kingspan launches online U-value calculator



**Kingspan Insulation** is pleased to announce the launch of its new online U-value calculator – the first to feature calculations approved under the BBA/TIMSAs competency scheme. The free, easy to use tool, requires no registration and is packed with 6,000 calculations for pitched and flat roofs, walls and floors. Generating a U-value couldn't be

simpler. Just visit the mobile and desktop friendly site and it will walk you through a series of quick questions about your specification. If you get stuck, simply click on the question mark icon and a tooltip box will appear with plain English advice. You can save your progress at any time.

01544 387 384 [www.uvalue-calculator.co.uk](http://www.uvalue-calculator.co.uk)

enq.131

## New Schueco guide will assist certification



With sustainability becoming increasingly important in the design and construction of new buildings, **Schueco** has produced a guide and comprehensive set of documents to assist architects in the selection of Schueco aluminium windows, doors and facades best suited for BREEAM projects. As well as explaining the fundamental aspects of BREEAM and the scoring system, the Guide demonstrates the influence Schueco products can

have on the various BREEAM categories where credits are scored – the main ones being Management, Health and Wellbeing, Energy, Materials and Waste.

For more information, please email [mkinfobox@schueco.com](mailto:mkinfobox@schueco.com).

01908 282111 [www.schueco.co.uk](http://www.schueco.co.uk)

enq.126

## Swish Building Products cuts carbon footprint



For the sixth consecutive year **Swish Building Products** has reduced its carbon footprint; it now produces 32 per cent less CO<sub>2</sub> than it did in its base line year of 2008. In 2014 Swish processed a record number of tonnes of material and carbon emissions from its manufacturing processes were down 6.5 per cent per tonne on 2013. Swish Building Products

marketing manager, Greg Wilde said: "With 67 per cent of UK consumers now more likely to buy a product with a low carbon footprint, and environmental performance high on the agenda for tender criteria, our continued improvement is incredibly valuable. It's an asset that benefits the entire supply chain."

01827 317 200 [www.swishbp.co.uk](http://www.swishbp.co.uk)

enq.128

## THSP launch new CDM2015 Advisor Services



Construction health and safety experts **THSP Risk Management** launch a range of CDM2015 Advisor Services to complement the introduction of the new regulations. Designed to guide and assist Architects and Principal Designers in complying with their duties under the new Construction (Design and Management) Regulations, THSP's CDM2015

range provides a collection of services which can be utilised as and when required, and whatever the size of project. With services ranging from pre-construction information management, Risk Registers and Construction Phase Plans, through to project management, site visiting or a full on-site safety support package.

08456 122 144 [www.thsp.co.uk](http://www.thsp.co.uk)

enq.130

## Put your old workflow in th BIM



From its inception in the famously innovative Scottish textile industry, the development and commercialisation of emerging technology has always been an important part of the **A. Proctor Group's** DNA. With legislation now in place to encourage the adoption of modern BIM workflows on all scales of project, the A. Proctor Group

have partnered with the NBS National BIM library to deliver high quality objects in both Revit-native and cross platform IFC formats, as well as traditional NBS Spec+ clauses. This allows our customers to easily integrate our products into whatever design workflow they choose at the click of a mouse.

01250 872261 [www.proctorgroup.com](http://www.proctorgroup.com)

enq.132

# editor's focus

## Scotframe Timber Engineering

The energy efficiency of a building means how much fuel is required to power its heating and water systems and how well the building manages to retain the heat that is generated. Scotframe Timber Engineering Ltd manufacture an innovative and unique injected PU closed panel timber frame system called Val-U-Therm® which directly addresses these issues. Val-U-Therm® panels are factory injected with a high performance PU material, which fills every void, making it exceptionally thermally efficient, achieves extremely low U values and is virtually airtight.

enq. 133



## Abcot

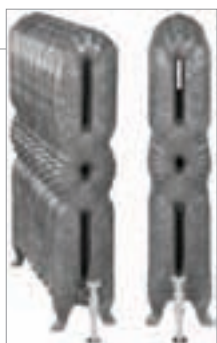
Electric Boilers Company has introduced a new range of "true" electric combination boilers called Elektra. Elektra boilers work exactly like a normal Gas Combi Boiler. In Electric boilers gas as a fuel is replaced with electric immersion heaters. This means there are no parts in the electric boilers that have to handle gas combustion and therefore there is an elimination of exhaust. Parts like the gas valve, fan, air pressure switch, flue pipes, electrodes, condensate traps etc are all removed. With gas eliminated this also means that Gas Certificates and annual Servicing is no longer needed. All the no's above result in true savings and safety for the home owners.

enq. 134

## EverEdge

EverEdge DP1 is the new ProEdge product in the EverEdge range of steel garden & landscape edging. Despite only being launched in 2014, EverEdge DP1 has become an instant hit and it has been used extensively in new builds, as well as established sites, to create an attractive yet unobtrusive edge. EverEdge also now offer a range of heavy duty steel planters which can be made to virtually any specification. The EverEdge Planter comes in a simple flat pack design which takes just minutes to construct but offers a wealth of possibilities when it comes to design.

enq. 136



## Carron

Carron the cast iron experts are proud to present a fantastic new cast iron radiator; the Ornate. First used in turn of the 20th Century America, the highly decorative Ornate cast iron radiator is reminiscent of the Arts & Crafts era and is adorned with floral and natural patterns. It is further enhanced by the unique figure-of-8 shaped design. A taller and slimmer radiator, it still retains an impressive heat output and of course can be painted, highlighted or polished to add a rich and distinct piece to any décor.

enq. 135



## The Marble & Granite Centre Ltd

The Marble & Granite Centre Ltd hold one of the UK's largest selections of marble, granite, slate and limestone random slabs available from stock. This vast range of materials is available to view both in their Rickmansworth yard and via a live stock website. The company is proud to be the UK distributors of the latest in hard surface materials, Lapitec sintered stone. Lapitec is a brand new material currently available in twelve different colours and four finishes.

enq. 137



## Wetroom Innovations

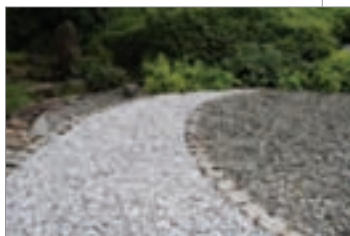
The new Wetroom Innovations website provides an in-depth wealth of information on the wetroom world. This amazing one-stop portal offers a huge insight into the biggest range of wetroom products under one roof. The Maxxus wet-deck and Minimax drain are now available, resolving the issues of high quality and value. Maxxus facilitates level-access showering, relieving floor space and optimising mobility with freedom of movement. Easily the strongest of its kind, Maxxus sustains a 470kg load over joists. Only 22mm thick, installation time is reduced to one hour as no under-boarding or drain boxing is required.

enq. 138

## Architectural Stone

Architectural Stone have recently finished the installation of their new Breton Smart Cut S/NC 1000 saw and lathe at their workshop in Cardiff. Its numerical control cutting centre with 5 interpolated axes, fixed work bench and twist head has been specially engineered to cut natural stone such as limestone, sandstone, marble and granite. The installation of the saw and lathe compliments other recent improvements to their banker workshop and water recycling facilities, allowing them to successfully complete projects of any scale.

enq. 139



## Long Rake Spar

With an ever increasing demand for greener solutions in the construction industry, Long Rake Spar provides an extensive range of SuDS compliant decorative aggregates. The company's product selection includes a wide variety of landscaping chippings and gravels, ideal for environmentally sensitive areas as they provide an ecological alternative to hard paved surfaces. Similarly Long Rake Spar's leading range of dried aggregate granules offer sustainable solution when used within resin bound schemes. These systems create an open texture which allows water to penetrate through the exterior surface promoting natural drainage and alleviating flooding.

enq. 140

## COREgravel

Gravel is one of the most attractive, economical and versatile surfaces on earth. But without help, it's inclined to move around, creating ridges and ending up where it shouldn't. COREgravel® is the solution. It creates a naturally porous stabilising base into which the gravel sits – and stays. It's easy to lay, inexpensive and very effective. With products now available at leading garden centres and Builders Merchants nationwide, and a range of artificial grass and wood plastic composite products, COREgravel is well worth keeping an eye on.

enq. 141



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enq. 142

# A grand vision for the Ashton Gate transformation

When Bristol City FC owner Steve Lansdown visited Barcelona, he had a vision. Lansdown was not taken just by the club's iconic Nou Camp stadium, but the plethora of sports clubs that made up Barcelona, which he wants to recreate in the west country of England. Steve Menary reports



**L**ansdown returned to the west of England intent on recreating that ideal and Bristol Sports was born. The collective now runs the commercial operations for Bristol's rugby union, women's football and basketball clubs, along, of course, with Bristol City.

And city's long-time home, Ashton Gate, is being transformed into a new stadium as a home for Bristol Sports with a striking design by Liverpool-based architects KKA, which aims to unify the old elements of the stadium with the new sections.

Bristol City originally played in Beaminster. The club played some matches at Ashton Gate, before moving to the site permanently in 1904. According to Simon Inglis' seminal 1996 book on British football stadia, *Football Grounds of Great Britain*, the original Ashton Gate featured two stands, simply known as number one and two.

The first real development on the site was at the Winterstoke Road End. By the 1920s, a covered stand was built using the proceeds from selling two players.

In 1941, bomb damage destroyed two stands. The main

*Continued on page 31...*



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143

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*'Not only is the stadium home to both Bristol City and Bristol Rugby but when it is completed it will become the largest conference and events centre in the south west'*

Bristol Sport chairman  
Martin Griffiths

Grand Stand was later rebuilt but this was not completed until the 1950s, when the club's chairman was Harry Dolman, who designed the first floodlights. In 1970, a stand opened opposite the stand named after Harry Dolman, who was a keen bowler and an indoor bowling green was installed underneath with the whole development costing £235,000.

The Dolman Stand opened in 1970 and is architecturally of note as it included a full-length roof suspended from a cross girder mounted on two uprights outside the screen walls. At this time, the Dolman Stand was largest clear span stand in Europe and the design meant that the sightlines are not

impaired. Retaining an unimpeded view would be central to the architects brought on board for the latest redevelopment.

KKA has won awards for sports projects in the past, notably the Heywood Sports Village. In 2012, KKA's design for this scheme won the Public Sector Project of the Year Award at the Builder & Engineer Awards and the community benefit category at the RICS Awards for the North West region.

In Bristol, the design brief from Bristol Sports was to ensure that the character of the stadium was not lost, in particular the sightlines, whilst also ensure that Ashton gate remained the south West's premier sports venue.

*Continued on page 33...*



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enq.144



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enq.146



*'It is really exciting to think that with this design we will be able to bring so much more to the city'*

Bristol Sport chairman  
Martin Griffiths



"Bristol Sport has worked really hard to bring a 27,000 capacity stadium to the city," says Bristol Sport chairman Martin Griffiths. "As the construction of the horseshoe-shaped concourse wraps around the southern end it really gives an idea of what the finished build will look like. It is really exciting to think that with this design we will be able to bring so much more to the city."

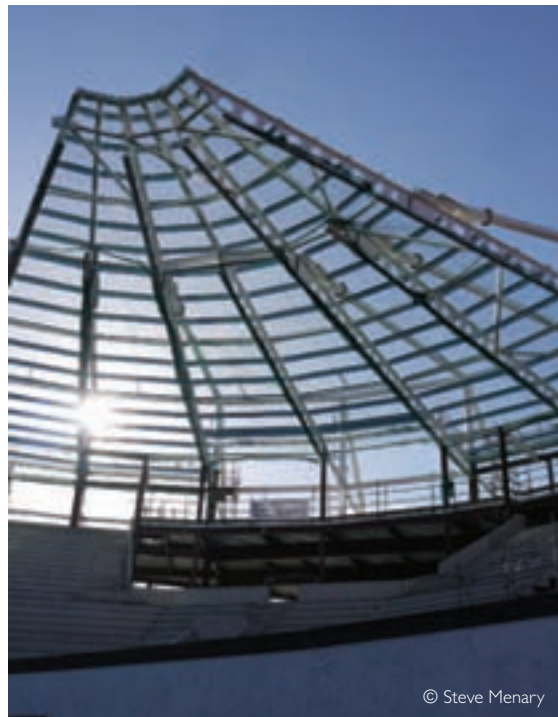
"Not only is the stadium home to both Bristol City and Bristol Rugby but when it is completed it will become the largest conference and events centre in the south west. The design has to be focused on delivering a multi-use facility that will make Bristol proud."

The construction contract was put out to tender in January 2014. An experienced field of contractors were shortlisted, including Sir Robert McAlpine, which built the original Wembley Stadium in 1923, Buckingham, which built a new home for City's League One rivals MK Dons, and also Galliford Try.

The winner was Scottish group Barr, which also has a long track record on major stadia projects across Britain, including relocating Premier League side Southampton, and started on site on June 30 2014.

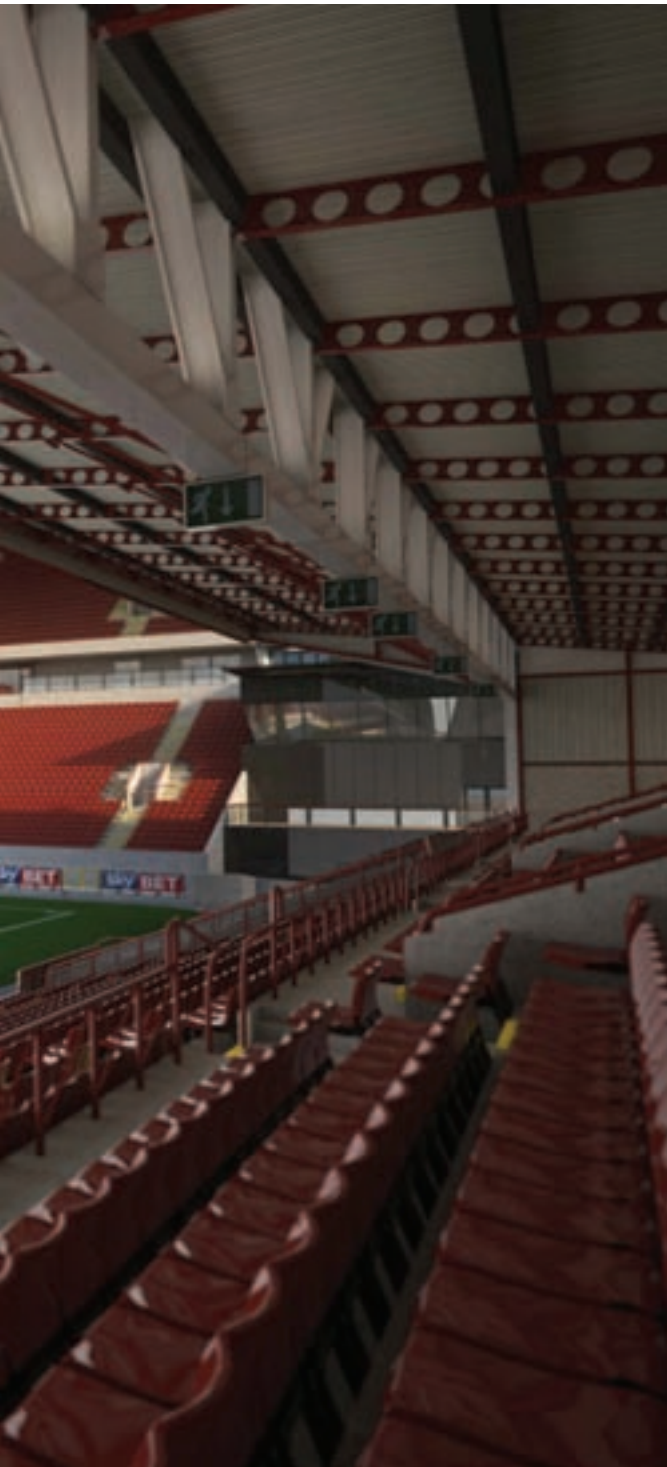
The design brief specified the creation of a parabolic bowl and this, along with a particularly tight site that bordered

*Continued overleaf...*



*'The New Ashton Gate will certainly offer twenty-first century facilities for the innovative Bristol Sport collective of clubs'*





residential areas on two sides and keeping the stadium open for football and rugby, created a series of trials for Barr.

"It would have been easier to build a new stadium," concedes Mike Henderson, Barr's operations manager on the project.

Before matches, Barr has to shift piling rigs from in front of the Dolman Stand and the safety advisory group must clear the ground fit to play prior matches at the stadium. Working on such a tight site meant that Barr had only a tiny goods yard and had to bring in materials using a just-in-time system. This impacted on the buying process. Steel came from Newport, south Wales, while the concrete was shipped in from the Republic of Ireland and the concrete stairways trucked down from Yorkshire.

The existing Wedlock Stand, which was built in 1928 and is the oldest of the four stands at Ashton Gate, has been demolished and a new stand erected to be known as the South Stand. This stand includes banqueting facilities and, on completion, the overall development will also have conference facilities to cater for 1,000 people, which Bristol Sport think will be the largest capacity in the South West.

For this new stand, composite cladding has been specified for the walls of the stadium and single-skin polycarbonate for the top of the roof. Curtain walling has also been specified for the new South Stand exterior along with entrance screens.

For Barr, the biggest challenge was the design brief that specified the linking this new stand with the adjacent Dolman Stand, which is being retained. "The design of the structural steel is very complicated," adds Mr Henderson. "The structural steel has to fit in with the sightlines. The geometry of the stadium, fitting it into a tight space and on a curve is quite a challenge."

The design also kept true to the original development of Ashton Gate, which was notable for all the steel work being painted. Mr Henderson adds: "The look of the building also meant that the visible steel connections had to be smooth architectural connections, so they had to be sleeved and not the more bolted connections."

Understandably given its heritage, the Dolman Stand is being retained, but KKA's design includes creation of a horseshoe-shaped concourse running from the Dolman Stand into the new South Stand.

A column support in the Dolman Stand provides structural support, but retaining this would have both spoilt the parabolic design and the sightlines. To solve this problem, the structural design involves the load from the new South Stand being taken from the Dolman Stand with the introduction of a new truss.

Mr Henderson explains: "We are using support trestles to hold up the roof then we will de-jack the trestles to allow the

*Continued overleaf...*

## project bytes

Visit the website  
[www.architectsdatafile.co.uk](http://www.architectsdatafile.co.uk)  
and enter the reference  
number for more information

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Ref: 97533

ISG Commences £11  
Million Belle Vue  
Stadium Scheme  
Ref: 24342

Derby Arena Opens  
Ref: 70573



*‘Elsewhere on the project, solar panels are being considered for the West Stand, as part of Bristol Sport’s enthusiastically search for sought green credentials for the development’*

roof to take the load again. It’s all about having a clear sightline around the seating bowl. To create the bowl, we are also extending the lower tier of the Dolman Stand to achieve the parabolic effect.”

The Dolman Stand is being gutted and new facilities for supporters included inside. These elements comprise phases one and two, which must be complete by July 2015.

In May, Barr will start demolition of buildings behind the Williams Stand. Once the season is complete, the Williams Stand itself will be demolished and Barr will start on the third phase to completely replace this section of the ground with a new area to be known as the West Stand.

However, the tight site means that Ashton Gate will not be transformed into a complete bowl by filling in the sides of the North Stand.

Pete Smith, stadium project development manager at Bristol Sport, says: “Those corners won’t be filled in but will have other facilities there like a media suite, so the wind won’t just be blasting through.”

Elsewhere on the project, solar panels are being considered for the West Stand, as part of Bristol Sport’s enthusiastically search for sought green credentials for the development.

The city of Bristol is the European Green capital for 2015, and as part of this project Bristol Sport is planning to develop a green pathway leading towards the new stadium, which will open for the 2016/17 season.

The capacity then will be 27,000. Not the 100,000-plus Nou Camp perhaps, but the New Ashton Gate will certainly offer twenty-first century facilities for the innovative Bristol Sport collective of clubs.

## Project details

**Location:** Ashton Gate, Bristol

**Value:** £45 million

**Client:** Bristol Sport

**Project manager:** Capita Symonds

**Architect:** KKA

**Mechanical & electrical consultant:** Hannan

**Main contractor:** Barr

**Steel fabrication:** AIC

**Pre-cast concrete frame:** Macrete

**Pre-cast concrete stairs:** Longley

# Kemperol V210 gives great performance at Odyssey Arena

The likes of One Direction and The Who may be confident of a warm welcome when they play Belfast's Odyssey Arena this year, but even they stand no chance of razing the roof thanks to a roof refurbishment using **Kemper System's Kemperol V210**. Carried out by roofing contractor, GBS Roofing Ltd, the refurbishment involves repairs to the joints on the roof of the 10,800 capacity stadium, which plays hosts to a wide range of sporting events and exhibitions as well as providing a venue for the world's pop and rock royalty. Originally opened in 2000 as a millennium project, the arena has a domed metal roof, constructed in 'cake slice' sections, and the original membrane used to waterproof the ridges that connect each slice was starting to fail. With its BBA-accredited 25-year service life, Kemperol V210 was specified as a long-term replacement. The size, height and steep curve of the roof surface



meant that the GBS team had to gain rope access to the roof and a safety line was erected. The installation team began by thoroughly cleaning each joint and removing any loose material before applying Kemper System's 'D' Primer. Once the primer had cured, the Kemperol V210 resin was applied onto each joint. The resin saturates a reinforcement fleece and cures to form a tough, durable membrane that is UV stable and permanently elastic. Explains Barry Mairs from GBS

Roofing, "The size, height and design of the roof mean that it is very difficult to access for repairs and refurbishment so it was very important for us to select a waterproofing membrane that will provide a long service life. Because of the access and safety considerations it was quite a painstaking process but the Kemperol V210 system meant that we could focus on completing each individual joint in a single process, one at a time."

019 254 45532 [www.kempersystem.co.uk](http://www.kempersystem.co.uk)

enq.147

## Com-prehensive approach helps deliver 'best practice' in accessibility



One of the best leisure centres in the country is building on its reputation for excellence by investing in state-of-the-art facilities for disabled people. Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre has added improved toilet and changing facilities to enable even more people to participate in the raft of sport and leisure activities, and simultaneously deliver 'best practice' at the flagship Centre. Project manager NPS turned to leading disabled toileting solutions provider **Clos-o-Mat** to achieve an efficient solution: from one source, obtaining all the equipment for a new swimming pool disabled changing room, pool disabled and baby changing room, conventional disabled toilet, and 'bigger and better' Changing Places accessible toilet. Under the project, Clos-o-Mat has equipped a new standard accessible toilet in Reception, plus a Changing Places toilet. With more space than a traditional accessible toilet, the Changing Places toilet also includes a height adjustable washbasin, height adjustable adult-sized changing bench, ceiling track hoist, and - instead of a conventional WC - a Clos-o-Mat Palma Vita 'wash and dry' (automatic) toilet. The Palma Vita can be used as a conventional toilet, but also can wash and dry the user after toileting, without the need for the user, or their carer, to wipe clean with toilet tissue, thus improving hygiene, independence and dignity.

0161 969 1199 [www.clos-o-mat.com](http://www.clos-o-mat.com)

enq.148

## State of the art gym fitted with drainage channels from Component Developments (CD)

With the aim to revolutionise London's fitness industry, forward thinking leisure company 1Rebel offers a no-contract, pay-as-you-train boutique featuring internationally-acclaimed DJ sets while you work out. Located at 63 St Mary Axe in London's primary financial district, 1Rebel has been 'built to a balance of beauty and function'.

**Component Developments (CD)** were approached to supply drainage channels that kept in line with the industrial design theme and in doing so, helped to make the architect's vision a reality.

Stainless steel channel drains were fitted, each up to 4.7m in length, 180mm wide and with a 75mm invert. Included was stainless steel gully pots with 75mm diameter side outlets, odour traps and large baskets, finished off with stainless steel Heelsafe grating. Architect Kyriakos Katsaros from Studio C102 says "Whenever we have a project involving shower drainage we always specify CD. They offer great quality stainless steel products, but of equal importance, they can adjust not only the gully lengths and falls to suit the various site conditions but can also customise the flange details to ensure a perfect fit with our tanking solutions."



01952 588488 [www.componentdevelopments.com](http://www.componentdevelopments.com)

enq.149

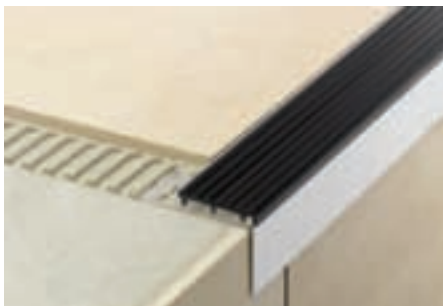
# Derby Velodrome gets a high quality finish thanks to Schlüter-Systems

Flooring expert Schlüter-Systems has provided the perfect finishing touch to the eagerly awaited, brand new Derby Velodrome.

Schlüter-Systems' finishing profiles, Schlüter®-TREP-B, have been used in the arena's foyer. Suitable for use in areas subjected to heavy pedestrian traffic, the stair nosing profiles are designed to protect tiled stair edges and offer a visible, slip-resistant surface which is durable, safe and visually appealing.

Nigel Tye, of Faulkner Browns Architects, who specified the product, commented: "I chose this type of profile for its robust edge detailing which offers ideal protection for ceramic stairs. I also opted for yellow inserts to coordinate with the arena's attractive colour scheme, which is based on the Olympic colours.

"We always specify Schlüter's profile products when we require robust detailing which will



suit public areas and provide a high-quality appearance."

The state-of-the-art facility, which has already been described as 'one of the most stunning sports venues in the country' is set to open in early 2015. The cycle track stretches to 250 metres while the track infield is the size of 12 badminton courts and will host other sports including badminton, basketball, netball, wheelchair basketball,

volleyball, martial arts, table tennis and trampolining. There will also be a 150-station gym, as well as group exercise studios and a cafe. The arena will also be able to transform into a music venue.

Carl Stokes, Head of Marketing and Customer Service, commented, "We are very proud that our product was chosen to help this innovative new arena realise its vision and become a truly unique venue equipped to welcome thousands of visitors through its doors."

Schlüter®-TREP-SE/-S/-B profiles feature a trapezoid-perforated anchoring leg made of stainless steel or aluminium, which is secured in the mortar bond coat beneath the tile and supports a slip-resistant thermoplastic rubber wear surface. The tread surface of Schlüter®-TREP-SE/-S/-B is available in a variety of colours and can be replaced in case of damage or wear.

01530 813396 [www.schluter.co.uk](http://www.schluter.co.uk)

enq.150



## RECYFIX® GREEN grass reinforcement

The Hauraton RECYFIX® GREEN STANDARD surface reinforcement grid system was used extensively in the grassed pathways, where a high footfall was expected, and the grassed areas surrounding Banovallum School, Horncastle. The system helped to prevent erosion and improve surface drainage. Once installed, the RECYFIX® GREEN modules were discreet, yet provided a permanent surface reinforcement to the grassed areas with a loading capacity of 200 tonne/m<sup>2</sup>. The pathways and area to be grassed were excavated, covered with a granular sub-base, a layer of sharp sand applied and then rolled. The RECYFIX® GREEN modules were then secured on top of the rolled surface and their apertures filled with top soil which was compacted then grass seeded. The grass was left to grow over several weeks before access was allowed. Colin Taff, Hauraton's Project Engineer comments "The RECYFIX® GREEN modules can also be specified for grassed areas with occasional vehicular usage such as car parking spaces also bridleways, roof terraces, urban green spaces, around trees and lawns.

01582 501 380 [www.drainage-projects.co.uk](http://www.drainage-projects.co.uk)

enq.151

## Gerflor proves to be a HIT with Kirklees Active



When the John Smith's Stadium in Huddersfield needed to refurbish two key sports areas and a functional visitor's space they turned to the leading indoor sports synthetic flooring manufacturer Gerflor for the solution. The client Kirklees Active, would as part of the project, specify Taraflex Sport M Evolution in anthracite and GTI Uni in grey to compliment the surrounding areas. Taraflex™ has been used in every summer Olympics since 1976 and is available in 17 colours and two wood-effect designs. The communal and recreational would also need a solution which could cope with both constant footfall and look great. Gerflor's GTI Uni was chosen by the client to make this area both appealing on the eye and functional underfoot.

01926 622600 [www.gerflor.co.uk](http://www.gerflor.co.uk)

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## news bytes

Visit the website [www.architectsdatafile.co.uk](http://www.architectsdatafile.co.uk) and enter the reference number for more information

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Ref: 85218

# A hotel fit for a super-hero

Sir Edwin Landseer Lutyens is a super-hero of many an architect so it's perhaps fitting that one of his buildings is being reinvented in the centre of Manchester under the name of Hotel Gotham. Jess Unwin reports

**T**he Art Deco building, designed by Lutyens in 1928 and completed in 1935, has undergone a multimillion pound conversion from former bank to a luxury 60-bedroom hotel with a name inspired by Batman's fictional American home city.

Once home to Midland Bank, and then the HSBC Bank, every floor except the ground floor has been stripped back, with all non-original materials removed, to help create bedrooms, a reception, a restaurant, a rooftop bar and all the other spaces required for this Grade II-listed building's new lease of life.

Situated in King Street and one of the city's very grandest buildings, it ceased to be a bank in 2008. After a short hibernation, the sleeping giant reopened one eye when the basement and ground floor banking hall were transformed into one of the chain of restaurants run by TV chef Jamie Oliver. However, it is Bespoke Hotels, working with Marshall Construction Group, that will complete the reawakening when the Hotel Gotham opens to the general public in April.

On the ground floor, the hotel has a small entrance area, where original timber bi-folding doors and ornate cornicing have survived the changes. The hotel's other lift lobbies also retain original hardwood feature doors and cornices. Restoration work has been carried out on the building's terrazzo staircase and balustrade, which on the 4th floor includes a tell-tale reminder of its past life – a Midland Bank logo incorporated in the metalwork.

However, significant structural alteration was needed elsewhere. A spokesman for the in-house Marshall architecture team says a steel encapsulated raised floor was installed over the first floor level to provide a suitable void to locate foul

*Continued on page 41...*



© Mark Leeming

## Plan.a is a Smart Choice for Busy Birmingham hotel



An internationally renowned hotel group has specified and installed **COBA Flooring's** Plan.a aluminium entrance matting at one of its Birmingham city centre venues. The custom-made-to-order matting has been installed in the main entrance foyer to the hotel, which leads off Birmingham's fashionable Broad Street.

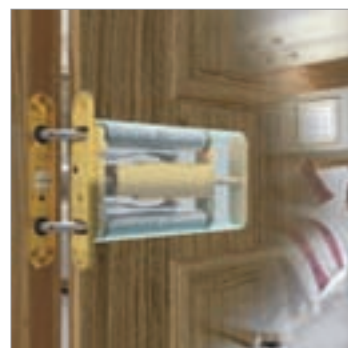
Heavy-duty Plan.a. entrance matting is a high quality system designed for the most demanding environments, making it suitable for many busy locations such as hotels, retail, leisure and commercial buildings. A key part of the manufacturing and fitting process was accommodating the circular shape required for the hotel's entrance door system. Plan.a is versatile too. It is available with either an 'open' or 'closed' surface. There is a choice of surface materials – select either Alba Premium Nylon Carpet (4 colours), Needlepoint Carpet (2 colours) or PVC scraper inserts. There is also the option of two height profiles – Standard for recessed matwells, or Low Profile for surface laid installations. A range of finished accessories is available. Plan.a is proving popular with flooring contractors for its flexibility and ease of handling. It has PVC linking joints, which allow the system to be simply rolled back and adjusted if necessary.

0116 240 1161 [www.cobaflooring.com](http://www.cobaflooring.com)

enq.153

## Hidden benefits for hotel interiors

The choice of door closer can have a significant influence on the appearance, ambience and comfort of any project. Available as standard and Free Swing models, **Samuel Heath's** Powermatic door closers deliver outstanding performance in fire resistance and accessibility, but it is their concealment that brings a host of benefits for hotel projects. Fitting neatly between the door and frame, Powermatic closers are totally concealed when the door is closed, ensuring that nothing interferes with the desired appearance of the door and interior. They also help to create a more homely, less functional, or institutionalised, ambience within the room. Beyond the assurance of great-looking interiors, Powermatic has provided a number of practical benefits to iconic hotel projects, including the ability to ensure that the sound insulation properties of guest room doors are retained and simplifying maintenance and cleaning regimes. Together, these benefits have seen Powermatic used by the world's leading designers on impressive hotel projects across the globe, including The Savoy, London; ARIA resort and casino, Las Vegas; Hilton, Manchester and the exclusive South Lodge hotel and spa in Surrey.



0121 766 4200 [www.concealeddoorclosers.com](http://www.concealeddoorclosers.com)

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### LEVATO MONO porcelain paver system

As specified at Wokingham Medical Centre, Hampshire  
Barbara Wilson Architects

The Levato Mono porcelain paver system is the pinnacle of external raised flooring technology; enabling the specification of lightweight, slip resistant and attractive raised flooring solutions, combining incredible technical properties with uncompromising aesthetics; making them the ideal choice for commercial and domestic use alike.

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**dtc**

enq.155



Every floor except the ground floor has been stripped back, with all non-original materials removed, to help create bedrooms, a reception, a restaurant, a rooftop bar and all the other spaces required for this Grade II-listed building's new lease of life



drainage and services. This was necessary because of the Lutyens-designed vaulted ceiling within the Jamie Oliver restaurant below. It also provided suitable acoustic protection from the hubbub of restaurant noise. Holes through the floor to form the service risers were formed with steelwork connecting to the existing concrete-encased steel.

Visitors arriving at Hotel Gotham will travel up from street level to the reception on the 6th floor. This floor is also home to the restaurant, to be called Honey. With guests coming and going, plus the noise of diners, existing floor screed had to be removed on the 6th floor so that a sound barrier could be formed to prevent unwanted disturbance in the bedrooms on the 5th floor.

Although the 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors have impressive 4m-high ceilings, another challenge was incorporating services within the 4th, 5th and 6th floors, which have much lower floor-to-floor height. Marshall's spokesman explains that, in particular, floor-to-floor height between the 6th and 7th floor is only 3.16m with large plate girders projecting into the space, leaving just over 2m to the underside of downstand beams. It was thanks to careful co-ordination of the M&E services that the ceiling between the 6th and 7th floors could be opened up, making the impressive restaurant possible. Open to non-residents, it boasts fabulous cityscape views of

Manchester through original arched windows.

Lutyens designed the building with a ventilation light well right through its core but consent was granted for its removal from 1st floor through to the 5th floor in 2010. Although the remaining sections no longer perform the function they were meant for, the original crackle-glazed tiles and window frames have been retained within the rooftop bar on the 7th floor. The 6th-floor light well now houses the toilet facilities to the restaurant.

The 7th floor is largely given over to the private members-only bar called Club Brass, offering an exclusive rooftop retreat for VIPs. There are also three terraces at this level, facing north, east and west.

On the bedroom floors, all rooms will have external views with the exception of a limited number of internal suites. The design of the bedrooms features travel trunk-style cocktail cabinets and wardrobes. Burnished metals, teamed with dark polished woods and luxurious leather, are coupled with notes of plum and raspberry; while soft velvet and faux fur are used liberally. A subtle nod is being made to the building's banking past with money-bag style laundry bags and gold ingot toiletry displays.

Oliver Redfern, who worked with Squid.inc as part of the hotel design team, admits: "For me, as soon as I was offered  
*Continued overleaf..*

## project bytes

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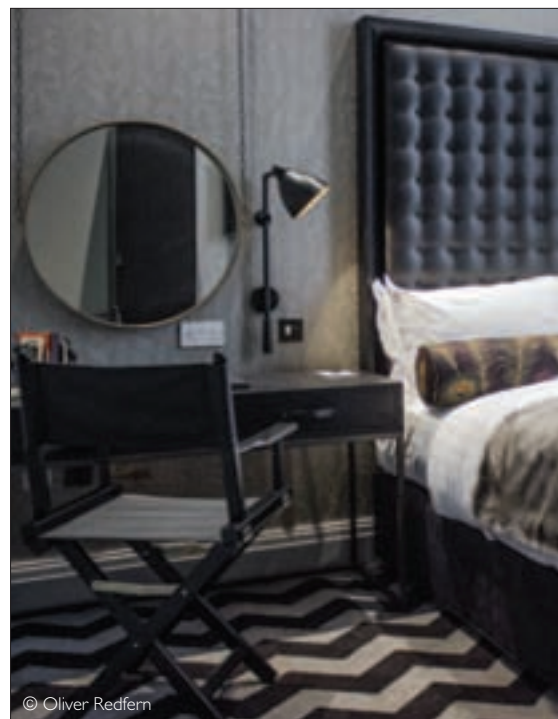
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**BUILDING**  
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The design of the bedrooms features travel trunk-style cocktail cabinets and wardrobes. Burnished metals, teamed with dark polished woods and luxurious leather, are coupled with notes of plum and raspberry; while soft velvet and faux fur are used liberally



A subtle nod is being made to the building's banking past with money-bag style laundry bags and gold ingot toiletry displays



the chance to work on a Lutyens building I jumped at it. I studied Lutyens at university, so I was very keen to get onto this.” He adds: “It is a landmark and a cherished building in the city. It’s in the quality of the finishes we’ve put in that we’re trying to hark back to a quality and craftsmanship that you’d expect from a period building like this.”

The building’s Grade II-listed status does, of course, mean the internal fabric of the building – cornices, window surrounds and so on – had to be retained, which restricted thermal improvements. However, the hotel has been fitted with variable refrigerant flow (VRF) heating and cooling to all public areas and low-energy lighting has been installed throughout.

For many years dubbed the King of King Street because of its size and castle-like design, Hotel Gotham’s neoclassical design is unusual for Manchester, which has led to the parallels with the Big Apple and inspired the Gotham name.

Jonathan Schofield, freelance writer on architecture and much else besides in Manchester, describes the Lutyens building, with its striking Portland stone facade, as “one of the top five commercial buildings ever built in Manchester”.

Lutyens was in his 50s and well established in British architecture by the time he designed the building for Midland Bank. Jonathan continues: “Lutyens was deliberately tricky, almost playful, in his later buildings. Here, the structure recedes in thirds, the bottom stage a third bigger than the second and so on. He also mingled the powerful but subtle neo-Baroque of Christopher Wren and his contemporaries with newer influences spreading about the nature of architecture in the 1920s.

“There might be huge classical arches here and massive cornices and obelisks, but much of the wall space is sheer, the window apertures unadorned, functional, to the point. Bauhaus eat your heart out.”

Lutyens (1869-1944) is chiefly known for adapting traditional architectural styles to more modern needs. He designed many English country houses but was also responsible for the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London (and Manchester’s Cenotaph, too); the British Embassy in Washington, DC; Hampton Court Bridge; St Jude’s Church, Hampstead, London.

He has been referred to as “the greatest British architect” and besides designing several other commercial buildings in London is known for having an instrumental role in the design of government buildings in what is now known as New Delhi.

Oliver says it was never his plan to create a hotel that was “a museum to Lutyens”. Instead the approach was to “use materials, finishes and techniques which paid homage to him”. He continues: “It may not be obvious to the average hotel guest but I like to think that someone with a love for

architecture will say, ‘Oh yeah, I get what they’ve done there.’ We’ve been sympathetic in our choices, tried to keep it contemporary but classic.”

With economic recovery continuing apace in Manchester there’s certainly a need for new hotels, from budget through to five-star, reckons Oliver. And he believes Lutyens architecture is in tune with the new century too: “There’s a really nice clarity to his buildings – they’re not over fussy, they’re strong visually. I would say he was a very modern architect and I think he would have thrived in today’s architectural world.”



© Mark Leeming



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*Continued overleaf...*

*'It is a landmark and a cherished building in the city. It's in the quality of the finishes we've put in that we're trying to hark back to a quality and craftsmanship that you'd expect from a period building like this'*

Oliver Redfern, Squid.inc





© Mark Leeming

## Project details

**Architect:** Building Management Services

**Interior designer:** Squid.inc

**Main contractor:** Marshall Construction

**Structural engineers:** JPG Leeds

**Mechanical & electrical contractors:**

Briggs & Forrester Engineering Services

**Building control – Approved inspectors:**

Butler & Young

**Kitchen / Bar equipment:** Design/Manufacture/  
Installation Space UK

**Metalwork:** ASG Fabrications

**Passenger lift upgrade:** Kone Lifts

**Window repairs & secondary glazing to 2nd floor:**  
WASP

**Cornice work:** Ornamental Plaster Design

**Joinery items – doors, frames, architraves  
and skirting:** Marshall Joinery

**Goods lift:** CE Lift installations

**TPlastering , metal stud walls & metal  
framed ceilings:** GTI Plastering

**Intumescent painting / fire stopping:** Firestop

**Floor screeding:** William Lea

**7th floor glazed terrace / balustrade improvements:**  
Charles Kendrew Metalworkers

**Rainwater goods:** Sapoflow

**Ceramic tiling floors and walls:** Hulme & Potts

**Terrazzo repairs & marble vanity tops:**

Andrews marble & tiles

**Painting & decorating:** Bell Group

**Raised access flooring:** Northern Access Floors

**Carpets:** John Abbott (Flooring Contractors)

**Banquette seating:** Style Matters

**Aluminium entrance screen:** Topside Aluminium

**Reception desk, bar, wine display, book case – metal  
wall tiles to 7<sup>th</sup> floor bar:**

Andy Thornton Contracts

**Parquet timber flooring – new & restoration:**

4D Contracts

# GreyFriars Colchester – Hotel of Grande Luxe

**B**uilt in the late 18th century on the site of a Franciscan Monastery, GreyFriars was an impressive family home with a fine Georgian facade and formal gardens. It remained a home until the late 19th century and was occupied by many leaders of Colchester's society.

At the start of the 20th century Greyfriars was sold to the Ladies of Nazareth for use as a convent. When they returned to France, the house became an education centre until it went up for sale in 2007.

A period of several years followed, during which the new owner, OMC Investments Ltd eventually acquired planning permission to create a luxury hotel and restaurant in GreyFriars. Meticulous attention to detail has been dedicated to repair the period features in the building and to restore it to its former grandeur. An essential issue to resolve was the problem of old windows and glazing, not only causing heat loss and draughts, but admitting

the ingress and egress of noise. Set to become a hotel of grand luxe, it was of great importance to ensure the building performed to 21st century standards providing guests with a peaceful and comfortable night's sleep.

Secondary glazing is fitted to the room side of the existing primary window. When high performance seals are used, secondary glazing can virtually illuminate drafts and reduces heat loss. Secondary glazing also has the benefit of improved noise reduction, attaining sound reductions to 45dB when fitted with an air gap of 100mm.

Selectaglaze fitted over a hundred units using nine different systems, tailoring the units specifically to the project's needs. Some of the windows were curved which needed to be carefully designed and some carefully treated to allow access to some beautiful original stained glass for cleaning and maintenance.

The majority of the windows were fitted with



6mm toughened glass, but in one particular area 10.8 Stadip Silence was used for noise containment to prevent disturbing people outside of the building.

Founded in 1966, Royal Warrant Holder Selectaglaze is the acknowledged specialists and market leaders in the design, manufacture and installation of secondary window systems.

01727 837271 [www.selectaglaze.co.uk](http://www.selectaglaze.co.uk)

enq.156

## RigiSystems CladScreen – Premier quality



RigiSystems CladScreen facade system has been used to create a strong visual statement on Premier Inn's newest hotel, at Edmonton in north London. The CladScreen used 4mm ACM panels, finished in Smoke Silver and Pantone Purple 519 to match the Premier Inn corporate colours. Panels were face fixed using colour matched fixings, to provide a

high quality yet cost-effective cladding solution. Panels were produced to a variety of different sizes, including a large number that were factory curved at RigiSystems Worcester headquarters. Many of the corner panels required additional support, which was accommodated during the in-house manufacturing process.

01905 750500 [www.rigisystems.org](http://www.rigisystems.org)

enq.157

## Kee Systems provides rooftop safety



A leading supplier of KeeGuard roof edge protection systems, **Kee Systems**, has provided Down Hall Country House Hotel in Essex, with a flexible and effective safety solution to enable routine roof maintenance to be carried out safely. Compatible with a range of roof membranes, including concrete, asphalt, PVC membrane and felt, KeeGuard offers a free-

standing roof edge protection system capable of keeping workers on the roof safe without endangering the roof membrane itself. Employing a proven counter-weight system, KeeGuard combines a non-slip secure base with galvanised fittings and tube arranged in a modular configuration.

enq.158

## A taste for Granite Transformations



Colourful chef, writer and TV personality Rosemary Shrager has chosen top quality **Granite Transformations** materials for new kitchen worktops and resurfacing counters, tiled areas and floors at her celebrated Cookery School and nearby Patisserie shop. Existing surfaces could be refaced within a single day, without dust,

debris or inconveniencing customers. Rosemary Shrager is delighted that Granite Transformations' agglomerate and mosaic finishes are robust enough for commercial use, beautiful enough to enhance the existing decor and sufficiently quick to install that normal business can continue without a break.

0800 044 5393 [www.granitetransformations.co.uk](http://www.granitetransformations.co.uk)



enq.159

## Architects Datafile website



The Architects Datafile (ADF) website is an online provider of past and present products and news items for the architect or specifier. [architectsdatafile.co.uk](http://architectsdatafile.co.uk) is a one-stop source for all the latest press releases providing any visitor with access to information about products and services that they may require. From the website, you can find links to digital issues that have live links to advertisers' sites, as well as daily email alerts to keep you as informed as possible.

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Find out more:  
**[www.aftlimited.co.uk](http://www.aftlimited.co.uk)**

enq.162

# Platon sealed system supplied for iconic fire brigade building conversion



**T**riton has supplied 3,000m<sup>2</sup> of Platon P8 cavity drain membrane to waterproof several basements at the iconic West Midlands Fire Brigade building at Lancaster Circus in Birmingham. The BBA certified membrane forms part of a 'Type C' system (as

defined in BS 8102: 2009) to the area, which is being converted to residential accommodation for 463 students from Aston University.

The system is being installed by Triton Approved Contractors, Protectahome, working for Watkin Jones Construction. Cavity drain membranes work by allowing any water ingress to continue to enter the building through the walls, but then controlling it and diverting it down to the Aqua Channel perimeter drainage conduit. In this project, the conduit diverts the water to one of 10 sumps, each housing a Triton Aqua Pump Pro Pump kit (each comprising mains powered and battery back up pumps.)

Moisture had been penetrating into parts of the basement for several years through the wall/floor joint and various cracks in the original floor slab. Although large floor areas have been excavated to allow for greater head height and replaced with new floor slabs, many of the original floors have



been left in situ. As the Platon system allows moisture to enter the structure there is no hydrostatic pressure on existing floor slabs and no need to replace them.

Triton's team has worked closely with the architect, main contractor and specialist basement contractor from design inception through to overseeing installation and testing of the system.

Further technical information about Triton's complete range of Platon cavity drain membranes is available on the website

01322 318830 [www.tritonsystems.co.uk](http://www.tritonsystems.co.uk) enq.163

## HOPEFlow used for significant Staffordshire military homes build



**Hope Construction Materials**, has completed the supply of 12,500m<sup>3</sup> of concrete for the build of more than 300 new military homes. The project, which launched in August, saw 346 new homes built, with Hope providing the concrete slab flooring for each home, using their HOPEFlow high-performance, self-compacting concretes, to ensure that the build was completed to a stringent timescale. Around 1,000 troops will be housed on the Beaconside site, as part of the £51m 'super garrison' development funded by the Ministry of Defence. Typically a build of this size would take between three and four years, however to be able to accommodate troops returning from Germany, it needs to be completed in just 11 months. As such the HOPEFlow performance products were used in a bid to minimise cost and project duration, laying 20 slabs (and homes) per week as opposed to an average of four. By doing so groundwork subcontractor Chasetown were able to save time and money, pouring the slabs without the need of power floating, with slab construction time reduced by nearly 75 per cent. Throughout the build Hope supplied a total of 2,500m<sup>3</sup> of HOPEFlow concrete and 10,000m<sup>3</sup> of conventional concrete, with conventional concrete used to build the footings, drainage, curbing and road access.

0207 647 6228 [www.hopeconstructionmaterials.com](http://www.hopeconstructionmaterials.com) enq.164

## Design students get to grips with SterlingOSB



Students at Kingston University's Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture have once again been getting to grips with **Norbord's SterlingOSB** as part of an undergraduate assignment. Working in five studio groups, a total of 115 students used the OSB, which Norbord donated free of charge, to design and build full-size (1:1) structures exploiting the physical characteristics of the material.

Each group was assigned a limited quota of 50x50mm softwood lengths and of 18mm SterlingOSB sheets. With these materials and encouraged to use basic hand-tools only, the students were asked to make "beautiful, coherent, precise, quality timber installations". enq.165

## Tough boards, not so tough a choice



According to research conducted for **Norbord** by Circle Research, great cost savings can be achieved if you buy SterlingOSB instead of softwood plywood. The 18mm costs 24.6 per cent less, whereas the 11mm version is an impressive 45.2 per cent saving compared to softwood plywood!

SterlingOSB is a direct comparative to softwood plywood in many applications and has equivalent, if not superior, strength and durability. Not only is SterlingOSB more cost-effective in price, it is easy to saw, cut and drill which means it is easy to fix too. It's also easy to find given that it is locally produced in Scotland meaning SterlingOSB is also environmentally sustainable. enq.166

# Axter Ltd: waterproofing one of London's most coveted addresses

Fulham Wharf has become one of London's most coveted addresses, and it's clear to see why; striking architecture, a variety of homes and amenities, as well as enviable landscaped outside space with access to the River Thames. With such a large variety of requirements to be met, and the necessity for expert materials to ensure a high quality build that would not fail, Axter Ltd knew they were the right waterproofing designers and manufacturers for the project.

Axter Ltd supplied their Wilotekt® - Plus system, a robust, inverted, second generation hot melt structural waterproofing system that met the demands of this challenging project. With the redevelopment of an existing supermarket and the simultaneous construction of 463 new homes, it was paramount that the waterproofing was resilient, capable of withstanding construction traffic and adaptable to suit the variety of roof finishes required.

Various challenges such as limited site access and the necessity to keep the existing supermarket fully operational during construction meant fast installation and careful management of the waterproofing was essential. Axter were relied upon to design bespoke waterproofing solutions to accommodate some intricate details, including a complex movement joint, which was concealed below two metres of dense landscaping.

The project utilised three core disciplines within Axter's system portfolio: Wilotekt-Plus hot melt structural waterproofing, Ecoflex single ply and Starcoat liquid membranes. Careful design consideration was provided to ensure Axter's driving philosophy of the right system in the right application was employed successfully and the building would perform to the highest standards.

01473 724056 [www.axter.co.uk](http://www.axter.co.uk)

enq.167



GPML Construction is a leading provider of building and maintenance solutions to customers in London and across the South East.

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enq.171

# Spike in sales spells success for Reynaers at Home

enq.172

Increased interest from architects about the benefits of aluminium windows and doors has resulted in a very successful year for Reynaers at Home.

Reynaers at Home has exceeded its sales targets and has doubled turnover over the past year. Since launching in 2012, 14 showrooms have been opened across England and Wales and the leading architectural glazing company has won numerous awards for its eye-catching website and controversial adverts.

Head of Marketing at Reynaers Hugh Moss said: "The unique properties of aluminium means that more and more architects are turning to the metal when looking to design homes that are long-lasting and robust.

"Aluminium's lack of expansion, high durability and 100 per cent recyclability, without any loss of quality, has established its reputation as the go to 'green' metal. Its remarkable strength,

anti-corrosion and low maintenance characteristics make it the ultimate construction material for an industry that is constantly searching for lighter, stronger and greener alternatives."

Reynaers at Home's latest product, Hi-Finity slim frame doors, has proved particularly popular thanks to its ultra slim design. Its impressive minimised visible interlock of just 35mm gives maximised panoramic views, which offer the ultimate in contemporary design and cutting-edge performance.

The new variants of Hi-Finity aluminium doors are now available with double and triple glazing and ensure optimum performance, safety, and comfort. The triple glazing system has achieved the Minergie® sustainability label – a quality indicator for high insulation systems. The Minergie® component label for windows and doors requires a Uw value (installed) of  $\leq 1.0 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ .

It is now also possible to combine two Hi-Finity



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doors on adjoining walls using one of a new range of innovative corner solutions. These allow architects to create a wall of glass to let panoramic views flood into homes and – thanks to the unique design of the multi-wheel carriages – even the heaviest of these doors will glide open and closed with minimal effort.

0121 421 9707 [www.reynaersathome.co.uk](http://www.reynaersathome.co.uk)

## Portakabin Group hands over research facility



The Portakabin Group has handed over a highly sustainable, state-of-the-art research facility, constructed using a Yorkon off-site solution, for the new International Institute for Nanocomposites Manufacturing at WMG at the University of Warwick – the first institute of its kind in the world. The off-site approach radically reduced the programme time to just 14 weeks on

site, which is several months less than originally envisaged. Portakabin provided a full service for this scheme including design and construction, module manufacture, fitting out, landscaping and car parking. The Portakabin Group's Yorkon off-site building solutions offer unrivalled aesthetic flexibility.

enq.173

## Kawneer systems help save Liverpool schools



©Willmott Dixon

Elements of the whole range of Kawneer's architectural aluminium systems were used on the first school to benefit from Liverpool City Council's BSF (Building Schools for the Future) bailout. Kawneer's AA\*100 zone-drained curtain walling and series 190 heavy-duty commercial entrance doors feature on the ground floor of the new state-of-the-art Notre Dame Catholic College in Everton, with AA\*541 top-hung casement windows and AA\*100 rooflights at high level. Apart from the Kawneer glazing, the façade was finished in a special material that changes from green to gold depending on the light, giving an eye-catching appeal.

01928 502500 [www.kawneer.co.uk](http://www.kawneer.co.uk)

enq.174

## Levolux leads the way at UEA



As part of a £58 million investment in its residential campus, the University of East Anglia has unveiled its new Crome Court development, featuring a striking solar shading solution from Levolux. As one of the UK's leading solar shading specialist, Levolux was invited to contribute to the scheme by developing a comprehensive solar shading solution. The solution comprised a colourful array of Glass Fins, along with

Aerofoil Fins and Ventilation Louvres to screen a roof plant area. Glass Fins offer an attractive form of solar control and can be configured to perform a number of secondary functions, such as integrating PV solar panels or introducing subtle colours into a building's facade.

enq.175

## "Thumbs-up" from Synseal at Ecobuild 2015



Synseal successfully exhibited at this year's Ecobuild, which took place at the ExCeL exhibition centre in London's Docklands on 3-5 March. The key objectives were to demonstrate the diversity of Synseal group window and door product solutions with a focus on true innovation and also introduce new sub-brand solutions following the recent acquisition of Sheerframe and Masterdor. Featured on stand N3000 at the Ecobuild show was Synseal's innovative WarmCore aluminium folding sliding door. "Our WarmCore warm aluminium bi-fold door (...) was certainly the star of the show as far as we were concerned," said Mark Schlötel, Synseal's head of marketing.

01530 813396 [www.synseal.com](http://www.synseal.com)

enq.176

## Smart Additions to Alitherm Heritage Range



Commercial systems specialist **Smart Architectural Aluminium** launched a stunning array of new products at this year's Ecobuild exhibition, showcasing its systems in a range of applications. Featuring prominently were three additions to the company's proven Alitherm Heritage range, with the launch of new pivot and tilt & turn window options, as well as a new double door. Reflecting the distinctive slim profiles of steel products, the new window variants have been developed to fit into traditional openings, while the new double door is the

first to have been designed specifically to replicate steel balcony doors.

01934 876100 [www.smartsystems.co.uk](http://www.smartsystems.co.uk)

enq.177

## Crittall's stylish windows solution



A prestigious headquarters building has been created within the stylish Harley Street Conservation Area in central London with the help of **Crittall Corporate W20** windows both inside and out. The Crittall Corporate W20 units were employed front and rear in the refurbishment and the front elevation at ground floor level was reconfigured to reflect the original drawings from the architectural practice Forbes & Tate who designed the building in 1926-27. Internally, the designers wished to reveal as much of the original fabric as possible. This was achieved by stripping back finishes and exposing the steel columns of the building's structural frame.

01376 530800 [www.crittall-windows.co.uk](http://www.crittall-windows.co.uk)

enq.179

## Comar 5P.i ECO+



**Comar Architectural Aluminium Systems** constantly look for ways to exceed what the market demands. Current trends are for window and door systems to provide aesthetics as well as achieve environmental, security, thermal efficiency and life cycle targets. Therefore, Comar are pleased to launch their latest development:

the Comar 5P.i ECO+ range. The range has been designed to perform, whilst backed by Comar's market leading delivery. Comar 5P.i ECO+ offers additional thermal performance to the Comar ECO product range: by extending the polyamide strips and inserting thermal foam, this product range will provide a future-proof solution for casement windows meeting U-values up to 2016.

0208 685 9685 [www.comar-alu.co.uk](http://www.comar-alu.co.uk)

enq.178

## Global conservatories gain orangery retro-fits



**Synseal's** Global conservatory roof, one of the UK's best-selling conservatory rooves since 2005, can now be enhanced with orangery style retro-fit solutions on both the inside and outside. The new Global retro-fit solutions employ product elements from Synseal's proven and market-leading hybrid orangery design, Global Summer.

"Global Summer is a winner because it delivers affordable style," comments Steve Brown, Synseal's Products & Customer Service Director "and now existing Global conservatory roof installations can be easily upgraded to include eye-catching elements from our best-selling orangery on either the interior or exterior, or both."

01530 813396 [www.synseal.com](http://www.synseal.com)

enq.180



## First Integrated Doors win Red Dot Award

**Centor** is celebrating worldwide recognition of its pioneering Integrated Doors after winning a Red Dot Award in the internationally respected design competition. Challenging all concepts of what we know as a door today, Centor has integrated doors, screens, shades and hardware as one, to create a new category of Integrated Doors that connect people with the world outside without the compromises. The innovative built-in screens and shades provide unprecedented versatility, allowing control of sunlight, insects and privacy so homeowners can enjoy inside-outside all year round. Concealed locks and hardware contribute to the contemporary look, while doors move with fingertip operation thanks to Centor's patent-pending hardware. Managing Director, Nigel Spork, is thrilled with the award: "I'm hugely proud that we can delight people at home by combining beautiful design and phenomenal thermal performance with some mechanical magic." Integrated Doors are sold through a network of Centor Integrated Dealers across the UK.

0121 701 2500 [www.centor.com](http://www.centor.com)

enq.181



## neaco gets five-star review

**neaco** received a rave review from an extremely satisfied client in Scarborough, where they supplied Spectrum aluminium balustrade for a luxury residential development. Spectrum was chosen in a black powder coated finish with toughened glass infills for terrace areas enjoying spectacular panoramic views across the East Coast of Yorkshire. Client Craig Holgate commented: "I have very strict standards and a keen eye for quality control. I don't praise lightly but neaco went above and beyond my expectations – they provided five-star treatment throughout, from sales consultation and cost outline to surveying, design and installation. Everything worked perfectly and I'm delighted with the results." neaco's UK Business Development Manager, Peter Melia, said: "Craig's comments are very gratifying to hear and Spectrum continues to demonstrate its many qualities in residential development." Spectrum is also available in stainless steel or an aluminium/stainless steel combination.

enq.182

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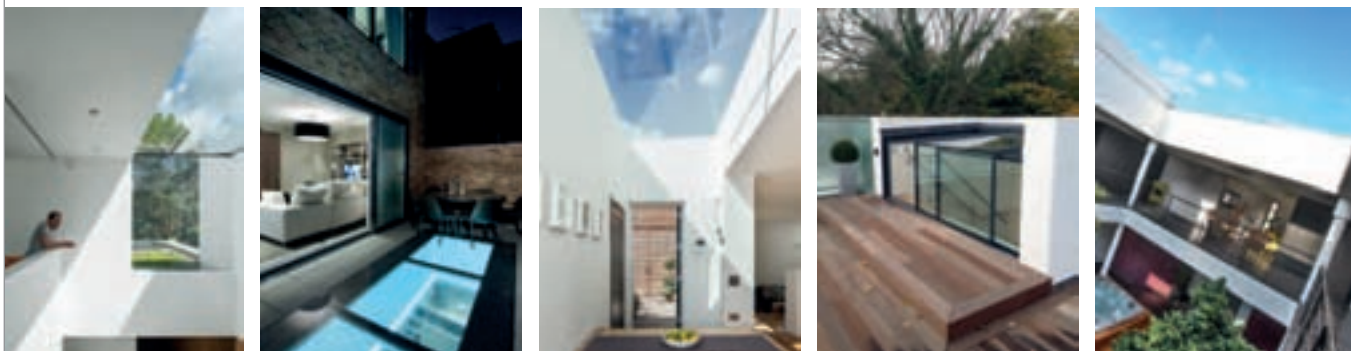
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enq.185

# Window specification – time to take a new view?

Set against a backdrop of stringent sustainability requirements and costly energy bills, specifiers are increasingly looking at new ways of designing projects that can help save both money and the environment. Mark Wadsworth, managing director of Senior Architectural Systems explains



All buildings lose heat through windows and doors but the amount of energy that is lost can vary significantly depending on the type of system used. Specifying windows with double or even triple-glazing is an obvious starting point but choosing a system that contains a thermal barrier is where the real energy savings can be made.

Traditionally the material of choice for thermal barriers has been the low thermal conductor polyamide. However new product innovations are offering even greater energy efficiency, such as the development of a new window system that is the first on the UK market to incorporate a thermal barrier made

from expanded polyurethane foam, a material that is more commonly used in insulation and cladding products and that has long been recognised for its excellent thermal properties.

When it comes to U-value ratings, less is more and the lower the figure, the more heat is retained. The U-value of a window system is dependent on a number of factors including the frame material, the type of glazing and the use of a warm spacer bar, which provides the space and insulation between the two or three panes of glass. Part L of the Building Regulations, BREEAM, Code for Sustainable Homes and Passivhaus standard can all have requirements for the whole window

*Continued on page 57...*

## Saint-Gobain goes 'live' with online support



Saint-Gobain Glass UK has launched SGG LIVE, a powerful new online tool to empower users of its products with a wealth of technical, marketing and specification support. SGG LIVE is a business support hub designed for Saint-Gobain Glass' direct purchasing customers, their customers and architects and specifiers. Membership of SGG LIVE is available via an online application form and special invitations have already been sent to many with access logins to preview.

Among the resources available to SGG LIVE members are technical assets like BIM objects, acoustic calculations, mechanical calculation forms, performance tables and glass processing support as well as a range of innovative apps.

01977 666100 [www.saint-gobain-glass.com](http://www.saint-gobain-glass.com)

enq.186

## FAKRO launches high pivot PVC roof window



Among new FAKRO roof windows launched at the National Home Building and Renovating show is the PYP-V high-pivot PVC roof window. Working on the same principle as a centre pivot, its innovative, balanced hinge mechanism enables the sash to be positioned as required while users can stand unobstructed in an open window. This also enables the sash

height to be significantly increased to maximise use of natural daylight and views from the room. The PYP-V is available in Golden Oak and Pine to complement exposed oak beams, doors and floors and white.

01283 554755 [www.fakro.co.uk](http://www.fakro.co.uk)

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enq.190

## Senior's SF52 system makes its debut



An innovative new thermally-efficient curtain walling system developed by a leading fenestration systems designer and manufacturer **Senior Architectural Systems** has proven to be the clear choice for use on a major superstore development for Sainsbury's. The new store in Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield, is the first completed project to show-

case Senior's SF52 structural silicone glazed curtain walling system. Boasting enhanced thermal performance, the SF52 system was specified for use on Sainsbury's first steel and timber hybrid store that features a number of sustainable design elements including rain water harvesting. SF52 is fully CWCT tested, has excellent weather performance, is durable, recyclable.

enq.187

## Aluprof Transforms the Soapworks



The Ivy Wharf Development in Salford is one of Manchester's most recent redevelopment projects. Utilising the former Colgate Palmolive factory buildings, the new development is of mixed use which includes offices, supported by ancillary consumer focused space

on the ground floor. Using the existing external frame concrete structure, new aluminium curtain wall screens constructed from **Aluprof's** MB-SR50N system, were used to create a continuous glazed and aluminium panelled facade behind the concrete columns. On the existing four storey block a further storey has been added which perfectly follows the lines of the curtain wall, giving the impression that the concrete frame surrounds an existing aluminium glazed structure.

0161 941 4005 [www.aluprof.eu](http://www.aluprof.eu)

enq.189



## A new horizon for Lumen bespoke rooflights

**Lumen** has launched its new rooflight, the Horizon. The timber rooflight is hand-made in the UK from Accoya which is renowned for its durability, stability and sustainability. The Lumen Horizon incorporates a high performance triple glazed Pilkington Activ self-clean unit and is crafted entirely from sustainable sourced Accoya timber. The Lumen Horizon is produced from Accoya as it provides compelling environmental advantages over other hardwoods, has superior dimensional stability and boasts exceptional durability, offering a 50 year life span. The Horizon is available in a variety of colours on both the inside and out. Available as a fixed casement design, manual or electric actuation for ventilation, the Lumen Horizon is designed for use on a flat or low pitch roof construction including lead, zinc sheet, copper and asphaltic material. It can be supplied with or without Lumen's unique Horizon insulated kerb system.

0330 300 1090 [www.lumenrooflight.co.uk](http://www.lumenrooflight.co.uk)

enq.191



U-values of windows and doors but as such legislation and guidelines can and often do change, it is well worth 'future-proofing' projects by specifying a window system that not only meets current targets but exceeds them.

By achieving U-values that are far lower than stipulated, the thermal performance of a building is not only improved but significantly, major improvements can be made to the overall carbon footprint. By cutting back on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through the specification of low U-value windows, the project team potentially have the flexibility of looking at making monetary savings in the overall build cost by reducing the need for other, often more expensive, sustainable features such as photovoltaic roof panels or under floor insulation.

But it's not just about how well a product performs. As well as helping to cut the operational carbon emissions of a building, specifiers must also look at how they can reduce the calculations of embodied carbon and it is vital that product manufacturers evaluate their own processes and the energy used in the manufacture, transportation, assembly and deconstruction of materials.

As well as careful specification, care must also be given to the positioning of doors and windows within a building. During the installation process, details such as ensuring the continuity of insulation by wrapping it around the frame and paying attention to the interfaces with the walls to achieve the

maximum levels of airtightness are essential if the energy efficient system is to perform to its full potential.

Here, the use of Building Information Modelling (BIM) can reduce risk. By using BIM, the installation process can be dramatically improved as schedules are automatically created with the BIM model also able to provide detailed information on the size, finish and positioning of a window such as if it is top or bottom hung. The BIM model can also contain information on the life expectancy of the window system, making it significantly easier to formulate an ongoing maintenance strategy, calculate the required U-values as well as assess and monitor the lifecycle costs.

---

*'An inspirational design can sometimes call for something that little bit different'*

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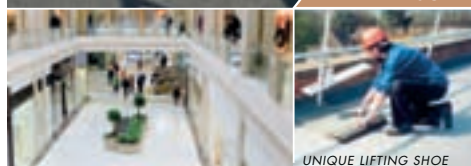
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## Saint-Gobain Glass issue six new glass apps



With Saint-Gobain celebrating its 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year the company's glass division, **Saint-Gobain Glass UK Ltd** continues the innovation that has made them a world leader in the manufacturing of flat glass by launching six new apps designed to improve the purchase and specification experience of its customers. Saint-Gobain Glass has always been dedicated to providing the best in customer service & support and these new apps are testament to this. Available on both

Android and iPhone, users can pick up Glass Compass, Glass Vision, Glass Design, Glass dBstation, Glass Facade and GlassPro in the app store now.

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## Kingspan Tarec® provides premium finish



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specification of **Kingspan Tarec**®'s next generation Kooltherm® FM Pipe Insulation System. The Kooltherm® FM Pipe Insulation System and Kooltherm® Insulated Pipe Support Inserts, were installed on all constant hot water and low temperature hot water services associated with the main Energy Centre.

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enq.196



## SIPs house 'riding' on Marmox ThermoBlock

A regional developer is making use of the **Marmox ThermoBlock** structural insulation for the first time as part of a bespoke SIPs construction for a client in the East Riding of Yorkshire. RM Developments concentrates on building eco-friendly, mainly residential properties for individual clients using modern methods of construction with very high insulation standards and featuring renewable energy technologies including heat pumps and PV panels. ThermoBlock is increasingly being used by specifiers to tackle thermal linear losses at both the ground floor and upper level junctions. Its composite construction does this by surrounding micro-columns of concrete with high performance insulation to create a horizontal barrier to heat loss. Using the 'default value' in Building Regulations incurs a heavy penalty under SAP which is why specifiers are routinely adopting Approved Construction Details (ACD) or Enhanced Construction Details (ECD). Significantly switching from an ACD to using ThermoBlock can reduce carbon losses by some 90 per cent: offering a very rapid pay-back on using the product. A 9 N/mm strength version of ThermoBlock is being introduced in addition to the existing 6.5 N/mm product in order to support higher loads in multi-storey structures.

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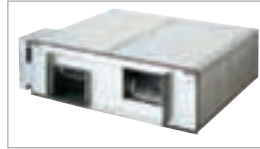
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enq.199

## Panasonic introduces new high capacity duct



Panasonic has added the E2 High Static Pressure Hide Away VRF and PACi ranges to its catalogue of highly energy-efficient air conditioning solutions. This new hybrid product combines a high pressure duct with a fresh air duct function to maximise its ability and customers' comfort. Whilst the end user can benefit from an impressive 100 per cent fresh air duct function, high static pressure, selectable up to 270pa, and a DC fan motor for further energy savings, these systems have extremely low sound level capabilities from 41dB. Adding to this, the physical appearance and design of the E2 systems offers easy install, with a 15 per cent weight reduction and an easy to programme configurable air temperature control.

enq.200

## DAB Pumps' Evotron SOL circulator pump



DAB Pumps' easy to install Solar Heating Evotron SOL circulator pump has been designed and engineered especially for the high temperatures associated with solar installations, particularly in domestic applications. Properties that use renewable energy, in the form of solar power, require a circulating pump that can cope with the very hot water temperatures often produced by the panels. The DAB Evotron SOL pump is designed to withstand temperature peaks of up to 140°C. It can also function perfectly with high glycol concentrations and has a special electrophoretic coating of the pump body to ensure resistance to glycol attack.

01279 652776 [www.dabpumps.co.uk](http://www.dabpumps.co.uk)

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enq.202

## New website aids specification of renewable heat products



Thermal Integration, whose products are marketed and distributed by **Specflue**, has unveiled a new website that brings together and shares Thermal Integration's 20 years' experience in the continual development and improvement of its product range. The website offers a number of free, customer-friendly on-line tools which aim to help specifiers working in the renewable heating market. Within the products section, 'Product Selector' uses a filtering tool to identify the most appropriate appliances to meet heating and hot water demands. In addition, the technical area of the site houses both a 'Design Tool', which enables sizing of cylinders and expansion vessels as well as providing calculators to work out heat loss and water loads, and 'System Designer', which can provide estimates of potential RHI payments and help in the preparation of quotations and system designs. Thermal Integration is a recognised industry expert in the design and manufacture of pre-plumbed hot water and central heating cylinders, thermal stores and heat interface units to suit almost any domestic or commercial application. Its range is distributed solely by Specflue, suppliers of flue, chimney and renewable heat products.

0800 902 0220 [www.heatweb.co.uk](http://www.heatweb.co.uk)

enq.203

## New Arley Primary School benefits from the Sunesis approach

When Warwickshire County Council wanted to amalgamate two schools into one and needed absolute certainty over both the build cost and programme, they turned to the 'off-the-shelf' solution offered by the unique Sunesis formula. Created as a joint venture between Scape and Willmott Dixon, Sunesis is an innovative approach to fixed-cost construction which delivers buildings for the public sector with speed, simplicity and certainty. The new school uses three **Ecodan** CAHV air source heat pumps which will provide all the heating and hot water that the school requires. The £3.9 million Arley Primary School, near Nuneaton will take up to 315 children. It has been built using the Keynes model from the Sunesis Education range of standardised, yet personalisable designs and comprises 11 classrooms, a hall, catering kitchen, staffroom and offices, as well as an outdoor play area. "The Sunesis process provides high quality, modern designs delivered on average 12 months faster and 30 per cent cheaper than market alternatives", explains Tim Carey, Product Director for Willmott Dixon, the construction partner – alongside Scape, the public sector procurement specialists – behind the 'off-the-shelf' building concept. "All local authorities are under increasing pressure to save money, so this system is helping to reduce the cost of building new schools".

01707 282880 [www.livingenvironmentalsystems.mitsubishielectric.co.uk](http://www.livingenvironmentalsystems.mitsubishielectric.co.uk)



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enq.208

# Creative heating solutions

David Simoes, brand manager at Zehnder Commercial, explores the radical changes to the landscape for heating and cooling products over the past decade



Over the past decade the landscape for heating and cooling products has radically changed. With continued investment in R&D manufacturers have worked hard to develop progressive technologies and materials which further improve the efficiency and operation of their products. The result has been a host of new products which offer greater flexibility in design, an enhanced choice of aesthetic and improved functionality.

## A material world

A key component of any piece of equipment is what it is made of. So with materials technology advancing at a rapid pace it is no surprise that the HVAC market continues to see the

introduction of new substances. Utilising organic and in-organic materials, many of which have previously been used in other industries, manufacturers have been able to create more efficient, durable and/or environmentally friendly products.

Examples of this include the introduction of natural graphite into heating elements for radiators and radiant heating panels. Initially developed for insulation products in buildings, the natural properties of graphite; light weight, high thermal conductivity and high corrosion resistance, make it an excellent material for heating systems as well. The lower mass rate and excellent conductivity of graphite products means that they can react immediately to changes in temperature, lowering running costs and reducing emissions.

*Continued on page 65...*

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Polymer also remains a relentless substitute for many materials across industry and the HVAC sector is no exception. Already in widespread use for underfloor heating, pipework and fittings, polymer is now penetrating the metal stronghold of radiator manufacturing. Hard wearing, long lasting, light weight and corrosion resistant it is surprising it has taken quite so long.

## Modular construction

Two key motivations for change, which are to some extent inextricably linked, are modern methods of construction and the aesthetics of the building. As the desire to reduce construction costs, increase efficiency and minimise maintenance has continued to drive the market, many manufacturers, architects and consulting engineers have found themselves in collaboration to develop more sophisticated products for their projects. In general terms these can be categorised by functionality or integration:

### 1. Functionality

Products with dual functionality will, by nature of their name, reduce purchase and installation costs, consequently adding value to their product offering. One example of this is radiant ceiling panels. When operating both a heating and cooling function they are an ideal 'single' solution to year round indoor climate control for large indoor spaces such as offices, schools, hospitals, factories and warehouses etc.

Another example is designer radiators. With many magnificent designs available their stylish looks mean they can be used as room dividers or focal pieces within commercial or domestic properties. Likewise, customised configurations of traditional designs such as multi-column radiators within balustrade, railings or benches, make an interesting addition to reception areas or walkways that require heating without any obstruction to space or people.

### 2. Integration

With current building design demanding greater use of space, increased natural light, and in many cases the invisibility of mechanical services, manufacturers have also worked hard to develop products to meet these requirements.



*'As technology and construction changes the specification of a heating system it is becoming a more integral part of the building design and structure'*

Integrated ceiling rafts which incorporate lighting, heating, cooling, data cabling, fire alarms and sprinklers etc. offer the benefit of providing a range of services within one product. Pretty much manufactured and assembled off site, with plug and play connection, the valuable multi-functionality not only significantly reduces installation time and costs, but also gives architects greater control of the aesthetics. Ideal for use in commercial offices and the education sector they make the provision of services quick and easy.

More frequent use of wall to ceiling glazing has also led to an increase in the use of perimeter heating such as trench heating. Providing a cost effective heat curtain against the glass, trench heating does not impact on the aesthetics of the building and enables architects to create an essentially invisible heating system.

Systems which are fully integrated into the fabric of the building structure are increasing in popularity. Underfloor heating has long since featured in this sector, but additional wall and floor products are also entering the market. With heating and cooling elements now incorporated into standard plasterboard panels, a whole heating system can be fitted as part of the general construction. Saving considerable time and money on installation, these specialist panels are ideal for use in buildings where space, design and climate are extremely important, i.e. hotels, hospitals and care homes.

As technology and construction changes the specification of a heating system it is becoming a more integral part of the building design and structure. With so many options available architects and specifiers must understand exactly what type of building they are looking to create and how it is going to be used in order to successfully specify a HVAC system. They can also afford to be much more creative and look to install original and tailor made heating systems which not only operate effectively, but can also provide added value or create a real point of difference.

enq.210



# Dubai Tram's smoke ventilation system stays on track with SE Controls

The automatic smoke ventilation systems installed at every station within Dubai's new tram network are using more than 300 compact SECO N 24 40 chain actuators and Type 23 OS2 controllers from SE Controls to ensure the smoke vents operate faultlessly in the event of a fire, allowing waiting passengers to evacuate safely.

Phase 1 of the Dubai Tram system spans 10.6 kilometres and includes 11 stations along the route, which starts at Dubai Marina and ends at Al Sufouh, with stops at the Jumeirah Beach Residence as well as Knowledge Village, Internet City and Media City, while also linking with the Dubai Metro and the Palm Jumeirah Monorail.

The natural smoke ventilation systems are installed into the two separate enclosed passenger terminals located on each side of the track at every station that incorporate main entrance and exit

doors as well as automated platform screen doors (PSD) which only open when a tram is stationary to allow passenger access.

In the event of a fire, the fire alarm system triggers the opening of 14 'bottom-hung' platform facing windows, each measuring 1400mm x 600mm, which allows smoke to vent from the building and create a clear escape route for passengers through the main exit doors. To avoid any risk of a platform fire spreading to the trams, the system is designed to ensure the PSDs remain closed.

Madhava Prasad, General Manager with SE Controls Middle East, who handled the project, explained: "We are delighted to have been involved in the Dubai Tram network, as it extends the public transport system and allows easy transit between key areas within Dubai. Clearly, passenger safety is a primary consideration and the smoke ventilation systems demonstrate the importance



attached to fire safety by the operators."

SE Controls specialises in the design, project management and installation of advanced smoke ventilation and natural ventilation solutions to meet the needs of architects, contractors, building services engineers and facilities managers worldwide.

01543 443060 [www.secontrols.com](http://www.secontrols.com)

enq.211

## Modern heating technology protects artefacts



Maintaining precise temperature and humidity levels to protect its extensive artefact collection, while keeping energy costs and emissions down at its award winning Downland Gridshell Building, were key requirements for the management at the Weald Down Open Air Museum when selecting a replacement for an inefficient old boiler serving the building's underfloor heating system. Their choice was an ATAG Q60S condensing combination boiler, one of the most efficient light commercial

boilers on the market, supplied by Chichester-based **ATAG Heating UK**.

01243 815770 [www.atagheating.co.uk](http://www.atagheating.co.uk)

enq.212

## Horizontal Sentinel Kinetic range expands



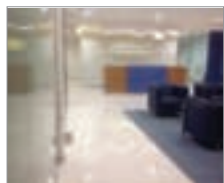
Vent-Axia has added the 200ZP to its popular Sentinel Kinetic horizontal range of mechanical ventilation with heat recovery (MVHR) solutions. The new compact addition to the series has been designed specifically for small apartments and boasts an impressive 86% thermal efficiency.

To ensure year-round thermal comfort in increasingly air tight properties, Vent-Axia's 200ZP includes in its range an innovative programmable summer bypass which operates when a home's temperature rises above a pre-set comfort temperature. Meanwhile, in winter the unit utilises frost protection to stop frost building up on the intake side of the heat exchanger and so preventing damage.

0844 856 0590 [www.vent-axia.com](http://www.vent-axia.com)

enq.213

## 52,000 m<sup>2</sup> Daman Tower adopts AET



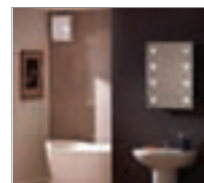
The impressive Burj Daman in Dubai incorporating AET Flexible Space under floor air conditioning, was completed at the end of 2013 and commercial space is now sold out. The AET under floor systems utilise the plenum beneath a raised floor as the ventilation duct, eliminating the need for ceiling based duct work, potentially reducing height of new build

construction by up to 10 per cent and making it easy and economical to adapt to changes in the workplace. AET Flexible Space is proud to be part of this new standard for office environments in the UAE. Their under floor air conditioning systems are well proven to be flexible and adaptable.

01342 310400 [www.flexiblespace.com](http://www.flexiblespace.com)

enq.214

## Xpelair leads the way in heat recovery



Xpelair has launched Solitair, a new highly efficient 4" single room heat recovery unit ideal for the refurbishment market. Quick and easy installation and an enhanced heat recovery capacity are just two of the stand out qualities of Solitair, the latest addition to Xpelair's market-leading range of ventilation solutions.

The new Solitair 4" unit features Xpelair's innovative Ghost™ Air Movement Technology, meaning the solution is near silent in operation. The efficient unit, which delivers 80 per cent heat recovery by incorporating a unique rotating rigid hexagonal heat exchanger, thanks to its ability to function at a record low outside temperature; as low as -15°C.

0844 372 7750 [www.xpelair.co.uk](http://www.xpelair.co.uk)

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## Vortice supplies ventilation to Liberty Place



Liberty Place is a flagship development by David Wilson Homes in Warrington, Cheshire, comprising one and two bedroomed apartments aimed at first time buyers and downsizers. Vortice was approached to assist in the design and specification of energy efficient ventilation systems for this prestigious development and worked alongside Warrington's Thomson Electrical to train their team in best practice for these heat recovery unit installations. The result has been excellent, with optimum system design followed by installation

and commissioning excellence; this development is ideally placed to achieve the very best results and provide healthy, fresh air for its occupants.

01283 492949 [www.vortice.ltd.uk](http://www.vortice.ltd.uk)

enq.217

## New Stratos launched by Wilo



Wilo has launched its new improved version of the popular Wilo-Stratos glandless circulating pump for hot water heating systems, air conditioning and closed cooling circuits. The enhanced version of the pump can now deliver to systems based on actual need thanks to the efficient 'Q-limit' operating mode and it also boasts

a new and improved energy efficiency index (EEI) of 0.20 or less. This exceeds the value prescribed by the 2015 Ecodesign Directive and also meets the ErP benchmark requirement. By optimising the hydraulics and the motor, Wilo has succeeded in improving the energy efficiency index once again. That's an impressive 15 per cent increase in efficiency compared to the earlier Stratos.

01283 523000 [www.wilo.co.uk](http://www.wilo.co.uk)

enq.219

## Flue gas heat recovery combatting fuel poverty



While Johnson & Starley's entire QuanTec range of high efficiency boilers feature Giannoni 'Cool Door' Isothermic stainless steel heat exchangers, the HR28C model additionally incorporates full condense technology; offering efficiencies not previously achieved in the industry. The integral PFGHR unit serves to preheat sanitary water to deliver performance standards some 25 per cent above most water heaters on the market, meanwhile significantly lowering flue

temperatures to the lowest possible level and thereby visibly reducing the plumbing effect. Despite this additional feature, the HR28C remains compact enough to provide a direct replacement for many wall hung boilers.

01604 762 881 [www.johnsonandstarley.co.uk](http://www.johnsonandstarley.co.uk)

enq.218

## Coloured radiators – from Stelrad



Perhaps the most impressive change in radiators in the past few years has been the huge increase in colours that radiators are available in nowadays. To paraphrase Henry Ford you could have radiators in "any colour so long as it was white". Stelrad now offers many of its models in up to 35 different colours. This brings a new range of options for heating - in colour. From

stylish pastels to forceful sepias, greys, blacks and metallics – there are a range of options for anyone.

0870 849 8056 [www.stelrad.com](http://www.stelrad.com)

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**[www.apolloradiators.co.uk](http://www.apolloradiators.co.uk)**



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## New stove size estimator APP



Want a wood burning stove in your room but not sure what kW size stove you require? The new Stoveright App from **Charlton & Jenrick** can help. The free to purchase App will calculate your room's heat requirement before choosing your ideal size of Fireline or Purevision stove. Peter Mintoft, director and chief designer of Charlton and Jenrick brands of stoves comments: "the question we most commonly get asked is what size stove do I require for my room? This App was designed to make it an easy process for anyone considering purchasing a wood burning stove".

More details on the App and the ranges of stoves can be found on the company's website at [www.charltonandjenrick.co.uk](http://www.charltonandjenrick.co.uk).

enq.223

## JS launches Finesse recessed air curtain



JS Air Curtains is launching the Finesse, a discreet and high-performance recessed air curtain suitable for a range of environments from banks and boutiques to shopping centres and airports. Air curtains seal an entrance with an invisible barrier of air, preventing cold air entering in the winter and air conditioning escaping in the summer, whilst the door is open. Internal temperatures are maintained and a building's energy costs are reduced. The Finesse delivers an air flow up to 6,100m<sup>3</sup>/h enabling it to seal doorways up to 3.5m high and, with its easy to install compact design, fits neatly into a suspended ceiling system. The aesthetic Finesse is available in white RAL 9010 as standard but any RAL colour on request.

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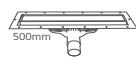
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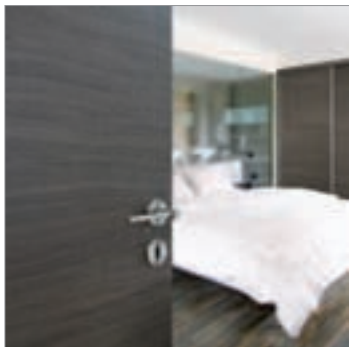
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## Five shades of Grey from Vicaima is a real leaf turner



When it comes to the latest trend for interior door colours, **Vicaima** really know how to excite the imagination. Grey is proving to be a very popular choice with interior designers and developers right now, so it's only right that with a reputation for innovation, Vicaima have come up with five finishes that seem sure to satisfy the growing desire for shades of Grey. The shades include Dekordor 3D Grey, Grey stained Oak veneer, Dekordor HD Dark Grey, Straight Line veneer Grey and Dekordor SD Grey Walnut. All of which are available as made to order products to individual project requirements. Dekordor 3D Grey, launched earlier this year is already in great demand. With its embossed and very tactile surface, displaying a horizontal grain design, the doors make an ideal choice for hotel room and apartment entrances. Available either lipped or edge banded and as part of a complete door and frame assembly where required. Another recent introduction is the Grey stained Oak veneered door. With its natural wood tones these doors provide the perfect accompaniment to the current fashion for stained wood flooring, stairs, kitchen cabinets and even furniture. Embodied with the natural grain of real Oak veneer, the faces have been enhanced with a matt lacquered stain finish which requires no further treatment once fitted.

01793 532333 [www.vicaima.com](http://www.vicaima.com)

enq.230

## RENOLIT's 2015 Highlights collection launched

RENOLIT presents the latest 3D Highlights collection showing its new 3D Stock Range items. This year 35 innovative effects are introduced ranging from the latest solid colours in high gloss, matt finishes and structured woodgrain surfaces to the most realistic woodgrain prints and sophisticated textures. This new range, which will be further extended during the coming months, is showing at the Interzum trade fair (05-08 May, Cologne Germany). RENOLIT invite you to its stand A/10/B11 in hall 6.1 for a full presentation. This year solid colours with textured surfaces are prominent. 19 new colours created in the latest trends are introduced with modern imaginative surface finishes under three categories: Colour Road, Matt and Structured surfaces. Oak remain popular with four new decors Chagall Oak, Craft Oak, Salinas Oak, and White Washed Oak, all of which feature different design elements and represent nine of the new product introductions in different colour ways. The remaining seven new introductions span Pine, Teak, Walnut and stone creating diversity and extending the scope of the range. The Highlights Collection showcases the 2015 and 2014 new design introductions into the global 3D stock range which totals an extensive 242 RENOLIT COVAREN and RENOLIT ALKOREN decors.

01670 718222 [www.renolit.com](http://www.renolit.com)



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## Mapei introduces new Mapefloor CPU range



Mapei UK has added the Mapefloor CPU range which includes five new products to its Industrial Flooring line. The products benefit the chemical and food industry providing floor systems that will be in compliance with current EC norms regarding hygiene and safety within areas used for food and beverage production and storage areas. All products

can be applied on 'Early Age Concrete' and can be used in conjunction with Mapei's range of fast-drying screeds, admixtures and sealant products. The five products are advantageous for applying to floors in the following industries: chemical and pharmaceutical, food production/storage, wineries and breweries.

0121 508 6970 [www.mapei.co.uk](http://www.mapei.co.uk)

enq.233

## Polysafe Verona adds flavour to dining hall



A combination of Polyflor's Polysafe Verona PUR vinyl safety flooring in two complementary and stylish shades has been used to help create an eye-catching dining hall for pupils at The Sutton Academy in St Helens. As part of a major refurbishment project at the school, over 400m<sup>2</sup> of Polysafe Verona PUR flooring was installed throughout the

dining and seating areas where pupils relax and have fun during break times. Verona flooring in Biscotti 5212 and Dolphin Grey 5203 shades was used to create a neutral backdrop for the dining hall's vibrant purple and green benches which tie in with the Academy's branding colours.

0161 767 1111 [www.polyflor.com](http://www.polyflor.com)

enq.235

## Inceptor LED downlights



Scolmore Group's Inceptor range of integrated LED downlights delivers high performance, low energy lighting solutions across a range of applications. Inceptor Micro and Inceptor Max are fire-rated, integrated LED

downlights with a high-powered, compact, pre-wired driver and flow connector. The compact size of the driver means they can be fitted into very shallow recess depths – Inceptor Max at 61mm and Inceptor Micro at 50mm – making them some of the most flexible fittings currently available. Scolmore has integrated its popular Flow Connectors, which means they are quick and easy to install as well as to remove and replace for the purpose of circuit testing and for retrofits.

01827 63454 [www.scolmore.com](http://www.scolmore.com)

enq.237

## Spring is in the kneepads



Spring is not only very much in the air but also in the super-safety, lightweight kneepads for pocketed work trousers, from Redbacks Cushioning Ltd, which incorporate a soft and flexible TPE (Thermo Plastic Elastomer) leaf-spring set within a unique honeycomb matrix. The combined 'direction of force' cushioning construction gives

a comfortable 'floating-on-air' feel and crucially protects the wearer's knees and the rest of the body from the potential dangers of impact through continuous kneeling. They are scientifically proven to absorb impact and reduce shock on knees, back and neck and relieve the pressure on legs, ankles and foot joints.

01327 702104 [www.redbackscushioning.com](http://www.redbackscushioning.com)

enq.234

## Polyflor chosen for healthcare development



A variety of Polyflor's vinyl flooring has been installed extensively across a major redevelopment and conservation project at the Acre Mills Outpatient facility, a Grade II listed former wire mill building in Huddersfield. Over 3300m<sup>2</sup> of Polyflor sheet vinyl flooring from the Forest fx, Pearlazzo, Verona, Hydro Evolve and Finesse SD

collections was installed by flooring contractors CMC Flooring of St Helens throughout Acre Mill, providing efficient and attractive floor coverings for various interior environments with different demands and requirements. Polyflor flooring is 100 per cent recyclable via the Recofloor vinyl take back scheme.

0161 767 1111 [www.polyflor.com](http://www.polyflor.com)

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## A high performance from Remmers



To compliment its recently refurbished showroom, a new 'high tech' workshop has been constructed at Charles Hurst Ferrari, the official Ferrari dealer in Northern Ireland. Remmers UK Ltd along with McLaughlin and Harvey Contractors were appointed to oversee

the installation of a flooring system in keeping with the Ferrari brand and suitable for a workshop environment. The floor required filling and levelling prior to the application of the new flexible surface finish. The system proposed by Remmers was a flexible 3mm visco elastic PUR resin system with a polyurethane seal coat. The seal coat has integral R11 slip rating and a high degree of chemical resistance.

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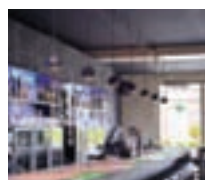
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# Wall protection is no longer just 50 shades of grey

Sally Moores, marketing manager at Yeoman Shield, explains how the practical necessity of a wall protection system can go hand in hand with the aesthetics of interior design



**I**nstalling a wall protection system, be it protection panels, corner angles, rails or protection strips, does not have to mean a compromise on design style or creativity.

The impression that adding the elements of protection to walls on a project can give a utilitarian, dull and sterile feel to an interior is no longer true.

Wall protection is moving with the design times, reflecting modern colour schemes and the designs favoured when considering interior décor for new building schemes and refurbishments.

## Not to be overlooked

It's easy to dismiss wall protection as an unattractive addition which puts people in mind of long characterless corridors, boring waiting and reception areas or dull meeting rooms.

However time and money invested in putting together an interior which is usable, safe and pleasing to the eye can soon be wasted as all too soon, in a busy environment, unsightly

damage and marking can occur to newly decorated walls.

Wall protection will serve to protect the new interiors from this inevitable damage avoiding the risk of a fresh vibrant interior looking worn and tired.

## A full spectrum of choice

Wall protection no longer wanders the corridors of Grey but is now available in a whole spectrum of colours ranging from pastel shades to primary colours with metallic colour options being more recently available.

A wide pallet of colours to choose from allows wall protection to dovetail into design schemes – whether matching colours to emphasise a corporate tone or image or contrasting colours making a bold design statement.

Wall panels in particular can be supplied in different textures. Some smooth others textured giving a wallpaper effect but offering a longer life span.

Protection rails and wall bumpers are available in a selection of shapes adding dimension, interest and depth to an interior design.

## Say it with wall protection

Wall protection (panels and certain rails), also has the capability of incorporating logos, lettering, shapes and images allowing wall protection to be a focal as well as a practical part of the interior design plan.

Company and school logos can be displayed across walls as an integral part of the wall protection panel along with mottos, informative and inspirational slogans and strap lines giving a feel of identity and belonging to those people using the building.

Directional information such as arrows and wording can be inserted into rails and panels which can be easily seen by people using the building.

Images can be included into wall and door protection panels to indicate use of rooms and areas overcoming language barriers and has also been proven to help people with dementia navigate their way round establishments as they recognise images more easily than words.



## Inspirational interiors

An inspirational design can sometimes call for something that little bit different!

Wall protection panels can be cut and shaped to give more fluid lines or sharp clean angles. Waved tops, asymmetric angles, circles and ovals are some of the designs possible.

Pictures can be inlaid into panels, maybe forming a story board, to enforce themed interiors whereas contrasting coloured inserts can be included in rails and protection strips along with smaller images adding a design element.

For example a coffee shop may need a protection strip to protect a wall from marking and damage caused by chairs pushing back into it. The protection strip would not only do

its job but by adding a coffee cup image or a logo it would then become a part of the interior decor.

## Be smart

The above is just a brief overview on how wall protection systems can truly be incorporated into a design scheme – adding rather than subtracting from the overall style.

It has been well documented that the look and condition of the inside of a building can have an effect on the people using it. If the interior of a building is pristine and smart then users are more likely to treat that building with respect leading to less damage being caused.

And here lies the true benefit for incorporating wall protection into a scheme – to keep those great designs looking great.

Wall protection will stop serious damage happening to the fabric of a building keeping the smart, attractive interior which was originally intended whilst also conveying a well maintained building.

It is also of financial benefit to install a wall protection system as it helps in reducing costs for repair and redecoration through the lifetime of a building assuring sustainability and affordability.

So considering wall protection for your next project, be it a school, hospital, office block or retail building, it could be a smart move appreciated not only by those who use the building but by those who maintain it.

enq.243

*'An inspirational design can sometimes call for something that little bit different'*



## Encasement covers up at McCarthy & Stone

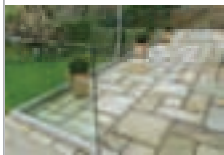
A stylish assisted living development by McCarthy & Stone is using 16 'Forma' aluminium column casings and a bespoke bulkhead from Encasement, to conceal exterior structural steelwork and enhance the aesthetics of the apartment block's extensive four-storey front elevation. McCarthy & Stone's Lady Susan Court development includes 60 one and two bedroom assisted living apartments for the over 70s, while also providing round the clock care for owners. Manufactured and installed by Encasement, the column casings and aluminium bulkhead are integral features of the development's exterior design. While the column casings are equally spaced along building's front elevation, the 30 metre long bulkhead is located above them and spans the entire length of the building. Ranging in height from 2000mm up to 3000mm, the Forma casings are manufactured from 3mm thick aluminium in diameters of 425mm and 450mm and are finished with an RAL 7047 PPC coating, which is also used on bulkhead.

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## More than just a staircase



**British Spirals & Castings** has helped create a stunning feature piece staircase during the refurbishment of a Victorian period home in the picturesque town of Market Harborough. The traditional Victorian Cast staircase consists of three flights of stairs (39 steps) linking the cellar-kitchen-guest bedrooms on first floor – loft, with 3 balusters per tread, this staircase is the first from British Spirals & Castings to feature a brass handrail. Bryan Drew, the home-

owner said, "With the inclusion of the brass handrail, the Anthracite Grey colour (RAL 7016) of the staircase was broken up and it has emphasised the staircase as a feature point in my home."

01663 750 716 [www.britishsc.co.uk](http://www.britishsc.co.uk)

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## Ecoglo: Reducing slips and falls 24 hours a day



A second level of the FloorSkills training centre in Solihull was being opened and the new staircase to this level needed to offer complete safety for students and trainees. In terms of safety the requirement was for a staircase with a Stair Nosing that was identifiable day and night. **Quantum Flooring** Stair Nosings with Ecoglo treads provided the perfect solution. The yellow photoluminescent tread material clearly identifies the steps by day and by night. The glow ensures a visible stairway

even if the lights are out coupled with the excellent slip resistant properties of the tread material Ecoglo provides the safe stairway the specification required.

0161 627 4222 [www.quantumflooring.co.uk](http://www.quantumflooring.co.uk)

enq.248



## Gilgen now fire door approved

An automatic swing door operator from **Gilgen Door Systems** has become one of the first of its kind to be independently tested and approved for use on fire doors. The Gilgen FD20 swing door operator fitted with safety sensors recently passed stringent fire safety tests carried out through Exova Warringtonfire, one of the World's leading fire safety and resistance testing specialists. The tests examined the resistance of the operator when fitted to fire doors exposed to extreme fire and heat up to 1000°C. Following successful tests the FD20 was approved for use on timber fire door sets providing up to 2 hours protection and metal fire door sets providing up to 1 hour protection, thereby meeting the requirements of BS EN 1634-1:2014 regulations. The approval for the FD20 covers installation to a number of passive door sets including EI120 (FD120) Timber door Timber frame with Intumescent protection, EI60 (FD60) Metal door Metal frame and EI60 (FD60) Timber door Metal frame with Intumescent protection.

01425 462 000 [www.gilgendoorssystems.co.uk](http://www.gilgendoorssystems.co.uk)

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## Meet the smart experts



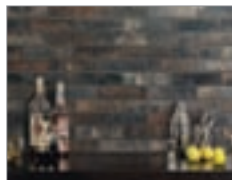
Smart home systems specialists **Cyberhomes** are exhibiting on Stand L230 of the May Design Series at London ExCel. Here, experts will be on hand to discuss the exciting opportunities and fresh challenges of this fast moving technology for architects, interior designers, building services consultants and developers. As one of the UK's few approved Savant dealers, Cyberhomes will have a working demonstration of a Savant control system at the May Design Series, as well as the brand new Samsung 78" 4K

Ultra HD TV. The Cyberhomes Stand is next to CEDIA, which Cyberhomes is a member of, and visitors to the stand will have the chance to win an iPad mini.

0845 094 2718 [www.cyberhomes.co.uk](http://www.cyberhomes.co.uk)

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## A new foundation for tile design



Bringing the outside in, Brickwork is a fashionable new range that captures the trend of featuring exposed surfaces in interior locations. Instead of re-covering this hidden gem with a fresh layer of plaster or tile, exposed brickwork can be retained to provide a rustic, contemporary feature.

However, in most new builds this kind of feature is simply hard to achieve without the aid of reclaimed material or wallpaper designs. **Solus Ceramics** Brickwork offers a brand new way of achieving this sought after look, in the guise of easy-to-use porcelain tiles. The range includes 12 diverse brick colours including a number of recognisable British brick styles.

0121 753 0777 [www.solusceramics.com](http://www.solusceramics.com)

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## Hunter Douglas helps refurbishment



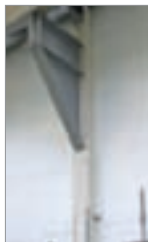
The award-winning refurbishment of the Eaton Court headquarters of Sir Robert McAlpine in Berkshire, designed to deliver an improved sustainability performance, features ceiling systems from **Hunter Douglas**. The project includes the Solid Wood Linear open ceiling system in European Oak and Walnut. The Sir

Robert McAlpine system features a 111mm module, with approximately 1,000m<sup>2</sup> installed across the whole project. Hunter Douglas is setting new standards for environmentally friendly architectural solutions and uses wood from FSC controlled sources in their ceiling products.

01604 766251 [www.hunterdouglas.co.uk](http://www.hunterdouglas.co.uk)

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## Promat's protection abilities demonstrated



The ability of **Promat VEMICULUX**® to withstand the effects of moisture has led to this lightweight fire protection board being specified for a major new energy project in Wales. The board has been specified to protect structural steelwork in various parts of the new Trident Park Energy-from-Waste (EfW) plant in Cardiff, where its moisture resistant characteristics are delivering particular benefits. "Promat VEMICULUX" combines long-term resistance to moisture with proven fire protection abilities so it was the perfect choice for this application," says Promat's David Murden. Promat VEMICULUX® is resistant to moisture and will not disintegrate, warp or swell.

01344 381350 [www.promat.co.uk](http://www.promat.co.uk)

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## Urmet's new Lend Lease development



Property and infrastructure developer Lend Lease is using Urmet's IP video door entry and access control system at a new-build apartment complex in south London. Cobalt Place, a luxury eco-friendly project in the heart of Battersea Village, will use the Urmet IPervoice solution which requires only one Virtual LAN for the whole location.

IPervoice meets Lend Lease's aim of single-platform control by operating from the site's main managed fibre network. Urmet has ensured that IPervoice meets the communal dwelling requirements of the 'Secured by Design' scheme, a UK police flagship initiative that supports the principles of 'designing out crime'.

01376 556010 [www.urmet.co.uk](http://www.urmet.co.uk)

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## Springtime thoughts



It's springtime so thoughts turn to outdoors entertaining. The best way to achieve a quality timber deck is to use Wallbarn timber tiles. Manufactured from South American hardwood, these square tiles are suspended over structural deck using ASP pedestals. This gives adequate drainage under the decking, avoiding slip hazards and puddling.

The installation is super-fast and easy, decks are laid twice as fast as with long planks. The ASP pedestals adjust in height to ensure the upper surface is flat and level. Stunning finishes are achieved.

0208 916 2222 [www.wallbarn.com](http://www.wallbarn.com)

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## New SuDS requirements guide

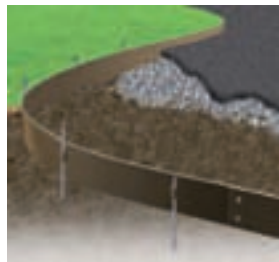


Interpave has published a new edition of its 'SuDS + Permeable Paving Today' guide, reviewing the latest government measures for implementation of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) from April. The move away from dedicated drainage legislation towards a planning approach to implementation signals a new opportunity for designers to take the lead in developing multi-functional SuDS as an integral part of good urban design. A wider understanding of SuDS is now important, so that drainage engineering can become a supporting function, rather than an end in itself. Interpave's guide is essential reading for all those involved with the development process – particularly architects, urban designers and developers, and local authority planning, flood risk, drainage, building control and highways officers. It explores the latest thinking on SuDS as a fundamental part of urban design and initiatives to deliver them now. The guide also focuses on concrete block permeable paving – a key tool in urban design with SuDS as a water collection and source control technique. But its real strength is an ability to remove water-borne pollution offering the important – and often missed – opportunity of a gradual supply of treated water that can be exploited for innovative urban design, harvesting and ecology. 'SuDS + Permeable Paving Today' is free to download.

0116 232 5170 [www.paving.org.uk](http://www.paving.org.uk)

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# Selecting the correct stone

Stone Federation explores a range of points including the latest CE Marking legislation that affords architects with the information they need to ensure that the right material is chosen for the right application



**T**he process of selecting the correct stone starts before you even begin to look at samples. The first, and perhaps most crucial step is to get the natural stone professional involved in the process at the earliest opportunity. By involving them from the design stages, you will avoid wasting time by selecting the wrong stone for the desired application. Websites list natural stone professionals, all of whom are vetted and approved Stone Federation members, and are therefore the ideal place to start.

Once the natural stone professional is involved you can begin to look at the samples. The first step is to ensure that your samples are up to the task in hand – namely giving you a true representation of what the final product will look like. One key factor in this is looking at range/control samples. These will show the range of geological characteristics typically found within the bed of stone as opposed to the small snapshot

you would find in a single indicative sample piece. This helps avoid any confusion as to what the end product will look like. However, it is worth bearing in mind that this is a natural product, and therefore each stone will have its own unique features.

Step two is tied into the first, and this is to visit the quarry or mine itself. Stone Federation strongly advises that a visit is made so that the stone proposed for the project can be carefully inspected. This is also the ideal stage to involve an independent stone consultant to come and provide you with an expert opinion. Many of our quarrying members host quarry open days where architects can see not just the stone samples, but also get a look inside the process of quarrying itself; these always prove to be both informative and highly enjoyable occasions. The visits provide an opportunity to examine the stone faces and the stock, and to familiarise yourself with the geological

*Continued on page 81...*

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***‘The first, and perhaps most crucial step is to get the natural stone professional involved in the process at the earliest opportunity’***

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variations between the different beds or types of stone.

The third and final step is the technical assessment of the stone. All natural stones will weather, but it is important to make an initial assessment of the stone's technical properties before it is added to the project short list. There are various tests that help build a picture of stone's potential suitability for a particular application and whilst past projects are a good indicator, recent test data should be examined.

A relatively recent piece of government legislation has gone a long way to making this stage of stone selection even clearer. The 2013 CE Marking legislation requires each stone to be labelled in accordance with BS EN 12400 Natural Stone – Denomination Criteria, meaning each stone should have the traditional name, quarry location, country of origin and petrological family declared, together with a sample reference number. All stones should also have, available to view at the sample stage, a Declaration of Performance (DoP) and CE Certificate that will help you ascertain which stones are fit for the desired application.

To summarise, when looking to select natural stone for a project there are four key considerations you should make. Firstly, ensure that you involve your natural stone professional at the earliest opportunity, next make sure you know what to look for in a sample, thirdly, try and arrange a visit to the quarry or mine and finally ensure that the stone's technical assessments are in order and comply with the latest CE Marking legislation.

By following these simple steps, you help make the process from design through to project completion a much smoother journey.

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Pictured: Stonework finishes

# Leading the way in public realm innovations

## Marshalls launches commercial new products for 2015

Marshalls has launched a comprehensive new range of products proving it continues to lead the way in public realm innovations, supplying the highest quality materials.

Marshalls' new paving and concrete block paving products include Myriad which can be used to create a vast array of laying patterns, available in nine plan sizes and four colours, Renaissance, a high-recycled material which achieves a minimum of 80 per cent recycled content and Blister concrete block tactile paving, a durable DDA compliant solution for crossing points available in three colours.

The new Cambrian sandstone range carries Marshalls' ethical Fairstone trademark. These stones are extremely strong and capable of carrying heavy loads. Stonespar Cambrian sandstone allows

for previously unseen stone paving design and style opportunities, available in six attractive pre-designed colour blends.

Marshalls has extended its suite of water management solutions with two innovative products. Pencil Edge Piora permeable paving has been developed to provide the ideal surface for car parks and cycleways, providing excellent hydraulic and structural performance due to the patented Piora nib. Marshalls' Piora Flag large-sized permeable paving comes in three plan sizes and two contrasting colours, ideal for large pedestrian areas and has been engineered and tested to withstand occasional heavy loading.

For cycle landscapes, Marshalls has developed the Bristol Bollard, designed to create safe cycleways, available in a natural smooth grey finish as standard. Marshalls also offers a new Cycle

Segregation Unit which has been designed to integrate seamlessly into the landscape, available in four infill options including Yorkstone.

0370 442 7702 [www.marshalls.co.uk](http://www.marshalls.co.uk)

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## Bee Wall – protecting our pollinators

Living Wall provider **Scotscape** is teaming up with conservation charity Buglife to test out the best planting schemes to create living walls with a pollinator plus effect. Throughout the 2015 growing season a test wall at Scotscape's Surrey headquarters will be trialling a selection of plants recommended as good for pollinators alongside a range of Buglife approved bug homes. It is hoped that after analysing the results, these trials will provide knowledge as to the best plants and homes for bugs to grow in these vertical gardens. Leading to a best practice for nature guide to living walls and an off the shelf living wall for biodiversity for future installations. Angus Cunningham of Scotscape commented: "It is a pleasure to be supporting Buglife in their mission to develop the optimum living wall planting scheme to support pollination, we look forward to seeing the results of this trial and continuing with our research and development programme".

0208 254 5000 [www.scotscapelivingwalls.net](http://www.scotscapelivingwalls.net)

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