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Cover

The Smile, Chelsea College of Art

Alison Brooks Architects and Arup's curved hardwood CLT sculpture is up for structural award
page 08

ALEXANDRA PALACE, N LONDON

Steve Menary on restoring the 'People's Palace'

LONG LANE, SOUTHWARK

Levitt Bernstein designs a social housing block which doesn't look like social housing



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FROM THE EDITOR



We feature a wide variety of buildings in ADF, from small private homes to mental health units, to massive concrete-built galleries, and we look them all on their own merits. We would be reluctant to solely use the criteria of whether we think they are 'beautiful' or not, as that is a highly subjective business.

Sometimes our International Focus pages may showcase new projects which seem to have put a bigger focus into the cosmetic details or the overall scale and form to constitute 'beauty' than a large amount of what we may see coming through the works in the UK. Again that is very much in the eye of the beholder.

But at a time when the profession is under some strain, with the dual challenges of Brexit and continual squeezes on fees and earnings for a large proportion of architects, whether we need the Carbuncle Cup to further remind them of perceived failings is also up for debate. Now an established 'booby prize' run for over a decade, it's gone beyond a short-lived joke to a high-profile judgement on what is a 'bad' building, with the inevitable online chorus of agreement and/or disdain.

As Hawkins\Brown's Nigel Ostone reminds us in this month's View Point, sole principal architectural practices relying on resi conversions can be scraping by on £24K a year, and the last thing they need is a kicking from being shortlisted in such a prize. And that is entirely possible given that no building is too small to escape the Cup's pitiless gaze.

Not that architects' work should be exempted from mockery and derision, after all they can fundamentally alter the character of an area and have the power to either elevate or destroy the visual environment. The question is, whether the 'anti-prize' should be restricted, as some have suggested, to the 'sacred cows' of the top 100 practices, or whether the minnows should be judged on the same basis. If it is to be acknowledged as credible, then the Cup itself should be scrutinised for both its methods and scope. In a world where 'likes' hold sway, it now has the profile that brings with it this kind of responsibility.

Do we need more national awards like the Stirling Prize, but sector-specific and celebrating buildings' worth in their own context, and suffering less from the needing to judge such disparate buildings against each other? Perceived beauty may not be about dramatic geometry (perhaps shown by the Tate Switch House's omission from this year's Stirling Prize shortlist) – maybe it lives more in the combination of precisely matching function and achieving the right look in its particular context? This is an old argument, but one which remains key when one of our most important professions needs the credit it has earned.

James Parker
Editor



ON THE COVER...

The Smile was designed by Alison Brooks Architects and Arup for the 2016 London Design Festival, and has now been shortlisted for the Structural Awards 2017. It is the first 'mega-tube' in hardwood CLT.

For more information, go to page 08.

Image © Arup



AWARDS

Brick Awards 2017 shortlist announced

Glen Howell Architects' London City Island, a cube-shaped campus for London College of Creative Media, and an innovatively-structured residential home in Oxfordshire are among the 85 shortlisted schemes for the 2017 Brick Awards.

Whittled down from 324 entrants, shortlist highlights include Craig Tan Architects' Stepping Stone House (pictured) and London City Island.

Glenn Howell Architects' project is a mixed-use neighbourhood that will provide over 1700 homes as well as the new English National Ballet headquarters and new facilities for The London Film School. It has been selected for Innovative Use of Brick and Clay Products & Large Housing Development.

Stepping Stone House in Henley, Oxfordshire has two nominations; the project is shortlisted for Outdoor Space and Individual Housing Development.

Shortlisted in the Worldwide Project category is Foster + Partners' university campus of Xiao Jing Wan, which has bronze-coloured cladding and a specially developed clay brick.

Head judge Joe Morris of Duggan Morris Architects, said the 2017 shortlist was "one of our strongest" in the awards' 41-year history, commenting: "Year on year, the quality of design in the submissions and the quality of workmanship has steadily increased." She added: "It is increasingly difficult to identify single stand-out award submissions."

The judges will visit every shortlisted site and judging criteria include planning, design, and quality of construction, plus the "substantial and skilful use of brick, and how the building responds to its surroundings and purpose".

The winners will be announced at the Brick Awards on 9 November.

EDUCATION



AHR building for Bath uni unveiled

A 6,000 m² building designed by AHR at the University of Bath to house the top-ranked UK architecture school has been completed.

The new £23m building for the Department of Architecture & Civil Engineering boasts double-height studios and spacious workshop and exhibition spaces plus offices and bespoke zones for staff and students.

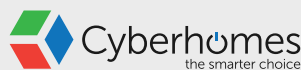
Gary Overton, director at AHR, said: "The University of Bath sought a robust and durable building with good proportion, befitting both engineering and architecture disciplines. Our team, including architects who have themselves taught in the Department, used their own experience to add unique value and insight."

The architects utilised a simple pattern of pre-cast concrete frame elements repeated across a bronze anodised aluminium clad structure. "The repetition of the expressed frame creates a cohesive backdrop to the parkland setting," commented the architects.

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EVENTS

SEMINARS

CDM 2015: Is your project in line with the current regulations?

19 September, London

www.architecture.com/whats-on

RIBA Croydon CPD Roadshow

21 September, Croydon

www.architecture.com/whats-on

FESTIVALS

Open House London

16-17 September, London

www.openhouselondon.org.uk

TRADE SHOWS

Decorex

17-20 September, London

www.decorex.com

100% Design

20-23 September, London

www.100percentdesign.co.uk

Restaurant Design Show

26-27 September, London

www.restaurantdesignshow.co.uk/

Healthcare Estates

10-11 October, Manchester

www.healthcare-estates.com

UK Construction Week

10-12 October, Birmingham

www.ukconstructionweek.com/

Surface Materials Show

10-12 October, Birmingham

www.ukconstructionweek.com/

Smart Buildings Show

10-12 October, Birmingham

www.ukconstructionweek.com/

Timber Expo

10-12 October, Birmingham

www.ukconstructionweek.com/

Sleep

21-22 November, London

www.thesleepevent.com

REGENERATION

Khan picks architects to create a new Walthamstow neighbourhood

C.F. Møller Architects has been chosen as the practice to transform a former industrial estate in London into a new mixed-use neighbourhood.

The architecture firm was awarded a preferred bidder status by the Greater London Authority (GLA) and will work alongside a consortium led by property developer Catalyst Housing Group and housing association Swan to regenerate the Webbs Industrial Estate in Walthamstow.

The site, which was purchased by the GLA in 2016, will provide 330 affordable shared ownership homes, over 3,000 m² of affordable workspace and artist studios, a park and retail space.

Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said: "I'm working hard to identify more brownfield sites across London that we can use to build the thousands of genuinely affordable homes London desperately needs. This site in Walthamstow shows the benefit of City Hall taking a greater role unlocking and bringing forward land for development – working closely with housing associations like Catalyst to deliver a scheme that is 100 per cent affordable for Londoners struggling to buy a home."

Rolf Nielsen, associate partner, C.F. Møller, added: "We are delighted to be involved in this important project that seeks to provide exceptional quality of design for this ground-breaking development of exclusively affordable homes. Our approach to this project is to develop an architectural and placemaking response with the focus



on designing the best possible new homes, along with a creative hub of artists' studios, small parks and retail spaces. This is complimented by Catalyst's and Swan's ambitious ideas for regenerating the Webbs Industrial Estate site."

The proposals lodged by C.F. Møller, Catalyst and Swan beat off competition from 12 other bidders – a record number according to the GLA. Work to clear the site is starting later this year.

BOOK

Black: Architecture in Monochrome

An exploration of 1000 years of architecture in black is published in a book by Phaidon in October.

With an introduction by Stella Paul and a showcase of over 150 structures from across the globe, 'Black: Architecture in Monochrome' traces the historical influences of black in various materials and architectural styles.

Described as a "visual ode to the

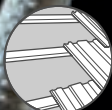
colour black", the tome features works by notable 20th century architects and celebrated contemporary designers and offers "a spectacular assortment of vernacular and historic structures to show the diversity and beauty of black architecture like rural barns, Georgian townhouses, Icelandic chapels, and traditional Portuguese stone houses."

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AWARDS

Excellence in structural engineering celebrated in awards shortlist

Adele's stage, the Tate Modern Switch House, the new Design Museum and the British Airways i360 observation tower are among the highlights in this year's Structural Awards shortlist.

A total of 43 projects have been selected from a pool of 119 entrants to compete at the 50th edition of the respected industry awards. Among the engineering practices and schemes that have made it to the final are the following:

- Arup (The Smile, Design Museum);
- OPS Structures (Adele 25 Stage);
- Jacobs (British Airways i360);
- Atkins (Custom House Station);
- Atelier One (Chadstone Shopping Centre, Melbourne);
- BuroHappold Engineering (Queen Alia International Airport Phase 2, Jordan);
- Simpson Gumpertz & Heger (Apple



The Smile © Arup

Union Square) and Ramble (Tate Modern Switch House).

The winners will be announced at the

ceremony for the Structural Awards, which will be held on Friday, 17 November 2017 at The Brewery in London.

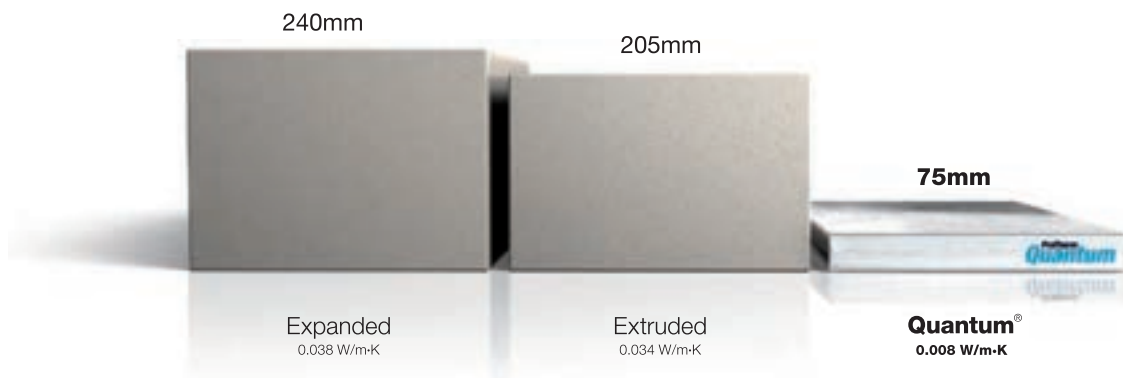
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VIEW POINT



A continuing wage gap between architects working in different sectors is presenting a further obstacle to diversity of new entrants to the profession. Nigel Ostime from Hawkins\Brown suggests a different approach

Economic commentators are observing an increasing gap between the super-rich – the ‘1 per cent’ – and everyone else. The conversation is not just about those who live below the poverty line but also about the ‘squeezed middle’. The gap is reckoned to be far wider than it has been previously and to be getting wider still. Worryingly, commentators on the increasing use of technology believe that this trend will continue and that the ‘rise of the robots’ will further exacerbate the situation.

There is also a gap between the haves and the have-nots in the architectural profession. There is an economic gulf between large and small architectural practices in the UK. The challenge for the 45 per cent of practices with five or fewer people is to make domestic resi work – which, according to RIBA typically makes up around 70 per cent of their income – pay. Graphs illustrating the statistics all start steeply and have very long tails: income per employee is significantly higher in large practices and lower for the ‘micro’ practices, reducing as practice size reduces.

According to the 2016 RIBA Business Benchmarking survey the median annual income for sole principals is just £24,000. Architects who have chosen to work as a sole principal or a two-person practice earn about half what principals in practices of up to 10 people earn and less than a fifth of principals in practices of 50-plus. Perhaps more pertinent is that sole traders under-perform financially compared with all salaried architects with over five years’ experience.

Clearly there are economies of scale; the larger the practice, the lower the overhead per person. But it seems that designing house extensions doesn’t pay. And when you consider that these individuals will have undertaken the five-year graduate and post-graduate university course, and a

minimum two years (many take more), of preparation for their final professional exams – plus, for many, years of practice, the return on investment is poor. We have to ask, does it make sense for architects to do this small-scale domestic work? Should this be an area that we just give up and pass on to the non-architect ‘plan-smiths’? Certainly there are the more bespoke, high-end extensions that provide the opportunity for creative expression, paid for by wealthy and enlightened clients, but these are the exception, not the rule.

No doubt micro-practitioners across the country reading this will be exclaiming that they enjoy their lifestyle and accept lower remuneration as a trade-off (some will also be making a reasonable income from it). But is it really worth the enormous investment, particularly compared to other professions? If you want to undertake this sort of work, why bother with the expense of training as an architect? Surely you don’t need the full 7+ years to design what are typically sub-£250K projects?

A recent survey of architecture students highlighted a worrying trend of increasing debt and consequent mental health issues attributed to course fees and low subsequent income. Add to this the trend for the numbers of entrants to architecture being dominated by those from a wealthy middle class background and the consequent lack of diversity in the profession, and it is clear that something has to change.

Broader education thinking

There are already plans afoot to open architecture to a wider spectrum of society. My practice, Hawkins\Brown, is one of a number of large practices who have signed up to an apprenticeship scheme that has the support of the RIBA and will provide routes to both

Should this be an area we just give up and pass on to the ‘plan-smiths’?

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For those who want to pursue a career in small domestic projects, perhaps we could look to an ‘architecture-lite’ course? To qualify and undertake projects up to a value of say £1m (index-linked to account for future inflation) students would undertake a course tailored to the needs of this scale of work. It might include a fourth year in practice and, critically, include training in running a small business as well as comprehensive knowledge of the relevant regulations. Those completing the course would not be able to use the protected title ‘architect’ but could use a term such as ‘minor works architect’ (subject of course to ARB ratification).

For those who want to pursue the full architectural training, sponsorship (in a similar way to apprenticeship) might be a means to broaden entry. The employee would agree a contract tying them to the sponsor for a period of time, much as professional footballers do. Practices often decry the relevance of the training graduate students receive, so as clients to the schools they could be enabled in this way to have more say in the course structure.

If we want diversity in the architectural profession we must find ways to give access to all, regardless of their background and financial means. And maybe stop doing house extensions. ■

Nigel Ostime is project delivery director at Hawkins\Brown Architects LLP



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REFLECTING THE LANDSCAPE

Stanton Williams gets go-ahead for MK pavilion



A curved timber pavilion is landing on Milton Keynes' Campbell Park after local planners granted planning permission for the development.

The 900 m² structure, to be located between the town's Events Plateau and the Amphitheatre, will provide a new community centre for locals and visitors, with a cafe and a community hall for theatre, music and dance also included in the designs.

Patrick Richard, director at Stanton Williams, said: "The new Pavilion sits in a prominent part of Campbell Park, one of Europe's finest contemporary urban parks with its new age philosophy and modernist interpretation of the traditional English Landscape design. The Pavilion follows the ridge that defines the boundary between the structured formality of Milton Keynes and the natural informality of the Northamptonshire scenery."

Richard added: "In contrast to the orthogonal urban grid and buildings of the modernist town, the curved Pavilion responds to the circular landforms that characterise this unique landscape. As the building is to be approached from all directions it follows the 18th century tradition of the folly; ornamental buildings set in English gardens."

According to the CMK Town Council, "work will now progress on tweaks to the design and drawing up contracts to make the building a reality."

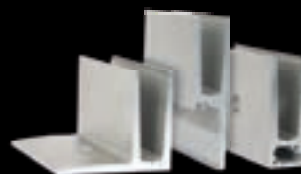
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NEW ARRIVALS

Rounding up the latest movers and in-house appointments across the industry



L-R: Peter Barker, Gareth Callen, Andy Costa, Richard Dorkin, Ronnie Graham

FIVE SENIOR PROMOTIONS RYDER ARCHITECTURE

New partners have been appointed to continue to build on the growing expertise of Ryder across an increasingly diverse sector and geographic base. Peter Barker, Gareth Callen, Andrew Costa, Richard Dorkin and Ronnie Graham have all been promoted and join senior partner Peter Buchan, managing partner Mark Thompson and current partners Ian Kennedy, Gordon Murray and Richard Wise as part of the leadership team who will take Ryder through the next phase of the practice's evolution.

Peter Barker is the managing director of BIM Academy, which is a joint venture between the architectural practice and Northumbria University, operating as a centre of excellence for digital engineering and transformation and developing a global reputation in the real estate and infrastructure sectors through consultancy, research and education. Gareth Callen leads the Liverpool team and is also responsible for Ryder's science portfolio, which includes Liverpool Science Park, Thames Valley Science Park, Science Central in Newcastle and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

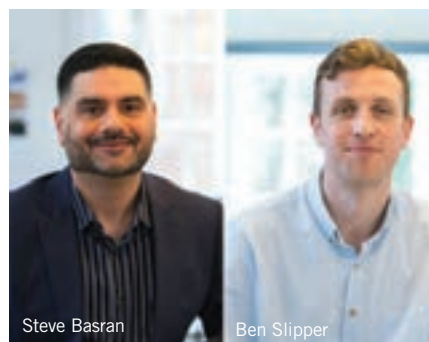
Helming the London team is Andrew Costa, who has worked on complex urban regeneration projects, residential, commercial, hotel and mixed-use schemes in London for over 25 years. Richard Dorkin has worked across many sectors including manufacturing, education and healthcare and now leads the team in Hong Kong.

Ronnie Graham has been with Ryder for over 17 years and has design and management skills in the office, leisure, residential and education sectors as well as significant urban design experience.



JASON PEARSON AECOM

Jason Pearson has joined AECOM as director of healthcare architecture, UK & Ireland. Formerly with international design practice PM Devereux, Jason has over 10 years' experience delivering high quality, innovative, clinical environments across a range of sectors including acute healthcare, mental health healthcare and laboratory settings. His experience includes complex new build and refurbishment projects across varied procurements routes including traditional, Procure 21 and P21+. Jason is based at AECOM's EMIA headquarters at Aldgate Tower in Whitechapel, London.



STEVE BASRAN & BEN SLIPPER MABER ARCHITECTS

Maber has promoted two employees to director and associate levels respectively. Steve Basran, who joined Maber in 2003, has become a director. The practice says that Basran was "instrumental" in establishing the practice's Derby office and expanding its remit through winning and delivering innovative projects. He has also designed a number of significant buildings and strengthened the company's portfolio of education projects. Ben Slipper has been promoted to associate in the Leicester office, having joined Maber in 2012. His key responsibility is to ensure delivery of technical solutions that "control design integrity" on major projects.



NEW ASSOCIATES BOND BRYAN

Bond Bryan has promoted six of its employees to associates to highlight the practice's commitment to continually improve its service. The staff members promoted are Rosey Alexander, Gonzalo Carmona, Mark Dobbs, Duncan Hogg, Pete Severn and Mita Solanki. In a press statement issued by the firm, Bond Bryan congratulated the newly-appointed associates, adding that "this important development recognises their significant contributions across the business and we look forward to seeing their future successes."



(L-R) Bodill, White, Avison and Parmar

QUARTET OF DIRECTORS CPMG

CPMG Architects has welcomed four new directors onto its board in a move which it says will “support the firm’s next stage of growth”. Hugh Avison, Paul Bodill, Anil Parmar and Chris White have been promoted to company directors and will provide strategic direction in dedicated areas of expertise as the business continues to expand. The London and Nottingham-based firm now has eight board members, and 75 members of staff in total. Alongside the practice’s work within the established commercial, education, health, leisure, manufacturing, residential and interior design sectors, CPMG Architects is also focusing on increasing its presence across the south of the UK.

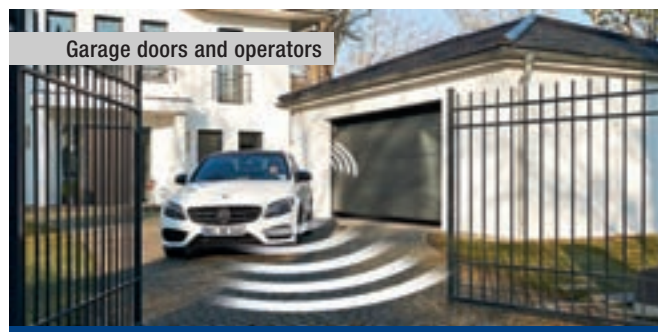


Chris Stansell

Stephen Dodd

SENIOR APPOINTMENTS PELLINGS

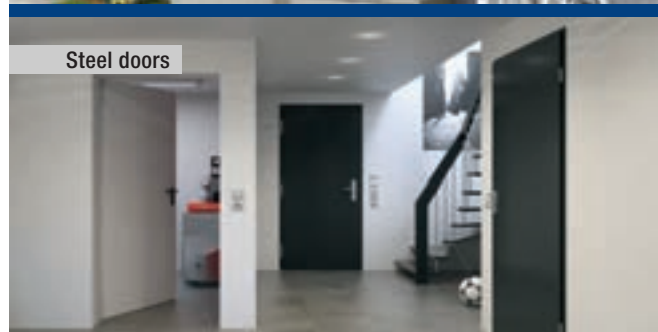
Pellings has made the following two appointments in its new Walton-on-Thames, Surrey office. Chris Stansell MRICS MAPM has joined the firm as a senior associate. He was previously an associate at Kendall Kingscott Architects and Building Surveyors. Stansell brings his contract administration, project management, refurbishment and housing experience to Pellings and will be helping to expand the Walton-on-Thames office. Stephen Dodd MCIOB has been appointed as a senior building surveyor, having previously worked for DHP Property Consultants. He brings his schools expansion and housing refurbishment management experience to Pellings.



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ASK THE ARCHITECT

Sunand Prasad, co-founder of Penoyre & Prasad and former RIBA President, muses on the recent evolution of the profession and the challenges ahead



New QEII Hospital, Welwyn Garden City ©Tim Crocker

HOW (AND WHY) DID YOU BECOME AN ARCHITECT?

I went to University [Cambridge] to study engineering, having focused on science and maths at school, where I could not study art due to timetabling. Since childhood, I had been fascinated by dams and bridges, but there was something missing. I realised what it was when I saw the ‘artificial sky’ geodesic dome at the back of the School of Architecture, which was next to the engineering department, and was very lucky to be allowed to change courses. In fact, I even got my grant extended.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT DESIGNING BUILDINGS? AS A FORMER ENGINEER, IS IT PARTLY ACHIEVING EFFICIENT BUILDINGS WHICH HAPPEN TO BE BEAUTIFUL?

Or beautiful buildings that happen to work for the people who own and use them? What I like is the intellectual and emotional thrill of combining functionality, build quality and the making of forms that satisfy, delight, or intrigue people.

DO YOU STILL GET TO BE AS HANDS-ON WITH DESIGN AS YOU WOULD LIKE?

No – but only because architects have to spend so much time nowadays in bidding and winning jobs.

WHAT IS THE HARDEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

Winning work.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE BEING RIBA PRESIDENT FROM 2007-2009, AND WHAT DID YOU ACHIEVE?

I really enjoyed it. I learnt more from what I did not achieve, but according to others, helping to decisively focus the architectural profession on climate change – something that my predecessors had already started – was an achievement. I tried, but did less well at interdisciplinary collaboration and professional education.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE BUILDING?

There are too many to mention – but they range from the Padmanabhapuram Palace in South India, to [Jørn] Utzon’s Sydney Opera House, and Francis Kéré’s Gando Primary School in West Africa.

DO YOU THINK THAT IN THE AGE OF DESIGN & BUILD ARCHITECTS HAVE TO EMBRACE NEW ROLES, BEING ‘DEVELOPERS’ OR ADVISERS AS MUCH AS DESIGNERS?

I agree that architects have to learn to operate much further ‘upstream’ in the creation of the built environment – that means understanding the true aims and

desires of users and owners and what role a building might have in fulfilling them.

CAN YOU DEFINE THE ROLE OF AN ARCHITECT IN 2017?

To help enable the physical environment to better fulfil people’s lives and dreams.

HAVE ARCHITECTS BEEN FORCED TO GIVE UP CONTROL OF TRUE DETAIL FOR DECORATION?

No – but there is not a good enough shared language to bridge the crude polarity of ‘modernist’ and ‘traditional’ architecture. Fortunately it is emerging through a younger generation of open-minded architects confident about taking the best from past and present.

HAS TECHNOLOGY HELPED ENHANCE ARCHITECTURE OR DOES IT DO TOO MUCH ‘THINKING’ FOR ARCHITECTS?

Technology cannot do ‘thinking’; but it’s as irreplaceable as oxygen.

HOW CAN YOU SEE ARCHITECTS’ ROLE CHANGING IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

The biggest change, and it’s been happening for quite some time, is that there will be many kinds of architects rather than the singular template inherent in the structure of RIBA Parts 1, 2 and 3. There is also a



Wimbledon College of Arts ©Tim Crocker

debate about when the architects' duty to the public trumps their duty to the client.

IS THE RECENT EMERGENCE OF 'PACKAGES' IN MANY AREAS OF BUILDING DESIGN A POSITIVE THING?

The emergence of packages was inevitable as technology and product manufacture

became more complex, precise, and high performance. The design of the final form of the packages and of the interfaces between them is already a key area of skill that most architecture practices have mastered; there are also many architects who are working for product manufacturers. The engagement is well understood

and embedded. What distinguishes good architecture is creativity and imagination in the way packages are put together.

DO YOU THINK THAT CLIENTS HAVE A CLEAR IDEA OF WHAT YOU DO?

If a client does not understand what you do, it's your job to sort that out. Sadly often times it's not so much the client, but the many project managers who do not seem to understand what we do – but there are also brilliant project managers out there who 'get it'.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE FOR THE ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS?

To convince the public and policy makers of the incredible value that good design adds to society, the economy and life.

DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIFIC GOALS PROFESSIONALLY, AND FOR YOUR PRACTICE?

We have been doing most of our work in the public sphere – it would be great to have more private sector clients, in order to be more diverse. ■



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FUTURE WATCH

The experience of microhousing

James Potter, director of WG+P Architects, explores how ‘microhousing’ could be a panacea for the housing crisis, in a future based more on experiences than possessions, and open the door to smaller, better housing

Microhousing is a relatively new term bandied around by some in the industry to describe an old problem: how to fit people into ever smaller living spaces in a way that benefits all. For occupiers this could be affordability in the right location, for planners it's the regeneration of otherwise difficult brownfield sites to meet housing targets, and for developers it is the return for their investors as they fit more units into smaller spaces.

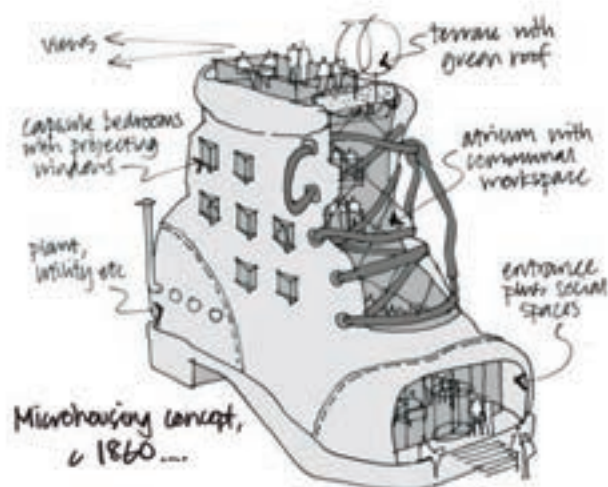
So if microhousing is the panacea to a widespread problem of housing shortage, why aren't we seeing more built examples? And is it really going to take off? Waind Gohil + Potter Architects (WG+P) have been closely involved in the debate and have looked at numerous designs for small homes that could provide good quality living standards and shared amenity facilities. Here we offer some observations and comments on the current key aspects under discussion.

Microhousing is touted as a way to solve, in particular, London's housing crisis by the provision of sub-30 m² homes in inner London to bring affordability to people priced out of their neighbourhood.

Solving London's housing shortage is a huge and complex subject and no one fully knows what effect resolving one element of the problem will have on others, or what the measurable outcomes ought to be. Is it simply a numbers game; build more to cool the housing market? Or is the issue one of longer term affordability and tenure, to manage built projects to ensure they benefit those most adversely affected by the housing boom? And should we be wary of providing very specific house types that could have a ghettoising effect by attracting only a very specific demographic?

Finding a way to house everyone adequately is certainly not a new problem. Your average London terrace house would have met housing demand 170 years ago by accommodating a family in each of its four rooms, but without proper sanitation and with only the most rudimentary heating. Nowadays, the housing crisis has become headline news, but it isn't a problem we're going to design our way out of – yet that's what makes microhousing fascinating.

Due to its diminutive scale, microhousing is being swept into the



COP OUT

According to the author, it would be a “cop out” for microhousing to be “limited to providing funky starter homes for millennials in town centres”

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Living in smaller, de-cluttered homes could symbolise a lifestyle biased towards the future currency of status – namely experiences

wider debate about housing shortage, specifically about housing provision for the least privileged. Granted, it could be limited to providing funky starter homes for upwardly mobile millennials living in town centres, but that feels like a cop out. Our aspirations should be higher in terms of what small but well designed and built homes can offer.

Inviting the family

A house in isolation simply provides a roof over someone's head. Many houses together form a community and a housing mix is an essential link to growing healthy diverse communities. So there's one question that hasn't yet been addressed in the debate: how can the microhouse cater to the needs of a family? I am biased, having recently become a father, but you don't need to be the Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe to understand that children change things. When kids arrive, space becomes precious commodity; they need it and you need it – you cannot 'mute' a newborn in your 24 m² micro-home as you would the flat screen TV.

Microhousing thus far seems biased towards single occupancy, which inevitably leads to a familiar minimising of space that we have seen in parallel sectors, from capsule hotels to student studios and collective living experiences. It would be interesting to consider how a microhouse for a family of four could be implemented.

What can we architects offer by means of advice? Perhaps obviously, but most important of all, you cannot cram more people into the same volume without addressing how to increase the quality of the areas they live in and the amenities they share. But quality isn't to be defined by the specification of the shower or some real wood flooring. This is a ruse.

Quality is derived from the fundamental approach to detailing and specification of the tactile building elements and external envelope; the ventilation and cooling systems that must make up for the lack of aspect, and the intensified use of each square foot as well as the acoustic separation. Of course minimum standards exist for all the aforementioned factors, but arguably these standards are not geared to microhomes and the densities possible. Everything becomes more

intensive and greater redundancy is needed to protect the building's longevity and – ultimately – the wellbeing of the users.

Damaging deregulation?

This subject leads to the somewhat uncomfortable comparison between the aspirational vision of interesting and enriching micro-homes and what is already being provided in office to resi conversions of a comparable size under the General Permitted Development Order (PD). Bearing in mind that microhousing as currently conceived falls short of complying with statutory minimum space standards applicable to design made under the Town and Country Planning Act, PD allows the conversion of commercial premises into flats without the need to comply with such space standards or residential amenity requirements.

So if we simply define a microhome by size alone then ironically it is already happening – and receiving a drubbing in the national press. Not all PD conversions are bad, but it does offer a means to build housing of the worst kind, where the environments created are stiflingly inadequate. Apologists for microhousing will be quick to distinguish that these uninspiring potential sites of future social polarisation are not in the spirit of microhousing. However, there is greater evidence that PD conversions stack up commercially whereas the majority of microhousing schemes do not.

Decluttering & 'dematerialising'

Somewhat negative though this may seem, there is one final twist that supports the future development of ever smaller homes, and that is our fading reliance on possessions as means to signal status and a move towards a post-material world, where the focus is on experience rather than possessions. These are the views of futurist and author James Walman who provided an interesting new slant on the relevance of living in smaller spaces at a recent debate we attended.

In his book 'Stuffocation', Walman observes and demonstrates how our value systems are moving away from materialism to, as he calls it, experientialism. Years of mass production allied to waning consumption mean that while it is very common to have a lot of material possessions, people are asking they can rise above the melee. Walman's answer is through experience, and how that's shared on social media.

This rejection of materialism would mean we need less space to keep our possessions and, therefore, smaller homes. Significantly, living in de-cluttered homes could symbolise a lifestyle biased more towards the future currency associated with status – experiences. It's a fascinating prospect and one which could become widespread in the years to come. Walman's visions should not be dismissed either, as he applies widely accepted measurement principles on which to support his predictions – and has been employed by some fairly un-whimsical multinationals to assist them in staying ahead of the market curve.

Irrespective of whether experientialism will be the new materialism, one thing is certain; we evolve, our behaviour evolves, and this change will sooner or later be manifest in the physical development of the spaces we live in. Just look at the massive swing towards open plan areas in family homes – if one ever needed proof how our attitudes have affected the configuration of the home, then that's it. Perhaps this is what separates microhousing from the current office-to-resi conversions under PD: microhousing isn't about now – it is about the future, and how in an ever more populous world we can find ways to make smaller but better homes. ■



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CHANGI AIRPORT T4, SINGAPORE BENOY

Benoy has been appointed design architect, interior and wayfinding designer, and signage designer of a new 'boutique' terminal at Changi Airport in Singapore. The 225,000 m² terminal, T4, has been described by Benoy as "the future of airport terminal design" and will incorporate "thoughtful, state-of-the-art and user-friendly facilities". The interiors will be matched with soft furnishings, ambient lighting, bespoke user interface counters, and ergonomic furniture and facilities. A first for Changi Airport, T4 will feature an integrated walk-through retail concept: once through the clearance processes, double-height shop fronts will greet shoppers. According to Benoy, the focal point of the new terminal will be the Central Galleria – a glazed open space separating the airside and landside areas. The design enables departing passengers to stay in visual contact with their friends and family and provides a glimpse of what awaits them in the Transit Lounge.

Ref: 70382



VOLUME ISTANBUL, TURKEY STUDIO VERTEBRA

Volume Istanbul, designed by Studio Vertebra, is located in an area close to the Sabiha Gökçen Airport. The office building, which is a contender for a World Architecture Festival award, is designed as stacked asymmetrical blocks, which maximises the diagonal line altitude limit. The architects used modular solutions to provide "a dynamic structure" by ensuring mass mobility with the tusk tenon of the axles. In turn, this flexibility allows an office structure that can be tailored to the needs of the day. At the same time, moving the landscaping area highlighted in the entrance courtyard to the terraces on the upper floors has allowed the building to 'breathe'. Unlike closed glass box plazas, Volume Istanbul is an office building with private terraces and green courtyards, which enable interaction and encourage outdoor activity.

Ref: 61395



SIR JOAN HOTEL, IBIZA JACOB PERES

Sir Joan, the Sir Hotels group's newest property, has recently opened in Ibiza. Nestled between the Old Town and the Marina, the hotel builds on the free spirited, bohemian past of Ibiza, while creating a luxury social, culinary and design hotspot for the island. Boasting 38 rooms and suites, including a swimming pool lined with cabanas as well as the iconic Japanese restaurant IZAKAYA Asian Kitchen and Bar, Sir Joan features a yacht-inspired decor and continues the brand's vision of connecting guests to the local neighbourhood and community.

Ref: 71434



FACULTY OF FINE ART, MUSIC AND DESIGN, NORWAY SNØHETTA

Internationally acclaimed Norwegian architects Snøhetta have designed the new Faculty of Fine Art, Music and Design in Bergen, Norway. The building, set to open in October, is part of the University of Bergen and will allow the departments of art and design to be housed on a single landmark site in an area overlooking the waterfront and surrounded by the seven mountains of Bergen. With a total floor space of 14,800 m², the faculty will be the second largest cultural building in the city after the Grieg Concert Hall. The building features state of the art facilities for the study of art and design including workshops for wood, ceramic, metal, paper, 3D modelling, graphics, photo lab and foundries, materials library, and a cafe. In a major step to open up the work of the faculty to the city, the new building features a project hall which rises the full height of the building. It will be programmed with public exhibitions, projects and presentations developed by the students, while the public will also have access to the library and the cafe.

Ref: 26621



ALINGSÅS DISTRICT COURT, SWEDEN TENGBOM

The characterful 19th century brick building, which houses the Alingsås district court, was extended last year by Swedish architecture studio Tengbom. The extension's precise appearance and the innovative use of zinc plating by the architects has garnered praise at home and even won the Metal Prize at Plåtpriset 2016, a major event devoted to metal sheeting and architecture in Sweden. Tengbom sketched the extension entirely in 3D, with a design that took inspiration from the original building, while the architects' choice of materials accentuates and complements both facilities. The project is currently in the running for a World Architecture Festival's Civic and Community award. Architect Fritz Olsson said: "It's great that they were brave enough to go through with our designs and that the building is being recognised and held up as a source of inspiration."

Ref: 28438



ONE INDEPENDENCE SQUARE, LEBANON BAD

One Independence Square is the final project on Martyrs' Square in central Beirut. The project is designed by BAD and houses premium retail and luxury office spaces, while offering a direct access from the square, via a pedestrian ramp. BAD remarked: "Normally, architects' challenges escalate in the building's envelope design, yet in this case, the structural challenges took over." The architects' design sees the building 'hanging' from a superstructure that carefully considers seismic design. The facility stands on steel columns with white concrete reinforcement, while the building's core is placed in the back facade, making it almost invisible.

Ref: 11378



ZEITZ MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, SOUTH AFRICA THOMAS HEATHERWICK STUDIO

The Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art (Zeitz MOCAA) will open to the public at Cape Town's V&A Waterfront on 22 September as the world's biggest museum dedicated to contemporary art from Africa and its diaspora. The museum is housed in 9,500 m² of space over nine floors, in the refurbished "monumental structure" of the historic Grain Silo Complex, disused since 1990. At one time the tallest building in South Africa, the galleries and cathedral-like central atrium have been "literally carved from the silos' dense cellular structure of 42 tubes," say the architects.

Ref: 38568

CPD FOCUS

The latest CPD courses, seminars and documents for architects

PLAYING WITH FIRE



Actionair's CPD aims to provide essential education on fire and smoke dampers. CE marking requirements will be explained and how this influences the installation of dampers, along with the importance of testing and accurate installation in accordance with DW145 and the implications of the overall design to installation process. Possible legal implications of incorrect installation will be discussed along with potential personal liability prosecutions. *'Playing with Fire'* will demonstrate how a legally compliant damper installation will prevent the need for costly post-installation approval.

01227 276100

www.actionair.co.uk

GLASS FOR INTERIORS



The complexities, range and versatility of glass used inside buildings, is explained in a new *Glass for Interiors* Royal Institute of British Architects accredited CPD, now available from Saint-Gobain Building Glass. To celebrate the launch, Saint-Gobain Building Glass are hosting a CPD breakfast seminar. Free to attend, the seminar contributes to professional learning hours and will cover the required topics under RIBA's core curriculum, including material on; British Standards and Regulations, manifestation, design features possible with glass and glass performance.

goo.gl/UTrZwF

www.saint-gobain-glass.com

SPECIFYING GLAZED PARTITIONING



Partitioning experts and developers of the established Tenon and System 8000 products, **Ocula Systems**, are now offering RIBA approved CPD training on *'Specifying Performance Fully Glazed Partitioning Systems.'*

The training, designed to be just an hour in length, looks at the benefits of using glazed partitioning, where it's best used, its performance and design capability and integration flexibility. It details the building standards that need to be considered when specifying partitions, offers an explanation on acoustic performance and sound attenuation and very importantly, fire testing and safety. The training finishes with a selection of case studies showcasing some of the latest glazed partitioning projects, offering inspirational ideas to attendees.

The new CPD training course is carried out by experienced Project Consultants who will travel to deliver the course to specifying Practices throughout the UK. The training is listed on the RIBA website or can be requested via Ocula Systems HQ in Reading by phone or email.

Ocula Systems provide full Partitioning support from design through to installation. Their team includes a network of specification consultants, experienced glass installers, project managers, estimators and design technicians based in eight regional hubs across the UK. The Ocula product is also available through the SIG Interior branch network. Check out full details on the website.

0118 935 8152

www.oculasytems.co.uk

SUCCESSFUL ROOF REFURBISHMENT



Sika Sarnafil has launched a new and improved 'Successful Roof Refurbishment' Continual Professional Development (CPD) seminar, aimed at those looking to specify high performance products for roof renovations.

Created by the experts at Sarnafil Plus, the company's specialist refurbishment offer, the interactive RICS Approved CPD has been updated specifically to aid specifiers, including building surveyors, facilities managers and building managers, in their decision making process. The CPD contains vital up-to-date information on how to identify the causes of roof failure, investigation methods, compliance with efficiency regulations, system options and how to specify the best materials for a project.

The CPD can be combined with a live demonstration where attendees are shown the various Sarnafil waterproofing systems being installed and get the chance to try their hand at welding the membrane themselves.

Head of sales for single ply membranes at Sika, John O'Raw explains why Sarnafil Plus chose to upgrade and improve the CPD: "With the refurbishment market growing fast we noticed that building managers, FMs, architects and surveyors were increasingly seeking out the latest

information about regulations and roofing systems. We're dedicated to supporting these specifiers in an ever changing industry, so an update was essential to provide the highest quality educational material to meet those needs.

"The CPD provides attendees with invaluable knowledge about current legislation and regulations, including British Standards, EU Standards, energy efficiency requirements as set out in Part L and BREEAM assessments, as well as learning about our newly available site inspection and supervision tool."

Attendees will also be able to find out more about the benefits of a market-leading single-point guarantee, which protects against any unlikely problems that may arise from the failure of roofing membranes and the existing substrate, caused by incorrect design or installation, giving all parties involved complete peace of mind.

The CPD is 60 minutes long, including a question and answer session, and will be delivered by one of four dedicated experienced Sarnafil Plus Refurbishment Surveyors. If you are interested in taking the new CPD, visit the website or call Sika directly.

01707 394444

gbr.sarnafil.sika.com/en/roof-refurbishment.html

FLOOR TILING ONTO CALCIUM SULPHATE SCREED



Saint-Gobain Weber have introduced a new RIBA-Assessed CPD: *Floor Tiling onto Calcium Sulphate Screeds*. The main learning aim of the new CPD is to assist in the design and specification process. By identifying potential problems and how to avoid them, specifiers will learn to understand the key considerations when detailing tiling work on anhydrite screeds and meeting industry standards. This 30 minute CPD can be presented by Saint-Gobain Weber's specification team either on site or at a clients' office, and has been designed for individuals and small groups.

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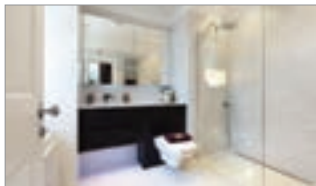
TWO NEW RIBA ASSESSED CPD SEMINARS FROM COMAR



In two RIBA assessed seminars, Comar outlines: *Stand & Deliver: a Study of curtain Walling* – the design of curtain walling, it's properties and how it is used by specifiers. This seminar aims to offer an understanding of the points of HLL in the NBS specification system, and how best to make use of it. *Designing functions & reliability into entrances* – the issues that influence the function of main entrance design and technology. This seminar aims to offer an understanding of how user expectation influences door design and links this with hardware selection, entrance configuration and floor finishes.

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WETROOM & DESIGN SPECIFICATION



The popular Wetroom Design & Specification CPD from CCL Wetrooms, guides Architects through the process of designing and specifying a watertight wetroom. Run free of charge at a time to suit your practice, the 45 minute technical presentation is a comprehensive seminar covering all aspects of wetroom design and specification. This includes wetroom design & layout, waterproofing, drainage, floor build up and installation. An informative section on how wetrooms can help meet the Lifetime Homes Standard is also covered within the session.

0844 327 6002
www.ccl-wetrooms.co.uk

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Aico Ltd is celebrating training 14,000 customers across the UK through its Expert Installer Training scheme, with 2,500 of those being in the first half of 2017 alone. Launched in 2008, Expert Installer is a modular training scheme created by Aico to ensure everyone involved in domestic alarm specification and installation has all the information they need. Expert Installer recently received CPD accreditation, making Aico the only domestic smoke alarm manufacturer to provide customers with CPD accredited training free of charge.

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'STEP ON IT!' SPECIFICATION OF ENTRANCE MATTING



Quantum Flooring Solutions – RIBA approved CPD seminar *STEP ON IT!* is a presentation and discussion dealing with the subject of specifying safe and effective entrance matting. The CPD presentation includes: What entrance matting is designed to achieve and how to select the right one; How recent BRE guidelines affect the choices for specifiers; Environmental and health and safety considerations applicable to the manufacture, installation and maintenance of entrance matting.

0161 627 4222
www.quantumprofilesystems.com

RENOLIT LAUNCHES NEW RIBA APPROVED SURFACE DESIGN CPD



RENOLIT has launched a new CPD seminar on the flexibility and uses of thermoformable PVC as a decorative surface which illustrates the benefits of PVC films over other decorative surface materials. The seminar provides architects with an understanding about PVC and its common uses within interior construction projects. It informs how to recognize different types of surfaces films, their applications and raises awareness of some specialist applications.

01670 718222
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RIBA-APPROVED CPD MATERIAL FOR TILING SPECIFIERS



The TTA now offers RIBA-approved CPD literature on virtually every subject related to tiling. The whole body of TTA technical publication has now been approved by RIBA and is available for download free-of-charge from the TTA website by registered architects and specifiers. All the TTA's Technical Publications and Technical Advisory Notes are produced by members of the TTA's own Technical Working Groups, in partnership with relevant external bodies. They contain full bibliographies and references to British, European and International Standards. Architects and specifiers have to carry out CPD training to keep their professional qualifications up-to-date, and the TTA's ability to offer CPD material is another great service from the Association. The topics covered by the TTA's technical documents cover a vast range of subjects and are grouped into five key categories within the architects' area of the TTA website. The publication groupings are: Ceramic Tiling onto Boards and Sheets; Ceramic Tiling onto Screed Systems; Internal Ceramic Tiling; Slip Resistance of Ceramic Tiling; Tiling of Wet Rooms and Cleaning & Maintenance of Ceramic Tiling. Each of the documents is about 40 pages in length. Together these now comprise a significant body of material which is RIBA-approved and provides architects and specifiers with the best available information and guidance on a range of general and specific subjects related to tiling.

0300 365 8453
www.tiles.org.uk

ONE-DAY CPD SEMINARS IN LEAD OR HARD METALS



The Lead Sheet Association Technical Team will be running its popular *one-day CPD seminars in Lead or Hard Metals* at its Training Centre in Kent again this year. These seminars are perfect for anyone involved in the specification, design and handling of lead or hard metals who wants to gain a closer understanding of these materials. The day combines board room presentations with practical hands-on workshop experience. All presentations are also fully supported with free technical information and a copy of the LSA Manual or FTMRC – UK Guide to Good Practice. 01622 872 432 www.leadsheet.co.uk/training

DEALING WITH DAMPNESS IN EXISTING PROPERTIES



One of the biggest challenges in rectifying damp problems in buildings is identifying the cause. A new seminar from **Safeguard Europe** arms architects, builders and other specifiers with information to help them determine the source of damp – and then gives options on how to remedy the situation. *Dealing with Dampness in Existing Properties (Above Ground)* covers existing and new technologies for dealing with the different forms of damp, and highlights why some diagnostic equipment can lead to confusion if used blindly. 01403 210 204 www.safeguardeurope.com

CHIMNEY DESIGN AND RESTORATION OF FLUES AND DUCTS



Flue Liner Solutions are offering a RIBA approved CPD presentation entitled *Chimney design and restoration of flues and ducts*. This seminar will give an overview of chimneys, factors to take into account when designing buildings and an awareness of common problems. It will help architects to understand the following topics: chimney design and sizing; flue lining systems and suitability for different appliances and fuel types; remedial works to existing chimneys; maintenance requirements for chimneys as well as understanding chimney terminals and chimney fans. 0203 858 3888 www.fluelinersolutions.co.uk

SPECIFYING HARDWOOD TIMBER DOORSETS



Urban Front offer a RIBA certified CPD: *Specifying Hardwood Timber doorsets* which has been updated for 2017 to include for changes in building regulations and to include the more complicated fitting of timber doorsets into frameless and architectural glass. The CPD aims to educate specifiers on all the aspects of fitting hardwood timber doorsets into various private and commercial dwellings. Urban Front also have RIBA certified blogs which you can find on the RIBA website and on Urban Front's website. To make a booking please call Urban Front. 01494 778787 www.urbanfront.co.uk



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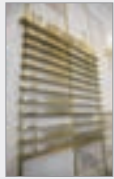
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Signbox delivers stunning directory



Signbox has supplied a bespoke tenant directory sign for the reception area at 12 Arthur Street, near London Bridge. The project formed a key part of the extensive reception and lift lobby refurbishment in this prestigious office building. The sign components were finished with a tarnished brass metal effect, a revolutionary process that applies a veneer of a metal coating to the surface and gives the look and feel of solid metal. This Metall-FX manufacturing process involves artisan hand-finishing, polishing and painting multiple layers to achieve the appearance of aged brass, matching other architectural details in the build.

01784 438 688 www.signbox.co.uk

Charcon Strengthens Specification



Charcon, the commercial hard landscaping division of Aggregate Industries, has strengthened its service offering with three new appointments across its specification and sales teams.

Andy Johnston joins Charcon as its new Specification Manager. Reporting to the National Specification Manager, Clinton Young, Charcon has also bolstered its sales team by recruiting two Territory Sales Managers. Luke Walker will be covering the Northern regions. And Michael Drew will be responsible for the South Central region.

01335 372 222 www.charcon.com



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or www.bio-pure.com

Golden anniversary celebration for TPG – The Parkside Group Limited

TPG – The Parkside Group Limited would like to take this opportunity to thank all their architectural, contractor and fabricator clients as they celebrate their 50th year and welcome in their Golden anniversary. As an independent, privately owned British company, The Parkside Group Limited shares its remarkable history and here highlights its ambitious strategy for the future.

In 1967, London, a joinery business was founded with a start-up loan of a mere £300. This small enterprise has now grown into The Parkside Group Limited which includes the market leading brands of Comar Architectural Aluminium Systems, Axim Architectural Hardware and Alu-Timber.

Hardwired within the DNA of a business that has survived and thrived for over 50 years is customer service. To put this longevity in perspective, when The Parkside Group Limited was founded, NASA had not yet taken a giant leap for mankind and landed on

the moon. Since 1967 The Parkside Group Limited has worked through great recessions, 3-day weeks and the Black Monday crash, whilst always maintaining its unique customer service ethos; working with customers to supply innovative solutions that make their businesses profitable.

The Parkside Group Limited actively seeks to supply solutions and market leading delivery, that provides the market with cost efficiencies which stand the test of time. Examples of this are operating a 100 per cent in-stock philosophy and twice weekly delivery service, so fabricators can utilise all the cost savings of a JIT policy and for our specification clients creating bespoke aluminium profiles & systems that provide fast-track, robust solutions. In 1987 Axim Architectural Hardware joined the group and the famous TC-8800 Transom Closer stormed the door hardware market, and still today Axim is the number 1 branded architectural door closer for reliability and performance.

To celebrate the Golden Anniversary, The Parkside Group Limited has a new brand identity to take them through the next 50 years of ambitious plans. The Parkside Group Limited, now TPG, uses the heritage of the diamond logo, branding aluminium with “TPG” to reassure its partners of the TPG mark of quality. This is backed up with a new website which outlines the Group’s TPG: 2025 strategy, highlighting the processes that have, and always will be, critical to the businesses success.

In 2017, TPG:2025 has never been more important, as it aligns with the Government’s “Construction: 2025” objectives. By publishing our TPG: 2025 strategy, TPG will continue to be the partner of choice for the design and delivery of innovative building envelope solutions to the construction industry. TPG is proud to be a highly responsive, service orientated, independent business that is known to help, support and value its employees, customers, suppliers and business



partners. TPG's goal is to be a company that is a dynamic leader, respected for its professionalism, customer focus and entrepreneurial spirit now and in the future.

The cornerstone of TPG: 2025 is its Innovation Strategy. TPG's Innovation Strategy introduced the Stage Gate process into New Product Development to take advantage of technological advances in terms of materials, performance and production methodologies. A cross function team works together to research and deliver new products to program, to provide partners with a future proof supplier that develops products that will meet the market's requirements both now and in the future.

The competitive advantage of the innovation strategy provides "fast to market" new products that exceed the offer of the competition at a cost-efficient price.

Examples of this are the launch of Comar 6EFT Curtain Walling suite, a system with glazing sizes up to 54mm and high-span additional mullions and transoms, that have the highest Ixx and Iyy values in the industry. This offers wider spans with smaller box sizes, providing value engineered solutions for designers and contractors alike.

In 2017 TPG launches Comar 6EFT Unitised, which features a unique 3 seal arrangement that offers outstanding weather



performance coupled with options to accommodate high building movements.

Furthermore, our Comar 10 Window has also been launched, winning an award for innovation. Comar 10 is a Passivhaus B Certified product with U-values as low as 0.66 coupled with processes that cut manufacturing costs by 70 per cent.

Marking the 50th anniversary with such innovative products, TPG, with its market leading brands, will continue to supply innovative solutions that make customers' businesses profitable now and in the future.

020 8685 9685 www.parksidegroup.co.uk



Hull's C4DI gets innovative with Encasement

Hull's landmark Centre for Digital Innovation (C4DI) is using 'Polyma' GRP column casings from Encasement to conceal external structural steelwork at the building, which forms the centrepiece of the 2017 European City of Culture's £15 million @TheDock development.

Designed by Leeds based architects, Enjoy Design, and owned by Hull-based regeneration company Wykeland Group, the C4DI building houses one of the UK's leading digital tech hubs, as well as 70,000 sq.ft of office space and an external public performance space in the former dry dock.

Below the striking bronze PPC coated aluminium exterior, which also incorporates a range of sustainable and energy saving technologies, each of the building's nine structural steel supports are concealed by a 450mm diameter Polyma glass reinforced polymer column casing.

Manufactured by Encasement to the precise specifications using hand laid GRP moulding techniques, the Polyma

casings are finished in gloss RAL 7004 Signal Grey and range in height from 3,600mm up to 4,000mm to meet the building's design parameters.

As the column casings are used externally and close to sea water, the Polyma casings are an ideal choice for this application as they are highly durable, as well as being resistant to corrosion, weathering and damage.

Encasement's Managing Director, Martin Taylor, commented: "The regeneration around the dock area including C4DI has given a significant boost to the area and helped Hull become a key centre for tech innovation. We're delighted to have played a part in this project, where the quality of the building design and energy saving technologies it incorporates has set the scene for the innovation centred businesses it accommodates." For more information please visit Encasement's website or contact them by calling.

01733 266 889 www.encasement.co.uk



Innova Wins hoisting contract



Innova Care Concepts has won a £850,000 contract to supply hoisting systems to the new state-of-the-art Midland Met Hospital. Thought to be the second largest hoisting contract in the UK, Innova will be providing 277 hoist units across 313 rooms. Innova's patented hoisting systems

will provide comfortable transfers for patients, with some units capable of lifting 382kg. They secured the contract because of their curtain solution, which allows a hoist unit to be shared between beds and pass over curtain rails hassle-free.

0845 034 1450 www.innovacareconcepts.com

SFS intec maps out enhanced regional



Building envelope designers and installers can now access SFS intec's strengthened sales team with ease thanks to a newly updated website that maps out its Technical Sales Managers according to the UK region they serve, along with sections providing

details of its supporting technical and specification teams. SFS intec, which is one of the world's largest manufacturer of high performance fasteners for roofing and cladding, has developed its website to reflect its broadened UK sales team – now offering an unrivalled combination of sales, account management and technical expertise.

0113 2085 500 www.sfsintec.co.uk

Manufacturing firm Collecta opens new factory



Collecta, one of the UK's leading manufacturer of Acoustic & Thermal Insulation has officially opened its new 60,000ft² manufacturing and distribution facility in Rochester, Kent. The Mayor and Mayoress of Medway, Councillor David and Mrs Denise Wildey, opened the facility on Tuesday 4th July. Joined by Southern Divisional Sales & Technical Director Lee Baxter, the Mayor and Mayoress met General Operations Manager Paul Yates, factory workers and office team before having a short tour of the factory. The move has enabled the company to increase production capacity and has already resulted in 10 new jobs being created. The company's reputation for quality and customer service has been earned over the past 24 years. In 1997 the company relocated from Sutton, Surrey to its first facility in Kent, employing just four members of staff working from a small 5400ft² warehouse. Over the next few years the firm occupied four different units, until 2004 when they moved from Maidstone to a 29,000ft² unit in Rochester. The whole work force played its part in the seamless move, which was carried out without any loss in production or delays in dispatching customer's orders.

01634 296677 www.collecta.co.uk

Unique location for Changing Places



A unique project is bringing “excellence to all” – including disabled people. Kelvin Hall has re-opened following a £35 million revamp. The new venue now houses 1.5 million pieces from Glasgow’s civic collection, Glasgow University’s Hunterian

Museum, the National Library of Scotland’s Moving Image Archive. And it also includes a state-of-the-art wheelchair-accessible, assisted toilet facility, supplied and installed by **Clos-o-Mat**. The toilet means that anyone for whom a conventional wheelchair-accessible toilet isn’t suitable can now enjoy the benefits of Kelvin Hall.

0161 969 1199 www.clos-o-mat.com

Heradesign sheds new light on heritage



The Engine Shed is Scotland’s brand new national building conservation centre. The project involved the complete restoration of a historic engine shed with new build extensions to either side. Heradesign Superfine from **Knauf AMF** was installed in both new buildings to help meet the acoustic challenges and satisfy environmental criteria. Heradesign, with its organic wood-wool woven surface, offers an unprocessed aesthetic that is a popular trend in interior design towards the use of eco-friendly, traditional construction materials. The natural colour of Heradesign works in harmony with the sheds’ architecture.

0191 518 8600 www.knaufamf.com

Project highlights Rhodes & Partners



Marple Bridge-based **Rhodes & Partners** recently completed a structural assessment of the bell tower of St Mary’s church in Greater Manchester which had been experiencing structural movement. Over recent years some masonry had become displaced and it was leaning to one side. The survey was made more challenging by the fact that, from ground level, it was not clear whether or not the spire masonry was supported by iron cramps. “We

were delighted with the work which Rhodes & Partners carried out on our bell-tower,” concludes Reverend Bruce Perrin of St Mary’s.

0161 427 8388 www.rhodesandpartners.co.uk

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 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.

www.architectsdatafile.co.uk

Keeping the castle cosy with Howe Green Access Covers



Howe Green’s Light Duty 5000 Series Floor Access Covers are playing their part in keeping a Victorian castle warm and cosy by providing safe and easy access to central heating valves. Lews Castle was built between 1844 and 1851 and has an interesting past. Following a 25 year closure the Castle underwent a £19 million refurbishment and reopened last year. The Category A listed building is now a museum and cultural centre owned by the local council. The Light Duty 5000 Series Aluminium Floor Access Covers were specified by GRAHAM Construction to provide access to the underfloor services, located in the corridors on the first floor of the Castle. Sixteen covers were supplied, in various standard sizes. The covers were specified with the option of a brass show edge and were infilled with carpet or ceramic tiles, depending on their location. The brass show edge with matching lifting points, which are anchored to the inner frame, give an even higher level of aesthetic appeal than the standard aluminium show edge. The brass finish fits perfectly with the historic surroundings of the Castle and the seamless fit with the floor finish reduces the risk of slips and trips.

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ALEXANDRA PALACE
LONDON

Restoring a Palace to the people

The refurbishment of a London landmark offers an alternative to traditional ‘new for old’ theatre restoration to create a major community venue, writes Steve Menary

Alexandra Palace opened in 1873 as the People’s Palace, only to be burnt to the ground just 16 days later. In May 1875, a new Palace opened, this time including a theatre.

Six decades later, the BBC leased the eastern part of the building, which went down in history as the origin of the first high-definition television broadcast. The building was the corporation’s main transmitting centre until 1956, and was used solely for news broadcasts.

In the 1980s, another fire hit the building. The area controlled by the BBC was spared by the blaze, but fell into disuse. The old theatre, which included a silent film projector and a vast decorative ceiling, had not been used since before the Second World War and has been closed to the public.

Now, Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios (FCBS) and contractors Willmott Dixon are collaborating on a complicated project to bring the partly-dilapidated theatre and the East Court of the Palace back to life.

Arrested decay

“The conservation officers say that unless it’s in danger of falling off, anything we do has to be reversible,” says Tony Dowling, operations manager on the project for contractors Willmott Dixon. FCBS describe their vision for the newly restored Alexandra Palace as one of ‘arrested decay’. “The 19th century theatre, dark and unused for over 80 years, bears a highly atmospheric patina of age,” according to an FCBS design statement. “It is a true ‘found space’, a snapshot of a grander time.”

Tony Wright, senior building manager for Willmott Dixon at Alexandra Palace, explains: “Arrested decay is the buzzword for the architects, who want it to look ‘as is’. There are flaky walls where the render

has gone, but as soon as we are as far back as we can be, then we are sealing the walls with a specialist sealant and leaving a mixture of paint and render.”

He continues: “There are loads of theatres that have been restored with all the gold leaf put back. They don’t want it like that; they want it to look like the photos in the leaflets they distributed to raise money – to look like you have just walked in to the original building.”

Willmott Dixon has its site office in part of the building above the East Court. Most of the walls there are clad with plaster-board, but one wall has been left as an example of this ‘arrested decay’ that FCBS are looking to achieve.

The ultimate objective of the commission is to directly support the transformation of the eastern end of Palace, restoring public access to the most historically significant – yet currently derelict – parts of the building, faithful to the vision of its founders in 1873. In addition, the scheme looks to make Alexandra Palace a world-class exemplar of best practice in community heritage regeneration and a key hub for the city of London’s cultural offer.

A ground-up restoration

The brief set to FCBS asks for the “restoration of the surviving interior finishes of the theatre and balcony with minimal intervention to retain its historic fabric, but conceptually fitting it out to modern standards consistent with its planned use as a community and commercial venue”.

The work also included levelling the theatre auditorium floor to offer flexible use and improve accessibility, creating and enabling public viewing of the Victorian stage machinery under the theatre stage as part of a structured tour. The backstage

FACING PAGE: DRAMATIC RESTORATION

The brief asks for the “restoration of the surviving interior finishes...with minimal interventions to retain its historic fabric”

Image courtesy of Willmott Dixon

**ABOVE**

The Eastern end of the Palace comprises the BBC studios and the Victorian theatre
Image courtesy of Willmott Dixon

FACING PAGE

The transmission mast which beamed out early high-definition TV signals sits at the corner of the East wing
© Steve Menary

The ultimate objective is to restore public access to the building's most historically significant parts while remaining faithful to the vision of its Victorian founders

spaces and the northeast tower are also being refurbished to provide storage and room for the performers.

However, with a building that dates back nearly 150 years, significant structural repairs are required. "The existing roof

trusses on the theatre showed some signs of serious decay after specialist investigations," explains Wright. "We put the slab in early so we could get scaffold up and we are propping up two roof trusses with the most serious decay. The ceiling is being repaired as best as possible."

The ceiling is a lathe and plaster style and some of the plaster above the trusses has decayed to a point that serious remedial work is needed. This means members of Willmott Dixon's construction team have to work in tight spaces above the ceiling, but below the roof trusses. "It's a long, slow process," confirms Wright with the look of someone who has been on site for a year and not achieved all they had hoped for.

Willmott Dixon initially arrived on site to

The brief is to keep the character of the building – we are trying to preserve it

Tony Dowling, Willmott Dixon

do enabling works but the process of assessing what can be saved and how to do that has delayed the start of the actual refurbishment. Work finally began in spring 2017 with the theatre floor being levelled and the scaffold erected. Eventually, all 1,200 original floorboards will be re-laid.

“We’re numbering them, it’s a massive jigsaw,” says Tony Dowling, whose role also includes liaising with the swathes of people who have contributed to making the long-running project happen while retaining as many of the building’s original features as possible.

Sticking to the theatre script

The restoration has only been made possible by a major fund-raising project. The Heritage Lottery Fund initially awarded the project a grant of £844,800 to develop the proposals. This was followed by a larger £18.8m HLF grant, while the London Borough of Haringey pledged £6.8m and Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust (APPCT) committed to raising a further million. In addition, the Friends of Alexandra Palace Theatre, the Friends of Alexandra Palace Park, the Victorian Society and the Alexandra Palace Television Group have all backed the proposals.

Dowling comments: “There’s friends of the BBC and friends of the theatre. Everyone has their view. It’s Grade II listed, so we are trying to save as much as possible. The goal is to keep the character of the building – we are trying to preserve it.”

It’s clear that while the project involves saving as much of the theatre as possible, some parts were not only beyond saving, but had gone altogether. When the contractor arrived on site, there was no seating in the theatre, in addition the balcony had (originally) been built at the wrong angle; it is being saved however and new retractable seating has been added above.

The theatre is the most complicated part of the project. On the other section of the restoration, comprising work to the East Court, Willmott Dixon are being allowed to remove some elements and have laid a new floor slab.

“The fabric of the building is in a reasonable state,” explains Wright, who adds: “This is going to be a ‘people’s area’ and





Image courtesy of Willmott Dixon

PROJECT

Project: Alexandra Palace restoration

Location: North London

Construction cost: £26.7m

Client: The Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust

Architect: Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios

Structural engineer: Alan Baxter Associates

Theatre designer: Charcoalblue

M&E: Max Fordham LLP

Cost consultant: Mott MacDonald

Main contractor: Willmott Dixon

won't be arrested decay but it won't be super modern either."

The creation of a revitalised public space in the East Court with its glazed roof will house a flexible space for learning and participation, where visitors will be able to learn about the Park and Palace's history.

A careful approach will be vital throughout the work, and Wright has pinned a notice on the wall of the theatre reading 'The Theatre is 150 years old. Treat it with respect'. "People think because it looks wrecked they can just leave stuff leaning against the walls," protests Dowling.

Reviving TV's birthplace

The overall project is valued at £26.7m, but the third phase of the scheme comprising the restoration of the historic BBC studios will start at a later date.

In 1936, these studios gave birth to a new era of television broadcasting. The Palace team are currently setting out a project plan and timeframe for the studios as part of the

The restored theatre will operate in several different modes to accommodate traditional productions but also theatre-in-the-round style performances

next phase of restoration works. The theatre restoration and East Wing should be complete by next summer, with a view to the revamped Alexandra Palace re-opening in the autumn of 2018.

The restored theatre will operate in several different modes, from a traditional production to theatre-in-the-round style, with the audience surrounding the stage. The venue's capacity will range from 800 to 1,300 and, once opened, it will start generating income that will help enable the final part of the restoration works. ■

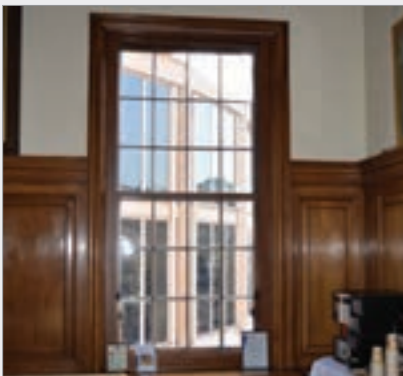
A former cattle market gets a sustainable overhaul with Selectaglaze secondary glazing

William Julian Courtauld paid the princely sum of £50,000 to give Braintree its own Town Hall. The first stone was laid in 1926 and it has been in constant use since its construction.

Nowadays, there is an obligation to reduce energy and make buildings more sustainable. Braintree Town Hall was faced with the job of making its building more energy efficient, which was not straightforward due to it being Grade II* Listed. The Town Hall approached Selectaglaze to address issues with the windows, which allowed cold air in and heat to escape.

A meeting was arranged with Braintree Town Hall and the local Conservation Officer, where an aluminium sample from Selectaglaze was set up next to one of the windows. Those in attendance were impressed at how well the timber grain effect blended in with the wood panelling.

After a successful demonstration, Selectaglaze installed 20 vertical sliding units.



All products were finished with a timber grain effect that matched seamlessly with the interior.

The installation of secondary glazing significantly reduces heat loss and all units are bespoke to achieve airtightness to virtually eradicate draughts. The use of low emissivity glass meant that a U-value of 1.9

was easily achieved.

An additional benefit of installing secondary glazing was the reduction of outside noise.

“The windows contain modern thermally efficient low emissivity glass that retains heat and the frames have been measured and manufactured to achieve an airtight fitting. The building is heated by a combination of gas central heating and electric heaters. The estimated savings from installing secondary glazing in the Town Hall is at least 12 per cent of the combined heating bill.”

Councillor Robert Mitchell, Deputy Cabinet Member for Environment and Place.

Royal Warrant Holder since 2004; Selectaglaze has 50 years' experience designing, manufacturing and installing secondary glazing for all building types to ensure that the building is warmer, quieter and safer.

01727 837271 www.selectaglaze.co.uk

Mighton partner Anker Stuy gives seating a great finish in Abbey renovation



Mighton Products partner Anker Stuy Verven (ASV) has been selected as supplier of the colour stains and lacquers for the new seating as part of a prestigious yearlong renovation of Westminister Abbey that was finally completed in June of this year. As part of the interior maintenance works that took place at the iconic London landmark 2,200 wooden chairs, with the Westminister Abbey Arms embossed in to each of the backrests, were commissioned and have now become the new primary form of seating distributed throughout the building. The finish for these chairs carries a series of heavy demands and therefore required an exemplary quality lacquer capable of providing long lasting protection against candle wax, as well as tough resistance against scratches and abrasions. The 2-component ASV lacquer that was eventually specified complies with the EN 71-3 standard, certifying it free from heavy metals and even suitable for use on children's toys, as well as complying with both DIN 4102 B1 and DIN 68861 B1 standards, which demonstrates its chemical resistance. Mighton distributes Anker Stuy products to its specialist joinery customers throughout the UK.

01223 902 455 www.mightonproducts.com

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**BUILDING
PROJECTS**

**LONG LANE
SOUTHWARK, LONDON**

Stealth social housing

Teodora Lyubomirova looks at how architects Levitt Bernstein applied care and precision to create a tenure-blind affordable social housing scheme on a space-constrained site in the heart of London

From a leather trade mecca in the 19th century to a bustling cultural and corporate centre today, Southwark's transformation could not be more striking.

Some of London's most recognisable new landmarks sit within its boundaries – from the twisted profile of Tate Modern's Switch House to the Elizabethan era-inspired Shakespeare Globe and the dramatic glass and steel giants looming within the More London commercial development.

Take a walk south past the busy construction underway around London Bridge Station, and a peaceful residential area soon emerges. This shift of dynamics is deceptive however, as the noisy develop-

ment along Long Lane, where ADF is headed to view a new social housing scheme by Levitt Bernstein, is a reminder of Southwark's borough's relentless pace of redevelopment.

On Long Lane, among a diverse mix of building types and uses, sits one of Southwark Borough Council's most recent developments. Erected on a council-owned plot which previously accommodated the Borough and Bankside Housing office, the scheme comprises two blocks abutting a new private sale residential corner building which falls outside the development on the junction with Weston Street, with a shared rear courtyard linking both blocks. The

The project was a delicate balance of protecting quality for residents while trying to maximise new homes

Simon Lea, Levitt Bernstein



LET THERE BE WHITE

White brick is used to mark recessed areas such as balconies and external walkways

bigger of the two social housing blocks, a six-storey brick-clad building at 169 Long Lane, forms the main part of the scheme, while an identically clad three-storey block completes the development on the adjacent Weston Street.

This unusual arrangement was necessary in order to use all available space to create what the council hoped would be an exemplar development of tenure-blind council housing development on a busy and constrained site.

Fully affordable, with a mix of 21 council rent flats and shared ownership apartments including two spacious wheelchair units, the project on Long Lane was delivered in the context of a rapidly changing neighbourhood, where challenges presented by both existing and emerging schemes had to be considered.

Close proximity

Perhaps the biggest question facing Levitt Bernstein was how to integrate the new scheme into the adjacent 1960s Kipling Estate, which Long Lane has now become part of. While the existing estate's two 21-storey high rises have a big influence on the area's character, it was the low-rise building to the north of the Long Lane scheme which required special attention from the outset.

Heldar Court, which is located as close as

10 metres from some points of the new development, would be significantly affected by the works, particularly in terms of privacy and daylighting.

Through consultations with residents and the local tenant management organisation, the architects devised a strategy which aimed to progressively step the massing of the two buildings down as they got closer to their new neighbour, with Long Lane reduced to three storeys and eventually one storey, while the Weston Street-facing block also steps down to one storey towards the boundary wall.

While this massing approach meant a reduction in the number of new homes that could have been provided, Simon Lea, associate director at Levitt Bernstein, insists it was worth the compromise. "The project was a delicate balance of protecting quality for existing residents while trying to maximise new homes."

The architects designed all rear-facing windows to either angle away from the existing building or be fitted with opaque glass to allow daylight in, while also protecting the privacy of the existing residents. They also took care to orientate most living areas away from the neighbouring building, and towards the south and west instead.

The entrance route to the flats goes through the courtyard at the back, which is separated from Helder Court's private gardens by a new boundary wall. In a bid to protect residents' privacy, but also allow daylight to pass through, the top half of this wall features a small yet nicely detailed area of brick lattice in the wall.

During consultations, the existing residents also feared the new external staircase at the rear could also create overlooking issues, so translucent glass balustrading raised to 1.7 metres above landing level was introduced to shield the opposite building from view.

Skin & streetscape

Levitt Bernstein's love for brick is expressed throughout the building, as has been the case in other affordable housing projects completed by the architects in the past few years, such as the award-winning Buccleuch House in Hackney and Vaudeville Court in Islington.

However, while the aforementioned schemes are clad in a lighter brick, the Long Lane development offers a stark contrast with its dark skin of smooth blue brick (actually more of a dark grey). At the bases of both blocks, textured stack-bonded

brickwork rises up to the first residential floor, while the bin store on no. 169 is marked with a taller 'hit and miss' pattern instead of more traditional metal louvres. Ramps access to the ground floor homes have also been added at the base.

Contrasting colours, particularly in relation to the adjacent corner building's fairly light material palette, makes the scheme a distinctive addition to the street, but one which ties in visually with other nearby buildings. Lea says: "I don't think every building has to stand out. Blue brick was used extensively on the building opposite [Tangerine House, a private residential scheme], so we thought that would be a nice link." Further adjustments had to be made to level the rooftop railing to match that of the corner building, while the overall height of the new brick parapet was also kept as low as possible to enhance the well-shaped corner of the street.

All openings in the building are 'cuts' in the brickwork, with white brick used to mark recessed areas such as the balconies and external walkways (see image, left).

With this being a budget-constrained council housing scheme, the architects had to adopt a well-insulated, robust fabric and make the most of the larger building's south-facing orientation before deploying additional sustainable measures, so the white brick helped brighten up the spaces, particularly the north-facing walkways in the rear. Lea admits the architects only used it where absolutely necessary, as it was an expensive imported material. "[The white brick] came from Belgium," he says, adding that the practice wanted to avoid using white bricks manufactured in the UK because they contain vanadium and can turn green over time.

The only exception to the blue and white cladding palette is the main entrance, where the wall cladding is bright red, to match the logo of the TMO, Leathermarket JMB. Likewise, the only render used is on the staircase, where the budget couldn't allow pre-cast concrete to be specified.

Lea emphasises that the materials used throughout the scheme – from the high-quality metal ceilings in the walkways, to the tiling on the staircase and the landscaping in the courtyard – are low-maintenance and should last a long time with minimum maintenance costs.

High-spec & tenure-blind

The Long Lane scheme was designed to be 'tenure-blind' and in not being 'obviously' council housing, thus challenge the often







negative perceptions attached to such housing by way of its design and high quality materials. Councillor Stephanie Cryan, deputy leader of Southwark Council and cabinet member for housing, beams with pride as she speaks about the development: “Our design standards are very high – any directly-delivered scheme has to be of exceptional quality. To see such high-standard council homes [delivered] at the beginning of a long [development] programme is absolutely fantastic, and demonstrates what that standard is.”

Southwark Council is running the largest programme for directly building council homes in London, having pledged to deliver 11,000 homes by 2043, with 1,500 to be completed by 2018.

This initiative was borne of the need to address the growing housing crisis in the area. Cryan says: “We’ve got 10,000 people on our housing waiting lists at the moment, so [when delivering new homes] we need to make sure that these are the homes that people want.” She adds: “It’s about taking the residents on the journey with you.”

The council employs a 50 per cent local lettings policy, meaning residents of the nearby Kipling Estate and the area in general would be able to apply to live in the new flats. That’s why involving the community and also the TMO in the planning stages was vital.

According to the councillor, residents were “particularly concerned about preventing anti-social behaviour; they didn’t want people sitting on stairwells or causing nuisance to neighbours.”

Residents also provided input on certain specification aspects of the wheelchair homes, such as the request for low level appliances and pull switches, but for all homes the provision of adequate storage – which was pushed to “the maximum possible” according to Lea – was key.

“The biggest thing is the building is tenure-blind,” says Cryan – “we wanted passers by to realise that this is council housing – and it doesn’t stand out as such”.

Another important suggestion came from the TMO resulted in the inclusion of a small roof terrace on the ‘stepped’ area of the Long Lane-facing block. Lea admits the terrace “became smaller and smaller after every resident meeting due to noise concerns”, but it remains a thoughtful addition, similar to the roof terraces on private developments.

“We designed a very nice roof terrace where the building steps down,” explains Simon Lea, “and it’s great, because we

We wanted passers by to not realise that this is council housing – and it doesn’t stand out as such

Stephanie Cryan, deputy leader, LBS

BRICK MONOLITH

The extensive use of blue brick ties in visually with other nearby buildings along the road



DUAL ASPECT

The layouts allow all apartments to be dual aspect and therefore cross-ventilated
All images © Levitt Bernstein

provided a family home with a very nice external space.”

Internal spaces & commercial unit

Due to the flats being occupied, ADF doesn’t get a peek inside, but according to the planning documents Long Lane has been designed to comply with Lifetime Home Standards 2012, the London Design Guide and Southwark’s own design standards. Notably, the two wheelchair homes – one in each block – are three-bed. “That’s unusual for this type of development,” confirms Lea. “They’re really big and spacious.” All flats are wheelchair-accessible, and an outdoor lift ensures residents who cannot climb the stairs can access their flats with ease.

Originally, the architects wanted to incorporate open-plan design in the living spaces, but residents requested separations, so all dwellings, except the accessibility-designed ones, have separate kitchens, with separate kitchens and dining rooms in all two and three-bed flats. Washing machines are also situated in the halls rather than the kitchens, which helps to minimise noise issues in the dwellings.

Importantly, the flat layouts allow all apartments to be dual aspect and therefore cross-ventilated. “We tried to stick to the tried and tested solutions where possible, as with new systems, people may not like them

or be confused about how to use them, says Lea, adding: “Ultimately, it’s about designing in simple things to give someone a decent place to live.”

At ground level, the increased floor-to-ceiling areas provide a generous shop front for the single commercial unit, which was very carefully incorporated into the scheme. “Southwark planning requirements wanted to ensure there are employment opportunities on the site,” says Lea.

The unit, which is self-contained and doesn’t require access to the residents’ communal garden, was designed as shell and core, but the dimensions posed a challenge for the architects. “The shop needed large floor to ceiling heights, so that meant the two ground-floor flats also ended up with fairly high ceilings. The separate kitchens [in the flats] would have increased the frontage on a very restricted site, so that was tricky to deal with.”

Sustainability & transport

Tasteful simplicity and practicality seem to be the defining traits of the Long Lane project, from the discreet stainless steel signage on the front, the trace heating on the stairs helping to deal with snow in winter, and the subtle grey frames of the double-glazed windows complementing the dark brick facade.

In terms of energy performance, the buildings rely mostly on a passive energy design, demonstrated in the bricks’ high thermal mass and additional layers of insulation. The inset south-facing balconies can limit the solar gain in warmer months while allowing in plenty of daylight throughout the year. The acoustic insulation exceeds recommendations by at least five decibels.

While gas heating is used – specifying a communal boiler or biomass heating not being financially viable – the development is targeting a 20 per cent reduction in carbon emissions, and the development benefits from sedum roofing and photovoltaic panels. With Long Lane’s close proximity to London Bridge station and various bus routes, the architects devised secure cycle storage for residents but car parking spaces have been limited to two (on Weston Street) and one off Long Lane.

The project’s design and delivery has been carefully thought out as being “robust but flexible,” concludes Lea. “I’d think that in 50 years’ time, the bricks would have become a bit more dusty, but otherwise the building would look pretty much the same,” he says, adding jokingly, “The blue bricks are virtually indestructible.” ■

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DELABIE unveils new mixer at Healthcare Estates show



DELABIE will showcase its new pressure-balancing mechanical mixer, the SECURITHERM EP BIOSAFE at the Healthcare Estates show. Its unique design, with no spout, smooth interior and low water volume, limits bacterial development considerably and is ideal for healthcare installations. Anti-scalding technology – The EP pressure-balancing cartridge delivers a constant mixed water temperature regardless of pressure variations in the system. The mechanism also reduces the hot water flow significantly if the cold water supply fails, reducing the risk of scalding. A pre-set maximum temperature limiter provides additional anti-scalding safety. Infection control – The mixer's unique design restricts water volume in the body by almost 85 per cent, minimising biofilm development. Its smooth interior also reduces biofilm attachment. The 26216EP mixer withstands thermal shocks at line temperature. Pressing the red button behind the control lever overrides the temperature limiter without removing the control lever or shutting off the cold water supply. Easy to maintain – Water consumption is reduced while guaranteeing user comfort. Its simple form reduces the build-up of dirt and facilitates cleaning.

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HEALTHCARE ESTATES STAND B41



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A whole industry under the microscope

Three conference streams – and a fresh look at modular construction – will provide NHS estates and facilities professionals with vital insight into current topics at Healthcare Estates 2017 in October

With healthcare at the forefront of the Government's cost-saving ambitions, Lord Carter's five-year plan and the targeted £5bn per year of efficiency savings by 2020/21 remain key topics for healthcare estates professionals.

Returning to Manchester on 10-11 October, Healthcare Estates 2017 will focus on three conference streams intended to inform, inspire, and challenge delegates – 'Strategy and Leadership', 'Planning, Design and Construction', and 'Engineering and Estates Management'.

The conference opens with keynote speaker Simon Corben, director and head of profession for estates and facilities at NHS Improvement, who will reflect on his first six months in office and discuss the need for stronger and more robust corporate governance assurance. This will also be a subject in the panel discussion that will follow.

Show director Steve Webb commented: "Following recent events in the UK – terrorist attacks, the devastating fire at Grenfell Tower, and the NHS cyber attack – NHS estates and facilities directors are understandably concerned about their requirement to ensure corporate governance and assurance to their board.

"Healthcare Estates has gathered key figures from the NHS, including Simon Corben, past president of IHEEM; Paul Kingsmore, director of services at Manchester Metropolitan University, and Kevin Oxley, director of estates, facilities and capital planning at South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. [They will] discuss and consider the highly topical subject of corporate governance assurance and give their individual standpoints."

Strategy and Leadership

The 'Strategy and Leadership' conference stream will cover a diverse range of topics critical to achieving Lord Carter's plans for greater productivity and efficiency.

These include efficiency in workforce development, as demonstrated by a new staffing model under development at Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust that addresses the need for sustainable staffing costs, focuses on the quality of patient care and improved clinical outcomes, and examines the increased clinical demand and the changes in the physical environment for staff. The model has been developed as extensive new facilities take shape during the hospital's £485m redevelopment.

Engineering and Facilities Management

The 'Engineering and Facilities Management' stream will look at some of the practical aspects of healthcare estate management – from energy procurement and the engineering aspects of ventilation control in operating theatres, to infection control measures. Among the presentations will be one by Mott MacDonald making the case for the use in healthcare of the WELL certification system for buildings – which looks at their quantifiable impact of buildings on occupants' health. Maintenance and electrical infrastructure topics will also be addressed, from standpoints including safety, compliance, and value for money.

Modular construction

For the first time at a Healthcare Estates event, the 'Planning, Design and Construction' stream will specifically cover





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by Axis for the new Liverpool Alder Hey Children's Hospital, the multi award winning AXIS Flo-Motion® manual sliding door employs a special low-resistance track system that can be operated with minimal effort using finger-tip control. For more information, go to the company's website or visit Stand G19.

the use of modular buildings in healthcare, discussing the experience gained at sites including Daisy Hill Hospital in Newry, where two laminar flow theatres, an endoscopy suite, and a 28-bed recovery facility were installed by the McAvoy Group "in minimum time, to maximum quality, and with minimum risk". The practicalities, procurement and funding of this project will be discussed by Sean McKeever of Ecofund, who will explain the benefits of working with modular installations in terms of minimising disruption to clinical activity, ensuring speedier completion and greater control. He will also highlight modular buildings' potential to relieve the pressures on existing estates.

Conference director Victoria Emerton said: "To make this year's conference sessions more accessible and affordable to NHS delegates, the sessions have been

divided into 18 hour-long modules, which can be booked individually by NHS staff for £70 each, with a maximum of two modules bookable per person over the two days. The aim is to enable NHS professionals to dip into specific conference sessions most relevant to them, and to allow them to benefit from the free-to-attend content in the six theatres in the exhibition hall.

'Something for everyone'

Emerton added: "To give the next generation of hospital engineers the opportunity to learn, discuss, and debate the key issues with their peers, there will be a new, free-to-attend 'Apprentices Today, Leaders Tomorrow' theatre in the exhibition hall, while apprentices can book to attend the conference for just £120. There really is something for everyone at Healthcare Estates this year."

For more information on Healthcare Estates 2017, taking place from 10-11 October at Manchester Central. For info, telephone 01892 518877, or visit www.healthcare-estates.com

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HEALTHCARE ESTATES STAND F21

Spirotech to showcase its water treatment



Spirotech, supplier of heating and cooling system protection, water conditioning and analysis, will be showcasing its range of solutions at *Health Estates 2017*. Spirotech products can ensure facilities managers best maintain their heating systems,

keeping them free of air and dirt, minimising any chance of a system breakdown. SpiroVent Superior S4 fully automated vacuum degasser causes almost all free air, microbubbles and dissolved gasses to be expelled from a heating or cooling system, meaning that the chance of any corrosive activity within the system is eliminated.

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HEALTHCARE ESTATES STAND F8

100% Design: the innovation showcase



UK's largest design trade show returns to Olympia London on 20-23 September to dazzle with a global line-up of exhibitors and speakers united under the theme of 'Elements'

Now in its 23rd year, 100% Design is the commercial cornerstone of the London Design Festival, showcasing leading national and international brands, manufacturers and designers across five design districts: Design and Build, Interiors, Workplace, Kitchens & Bathrooms and Emerging Brands.

It remains the only design show in the UK with a dedicated section for Design & Build, catered for the architecture, construction and design community. Also the largest area of the show, it features a materials showcase, alongside the latest architectural innovations, and technological advancements, presented by prominent brands and suppliers. Many will launch new products and ranges at Olympia.

International exhibitors for 2017 include Sky-Frame, a world-leading Swiss sliding window system manufacturer

National & global presence

International exhibitors for 2017 include Sky-Frame, a world-leading Swiss sliding window system manufacturer, who will be launching their new Sky-Frame In-line support post, and Spanish building technology pioneers Robot Smart Buildings, whose latest innovation is the use of Gorilla Glass as a control panel for room functions such as lighting, climate, access, and other features.

UK-based exhibitors include rainscreen

cladding manufacturer Domus Facades, who will launch a new support system at 100% Design, and London-based commercial floor and wall tile supplier Grestec Tiles, which is displaying its Diesel Living collaboration which explores five moods with aged fabrics, ceramic tiles and glass. Responding to a growing demand for homes and buildings that demonstrate harmony with the natural world, green systems specialist Mobilane UK is also presenting a range of living walls.

Exhibiting for the first time at 100% Design, Interwall Flooring will present its unique Timbertherm wooden flooring, which incorporates a smart underfloor heating system, alongside other new products. They are joined by leading Italian electric power solution developer Vimar Spa, who will be showcasing their new "total look" Eikon control plates at the show.

Across the hall from Design & Build, Interiors is the longest running section at 100% Design, presenting prestigious international brands with products ranging from furniture and lighting to fabrics and accessories. This year Mullan Lighting will launch a new range of lights for hotels and contract furniture supplier Andy Thornton will launch new workstations, hospitality furniture and decorative lighting.

Also nearby is Emerging Brands, a dedicated platform for the freshest new ideas, reflecting the show's role as the launchpad for design world stalwarts such as Ella Doran, Tom Dixon and Barber Osgerby. Joining in 2017 is Odddot, who will launch new furniture and lighting products, and TMI Laura Itkonen, who will launch several new wall art products.



LAUNCH PAD

Many exhibitors will launch new products and ranges at the show



DESIGN & BUILD

100% Design is claimed to be the only design show in the UK with a section dedicated to Design & Build

‘Elements’ in focus

Every year, 100% Design adopts a theme, which is reflected across its installations, features, talks programmes and show design. This year’s theme is ‘Elements’, which considers everything from design essentials to the component parts that make up a product. Design journalist and editor of the London Design Guide, Max Fraser, has been appointed as the show’s content editor for 2017, producing features and installations inspired by the theme and contributing to the talks programme.

This year’s seminar programme also addresses areas of innovation and inspiration in architecture, such as ‘Design for Wellbeing’ and ‘New Tech Frontiers’, as well as challenges faced by the industry. From social housing to new public buildings there is more scrutiny than ever

on the role that architects play in creating spaces that respond to diverse needs and deliver quality and good design for all. A session titled “Building for Everyone”, chaired by Icon magazine, will see leading architects Alex Mowat and Adam Khan discuss how their practices respond to these issues.

With hundreds of new product launches and a professional development and networking programme, 100% Design has been designed to provide an unrivalled business experience for architects and construction specialists. 27,000 professionals with a combined spending power in excess of £3.9bn visit the show each year making it a must see trade show for architects and designers. Architects are advised to make sure that the show is at the top of their itinerary for the London Design Festival.

For more information on 100% Design, which takes place from 20-23 September at Olympia, London, please visit www.100percentdesign.co.uk

Mapei exhibiting at 100% Design



Mapei will be exhibiting at 100% Design fair taking place at Olympia London. Mapei experts will be on hand to provide information about Mapei's highly aesthetic products. With over 500 possible Kerapoxy Design Mapegitter combinations, creating a unique look for each project has never been easier. Mapei's metallic coloured Mapegitter is mixed with Kerapoxy Design to form a sparkly metallic grouting mortar suitable for all types of tiles. Over 50 grout colours with over 40 matching silicone sealants have been unveiled by Mapei during 2017.

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100% DESIGN STAND D112

New brick slip range at 100% Design



From 20-23 September at the Olympia London, Imperial Bricks will showcase its newly expanded range of handmade, wirecut and pressed bricks in imperial and metric sizing at 100% Design. Imperial's brick slips or 'brick tiles' will also be on display, which can be used to create a decorative internal feature or clad a building externally. Brick slips are suitable for both domestic or commercial projects, removing the need for bricklayers and saving time. The slips can be used in both traditional and contemporary architecture for a stunning, high-end finish.

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100% DESIGN STAND D434

New Abstract range at 100% Design



tp24, will be showcasing their unique Abstract range of linear LED light fittings on Stand L115 at 100% Design, at Olympia, London. A selection of base frames, including Flush frames are available, which are ideal for low ceiling and a choice of suspension heads for multiple arm connections which are all fully adjustable. Pendant fittings enable the arms/bulbs to be fixed to either a horizontal or vertical body fixing, whilst the wall plates for Abstract are suitable for all locations, including into plasterboard with tp24's chrome finish surface back box option.

info@tp24.com

100% DESIGN STAND L115

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 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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Vicaima's inspired doors and wall panels on display at stands D242 and D253

Interior door and decorative wall panel specialist Vicaima, make their first ever appearance at 100% Design 2017 in a big way and one which is sure to spark plenty of interest. Spanning the main access route through the Design and Build hall and covering 76m², Vicaima have two large stands displaying a wide array of original and innovative design ideas. Most of their new models and finishes will be making their inaugural appearance at this event, thus providing specifiers with real inspiration for their next project.

With a reputation for creativity and product performance in everything, Vicaima are one of the leading European manufacturers of interior door and doorset products. Their offering includes an extensive range of veneered, laminate and foil finishes, together with certified performance characteristics which encompass fire, security and acoustics, meaning Vicaima are able to satisfy a multitude of project sectors. Well known



within the discerning residential, commercial and leisure markets, Vicaima product solutions can satisfy some of the most demanding locations.

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of décor elements to realise a chosen theme into wall panels, integrated door systems, displays and furniture, untethering creative flair and removing the boundaries to realising unique concepts.

For a taste of Vicaima's design flair and an opportunity to experience the very best in doors and decorative wall panel's visit stands D242 and D253 or explore the website.

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100% DESIGN STAND D242 & D253

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Wallbarn to showcase range of rooftop solutions at 100% Design

Wallbarn is delighted to be exhibiting at the show this year. As specialists in design-led solutions for rooftop living, they will be showcasing three key products: the M-Tray®, their pre-grown modular green roof solution; iDecking, a revolutionary system for installing quality composite & tropical hardwood decking; as well as their range of Adjustable Support Pedestals for suspended paving and timber decking, the most extensive in the UK.



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100% DESIGN STAND D209



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0113 2085 500 www.sfsintec.co.uk

Formica Group introduces BIM objects



Formica Group, the original inventor of High Pressure Laminate, has launched a suite of BIM objects to aid architects, designers and contractors. The new Formica Group BIM components will enable specifiers to create 3D models incorporating product specs and manufacturer information as well as giving clients the opportunity to visualise what their projects will look like. Formica Group's BIM components are available from the Formica website and numerous BIM libraries. They include objects for VIVIX® external cladding as a rainscreen system and libraries for interior materials.

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Easy-to-brand site hoarding



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Waterproofing for the ages

For decades, mastic asphalt has proved its credentials as an underground waterproofing membrane that can last a lifetime, as the Mastic Asphalt Council explains



A long-lasting material, mastic asphalt has stood the test of time proving its quality as waterproofing membrane for preventing moisture penetration

The fluctuations of the water table – and the devastating effects high water tables can have in flood risk areas – is something known to many, but it's important to take preventative measures to avoid water ingress. If a building is in an area susceptible to groundwater flooding, it's vital that it is protected from the ground up – and the best defence possible can be provided by one of the world's most traditional materials – mastic asphalt.

Floodwater can take time to build-up but when it rises, the water table in the ground surrounding a building can create hydrostatic water pressure. This water pressure is exerted on the floor and walls of the basement and can lead to water penetration through cracks, joints and structural weaknesses in the basement.

Without a tried and tested tanking system this water ingress can then lead to

mould, decay, structural problems and other damp-related issues.

Tried and tested

Even the smallest leaks can lead to big problems, which is why it's critical that specifiers choose a high performance solution that saves time, money and hassle. A long-lasting material, mastic asphalt has stood the test of time proving its quality as waterproofing membrane for preventing moisture penetration in many applications whether for roofing, paving or tanking.

To this day, large areas of London including the Houses of Parliament rely on mastic asphalt for protection against rising groundwater levels. This proven tanking system provides a continuous waterproofing lining to safeguard walls, floors and foundations. Unlike alternative products

and materials, mastic asphalt does not degrade and remains a reliable, low maintenance waterproofing solution throughout a building's design life.

Application in practice

It's always been a British holiday haven, but the county of Cornwall is not immune to floods, tidal surges and saturated ground, making it all the more critical that buildings are adequately protected.

Such was the case during the construction of two luxury residential developments on a sloping site in Cornwall, when the contractor required a tanking solution with long-term durability for highly effective waterproofing protection. In order to seal the reinforced concrete retaining walls and floor slab at the site overlooking the beach in Polzeath, specialist contractor Premier Mastic Asphalt used 360 m² of mastic asphalt to protect the building against aggressive ground conditions.

Jason Shields, partner at Premier Mastic Asphalt, comments on the project: "Due to the level of the land, the contractor understood that mastic asphalt was the best product to use in order to create a watertight barrier. The application went

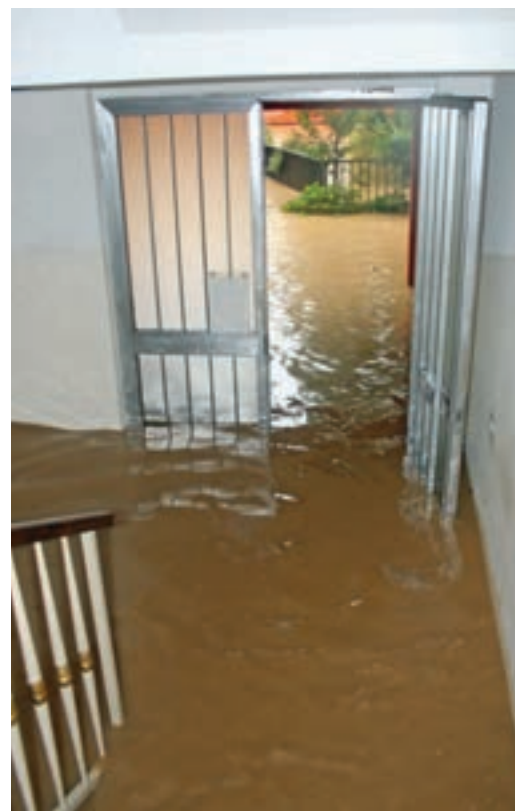
extremely well, with the only challenge being the inclement winter weather and the fact the company's mixer and materials had to be lifted in."

That wasn't the first time his company applied mastic asphalt for tanking in the area – in fact, it has become a commonly used solution on a number of high-specification housing schemes across the region, as Shields explains. "Having installed mastic asphalt tanking in various locations all over the south west, we get a good sense of satisfaction knowing that we have provided and installed a well proven, traditional product," he says.

Future-proofing

Flooding issues caused by heavy rain, high tides and swollen rivers will continue to require management as extreme weather across the UK becomes the norm. But with correctly-designed houses and commercial properties protected by mastic asphalt, we can ensure that flooding caused by rising water table levels is history.

The Mastic Asphalt Council is the trade association for the UK mastic asphalt industry



Quik Drive kicks up a gear



Simpson Strong-Tie is boosting support for the world's most advanced collated screw system: "Quik Drive" with the appointment of a new Sales Manager. Fixings Industry veteran and now Quik Drive aficionado: Phil Chambers explains: "The Quik Drive system has been on my radar for some time, it's not just fast, it's really (really) simple to use. It's great to see the lights go on in people's mind when they give it a try, so for me it's a thrill to join the team behind it and to spend time with people from the many different industries that can make great use of the Quik Drive system." In addition to Phil conducting Quik Drive demonstrations throughout the UK, an all-new Quik Drive catalogue has been released this summer. The latest edition features additional Quik Drive equipment and collated screws introduced during 2017. The catalogue has also received a design revamp to make it as easy to use as the Quik Drive system itself, with better visuals and more 'how to' guidance. For more information to book a test drive, visit the Simpson Strong-Tie website.

01827 255600 www.strongtie.co.uk

StoCretec solutions save time and money



StoCretec, a market leader in concrete repair and protection has launched three innovative new products into the UK market. StoCrete SM, StoCrete SM P and StoCrete RM F offer quick, proven and reliable solutions which save both time and money for a wide range of concrete repairs. The three new products form part of the wider StoCretec range of

concrete solutions which have recently been introduced to the UK for the first time. StoCretec has over 40 years' experience in this field, and the full range of systems provide solutions for any type of project.

0141 892 8000 www.sto.co.uk/stocretec

Roofshield chosen for golf centre extension



Roofshield, the unique vapour and air permeable pitched roof underlay from A. Proctor Group has been chosen as part of a new golf centre extension at Carnoustie Golf Links. The new building will include a state-of-the-art golf practice and training facility. Roofshield's patented Spunbond Meltblown Spunbond structure allows high levels of airflow, in addition to the transport of moisture vapour, making the formation of condensation in the roof space virtually impossible. It has an extremely high degree of vapour permeability, as well as air permeability, so will still perform in conditions in which air tight alternatives will not.

01250 872261 www.proctorgroup.com

NRA and Galliford Try utilise Icopal



Constructed by Galliford Try for The ExtraCare Charitable Trust the new Longbridge Retirement Village will provide 260 high quality apartments and has been given the long term weather protection of Anderson Profiles XL Plus BUFR flat roofing system; part of the Icopal portfolio of products. The Icopal system included a 120mm thickness of the manufacturer's Thermazone Torch-on insulation to achieve a U-value of 0.18 W/m²K to comply with Building Regulations and provide residents with a warm and comfortable living environment.

0161 865 4444 www.icopal.co.uk

Cembrit BBA certified slates



Westerland and Moorland, BBA certified fibre cement slates from Cembrit, have helped achieve a Code for Sustainable Homes and a BREEAM 'Very Good' rating for a newly built £30 million retirement village in Oxfordshire. Alongside their environmentally friendly manufacturing process, Cembrit's Westerland and Moorland slates have a surface texture and dressed edge similar to that of natural slate. However, unlike natural slate they do not need grading and sorting prior to installation, so save valuable time on site.

sales@cembrit.co.uk

Three is the magic number



Senior Architectural Systems has widened the appeal of its popular PURE[®] SLIDE aluminium doors even further with the launch of a new triple track option. Senior's PURE[®] SLIDE aluminium doors are both easy to manufacture using existing tools and cleverly designed to be simple to adjust and install. Available in a full range of standard RAL colours, with many pre-powder coated profiles for the single and double track options now available in stock for even faster delivery, Senior's PURE[®] aluminium door portfolio also includes the PURE[®] FOLD range of single swing, double swing and folding sliding doors.

www.seniorarchitectural.co.uk/puredoor

Sto solution ensures a warm welcome



A complete external wall insulation solution from Sto is now helping residents at a new hotel. The solution, which includes external wall insulation, render and a special heat-reflecting facade paint, has been installed at the Park Regis Hotel in Birmingham. As the hotel's exterior appearance uses a striking monochrome colour scheme, the render was then overpainted with Sto's unique StoColor X-black facade paint, in a dark grey colour. StoColor X-black allows the creation of dark colour render finishes that would be highly impractical using conventional alternatives.

0141892 8000 www.sto.co.uk

Feeling better in Manchester



The £65 million Spire Manchester Hospital, located in Didsbury, is a new flagship hospital which is equipped with cutting-edge building technology, including a Levolux solar shading and screening solution. Arranged across four floors, the hospital incorporates some of the most up-to-date medical facilities available, including an endoscopy unit, six operating theatres and a conference suite. A key consideration for the design team was the sustainability of the scheme. It was important to minimise energy consumption and the CO₂ emissions generated by the building. As a world-leading solar shading and screening specialist, Levulux was invited to develop a custom solution. The solar shading solution comprises a combination of horizontal and vertical Timber Fins and the Infiniti Fin system, applied externally on the outer elevations and within the building's courtyard area. Timber Fins, engineered from Western Red Cedar, have been used on the project with variations in size, profile and orientation. This type of timber is highly recommended for external applications as the timber is relatively stable and gives a clean and consistent appearance.

info@levolux.com

Innovative roofing for coastal eco-house



For a contemporary self-build eco-house, constructed in the grounds of a listed building, Catnic's SSR² Standing Seam Roofing and Cladding system has provided a sustainable, aesthetically complementary and high performance roofing solution for the harsh Scottish coastal location. Finished in an Anthracite shade, 66m² of the Catnic SSR² Standing Seam Roofing and Cladding system has been installed to a joisted roof. Pitched to create a double height open plan living area, it provides a striking visual contrast to the flat roof EPDM aluminium coated finish used elsewhere.

0292 033 7900 www.catnic.com

Catnic raises the roof on Farm House



Manor Farm House is a Grade II listed building in Monmouthshire. Having recently been converted from dilapidated stables into two new residential dwellings – the project has benefitted from Catnic's lightweight, durable and quick to install SSR² Roofing and Cladding system. Specified by AVArchitecture, the system was used to create a unique lean-to structure. With the SSR² Roofing and Cladding system from Catnic, the material quality and colour palette blends naturally with the surrounding environment and reflects the existing building well, yet also helps to achieve the contemporary aesthetics.

0292 033 7900 www.catnic.com

Behind the secret fix

Panel Systems unravels how recent technological advancements became the catalyst for uninterrupted exteriors, and where this trend is heading

Newness has always attracted the eye, which is why buildings are often designed with a contemporary aesthetic. There is an assumption that contemporary buildings are more attractive and therefore perceived as more valuable by clients, tenants or investors. It is one of the reasons why modern panel systems that create sheer, smooth facades have grown in popularity in recent years. The introduction of modern finishes such as painted glass, lacquers and patinations have all accentuated this aesthetic, creating buildings where people want to live and work.

Across the UK, an increasing number of buildings are sporting facades and exteriors that are unhindered by fixings. These sheer facades have been made possible due to innovation in concealed fixing systems, or what is more commonly known as 'secret fix' methods. These methods of fixing panels to the exterior of a building in a discrete way are becoming increasingly popular due to the contemporary trends in architecture.

Types of fix

There are a number of different secret fix methods, but deciding on the actual system that is suitable depends on the facade and material. Firstly, mechanical secret fix methods consist of a rigid aluminium rail system behind the panels, which is anchored to the main structure of the building. This means individual panels can be 'hung' from this system, with advances in manufacturing allowing this to be done via recessed holes machined to the rear of the panels. This type of fixing allows individual panels to be removed, providing access to services located behind. Many clients prefer this because it can be cheaper and less disruptive compared to having to access services from the inside of an already occupied building.

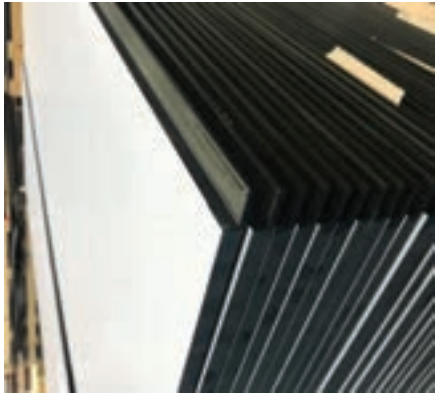
An alternative to a secret fix system for those looking to achieve that 'sheer'



aesthetic is an adhesive fix method. That method is more cost effective than mechanical secret fix and involves primers and adhesives being applied to a timber or aluminium framing system. Despite being a cost effective alternative, it doesn't allow individual panels to be removed, unlike the secret fix approach. There are further limitations, as the adhesive can often only be used within temperatures ranges of 5°C to 35°C and there are also restrictions on air humidity, of up to 75 per cent. Conversely, mechanical secret fix can be considered a modern method of construction as it can be fitted in a wider range of site conditions.

Recently, a mechanical secret fix system enabled a seamless facade to be created for a hospital on the south coast of England. The specified cladding material was

This type of fixing allows individual panels to be removed, thereby providing easy access to services located behind



supplied with profiled horizontal edges that were fitted onto continuous aluminium rails.

The panel edges were designed to mask the aluminium profiles used to install the panels, as part of enhancing the aesthetics of the building. The secret fix system used was ideally suited to projects where quick installation of large, uninterrupted facade surfaces was required. There was also a range of specialist fixing systems to support other types of facade material that create the same contemporary seamless aesthetic.

Accentuating exterior features

Sometimes seamless facades are not required, for example, where the designer wishes to make a feature of shadow lines or accentuate an elongated aspect. In these instances, face fix, also known as through fix or visible fix, can be used. The panels in this type of installation are usually attached to a timber batten or aluminium rails using screws or rivets. On many exteriors, this is a perfectly adequate fixing method; the only time when it wouldn't be suitable is when an uninterrupted aesthetic is required.

Mechanical secret fix methods allow panels to be 'hung' from an aluminium rail system through recessed holes machined to the rear of the panels

As the trend towards sheer, smooth facades looks set to continue, what does this mean for cladding specification? Traditionally, only selected cladding materials could be used to achieve this effect – such as aluminium or glass. However, innovation in fixing systems means that seamless facades are possible with an ever increasing range of materials. When these are specified in the form of a composite panel, it meets the requirements of modern methods while reducing installation times on site. It is anticipated that the demand for sheer facades would continue to drive innovation in secret fix methods, opening up even more opportunities for the contemporary buildings of the future.



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X-Wood cladding creates superb refurbishment



Freefoam Building Products are proud to release a new case study featuring the PVC foiled X-Wood cladding range. This beautiful property in rural Leicestershire originally featured white wood windows and a wood clad annex. The present homeowners decided to update the windows and refurbish the annex area to create an easy to maintain, long lasting facade that met the same high standards as their home. Online research led them to Freefoam and the X-Wood cladding range. It's easy wipe clean surface and high quality performance qualities matched the homeowner's selection criteria exactly. The X-Wood cladding range is an innovative PVC-U exterior cladding that looks and handles like wood but without all the usual maintenance issues associated with timber with a subtle woodgrain finish designed to bring a refreshing new look to the exterior of any refurbishment or new build project. The range is available in a choice of six contemporary colours to create an attractive finish. From subtle White, Cream and Greyed Cedar to traditional Oak and more dramatic Anthracite Grey and Wine Red all with an impressive ten-year guarantee.

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Kalwall® puts on a show



Kalwall® translucent cladding has been extensively used to clad the multi-million pound Exeter Road leisure development in Bournemouth, designed by architects Broadway Malyan. Almost 1,000 square metres of Kalwall have been used in this bold scheme which has transformed a former bus station into a 10 screen multiplex cinema, café, restaurant and retail complex. Recognised as a key material in this project, the translucent cladding encapsulates the building across all nine elevations and encloses the external fire escapes. At night the cladding creates a warm, inviting and ethereal glow proving a beacon for visitors while mitigating any issues with light pollution to the surrounding residential and commercial buildings. Kalwall is frequently specified for this type of prestige project where high-end performance and quality need to be coupled with aesthetics, practicality and a long life-cycle. Not only does Kalwall provide a neat and cost effective solution but it also offers complete line-of-sight protection, maintaining privacy for building occupants while bathing the interior with diffused daylighting regardless of the weather.

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Color-changing ALUCOBOND® PLUS used to create hotel's three-dimensional window frames



© Richard Gooding



© Richard Gooding

The redevelopment of Shubette House, at 5 Olympic Way, Wembley offers a unique opportunity to deliver a new mixed use development of the highest quality, delivering much needed housing and amenity provision to the area and presenting a genuine catalyst for future development of the area.

This landmark, innovative, mixed use development sits at a prominent junction adjacent to Olympic Way, the main pedestrian route connecting Wembley Station and Stadium. On site and nearing completion, the scheme is the second tallest modular building in London, designed around a central courtyard with a 20 storey residential tower rising from a 7 storey block of housing on the southern boundary. To the west, fronting Olympic Way, is a 12 storey block with retail and a 237 room hotel. A lower 4 storey wing returns along the northern boundary to complete the central courtyard.

Constructed in an L-shape, the buildings are divided into a hospitality and residential space, although there is additional space for commercial and leisure activities at the ground level. Affordable housing solutions company, Network Housing Group, owns the residential portion of the building. The hotel, facing Olympic Way, is owned by international hospitality chain Novotel.

In 1999 planning was granted to demolish the former clothing warehouse and replace it with a large hotel development. This was subsequently deemed unviable and the client approached HTA to design a new mixed use,

residential led scheme. After a year of collaboration with Brent Council the development was presented to the GLA in May 2008 and again in October 2008, where it was positively received. The planning application was submitted in late 2008 with permission granted in June 2009.

Aside from its innovative volumetric construction credentials, the project is significant because as a key first piece of the masterplan to be delivered it sets the standard for the regeneration of Olympic Way. Furthermore, it provides an exemplar model for mixed use development; achieved through a carefully considered juxtaposition of uses, a blend of public vs. private space and access, and a successful balancing of the need for privacy, security and shelter against the need for open aspect, views, and increased footfall for retail/commercial offer. The new appearance of Olympic Way: a rear-ventilated ALUCOBOND® spectra Cupral facade now features an eye-catching metallic shimmer. 1,100m² of ALUCOBOND® panels envelop the building.

The off-site manufacturer of the modular designs, Vision Modular Systems (VMS), constructed prefabricated modules that were delivered by crane at predetermined times to the site. Delivering and assembling roughly eight modules a day, each module was craned into position. However, the exterior cladding and roofing systems were installed on site.

Showcased as protruding window boxes, ALUCOBOND® PLUS spectra Cupral was chosen for the exterior design of the 237-

room hotel. Spectra is an ALUCOBOND® finish series known for its natural luster and ability to change color based on focal viewpoint and natural light. The versatility and constantly changing nature of the cladding material allows for a playful exterior design.

Paul Herbert, Specification Manager:
07584 680263

Richard Geater, Sales Manager:
07584 680262

Richard Clough, Business Development Manager:
07760 884369

www.alucobond.com

PROJECT DETAILS

Project: ParkInn Wembley, London

Material: ALUCOBOND® PLUS
Surface/Colour: spectra Cupral

Construction Type:
Cassettes – special construction

Building Owner:
Pinnacle Developments Ltd

Planning (Architect):
HTA Design LLP

Fabricator/Installer:
Booth Muirie/Harley

Year of construction: 2012/2013

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Contemporary and traditional architecture



Zinc is now commonly used to transform buildings of little architectural value. Reopened after a build programme which took just over a year, the remodelled British Golf Museum at St Andrews now appears as a pavilion with a low pitch roof and upper floor facade in standing seam QUARTZ-ZINC® and ANTHRA-ZINC® STRAT finishes. Richard Murphy Architects' added an additional floor to provide an 80-seat café with views towards the first tee, fairway and stunning West Sands beach. It combines high functionality and design values. For more information please contact VMZINC.

01992 822288 www.v zinc.co.uk

Contemporary contrast for old farm



The clever use of Catnic's SSR² Standing Seam Roofing and Cladding system has created a stunning roof finish for a contemporary new build extension. For the roofing, the designers looked for a modern contrast to create a striking complement.

"We were introduced to the Catnic SSR² Standing Seam Roofing and Cladding system and it appealed to us as a viable alternative to traditional sheet lead or zinc as a roof finish. It has provided a sleek finish; one that works both with the traditional finishes and the more contemporary finishes."

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Accoya®, the modified, highly durable and dimensionally stable certified timber cladding – is available from all eight of James Latham's timber depots. Created from sustainable sourced wood and completely non-toxic, Accoya is a revolution in wood technology. And with TRADA approval for the 15mm profile when used as an external cladding product, it's the perfect solution for exterior cladding, siding and facades where the wider board offers numerous features and benefits including enhanced aesthetics, less frequent maintenance, dimensional stability, durability and improved insulation values. Justin Hayward, James Latham's Technical Timber Sales Development Manager for Accoya said, "When it comes to cladding, Accoya ticks all the boxes and is the perfect solution for many exterior applications which were once only feasible with non-sustainable material. Use of the wider cladding boards is allowed by the improved dimensional stability, cladding joints do not open, tolerances remain tight and twist is prevented. In addition, the wood's natural appearance is retained for longer, thanks to the superior resistance to the effects of UV exposure."

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Master and apprentice



Ayrshire glazing company and Independent Network member Andrew Wright Windows has put 18 fabricators through their Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs), in a year that also sees the company celebrate 80 years of trading. The family-run company is already one of the most prominent employers in Irvine and the surrounding areas, with almost 100 employees across its head office, showroom and manufacturing plants. Each year Andrew Wright supports a growing number of modern apprentices through levels two and three SVQ coursework and exams.

01282 473170 www.inveka.co.uk

Wise-Up to Smart Buildings



GEZE UK's smart-thinking, innovation and latest system solutions will be showcased at the Smart Buildings Show at the Barbican, London. The only company to offer both door and window automation, GEZE UK will demonstrate how its products can transform

buildings into 'Smart Buildings', more economical for owners and more functional for occupiers over the building lifecycle. The new interface module IO 420 allows automatic door systems, window technology and smoke and heat extraction systems to be integrated into buildings via the BACnet communication standard.

01543 443000 www.geze.co.uk

School building puts Catnic top of the class



After considering traditional standing seam metal roof options, the design team for a new school building in Norwich specified Catnic's steel SSR² Standing Seam Roofing and Cladding system.

The system proved fast to install and has created a contemporary, low maintenance roof that offers high thermal performance, impressing the design and construction team. A cost-effective alternative to traditional copper and zinc standing seam roof systems, the SSR² system is manufactured to meet all relevant legislation, including load bearing for wind speed and weather tightness.

0292 033 7900 www.catnic.com

G-SMATT targets architects



G-SMATT Europe will be bringing the benefits of its unique, smart glass solution to the architectural and city planning audiences as well as the events industry. The small LEDs that provide the media capability are placed at regular intervals, 20mm on the

monochromatic product up to 90mm on the colour and even the colour product will go down to about 40mm, depending on the specification. This is considerably less than other current alternatives such as an overlay or frame structure which can give the impression of being in a cage when viewed by the building's occupants.

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Windows from Crittall-Fendor that can be left open for natural ventilation but which slam shut automatically in the event of a blast can enhance the working environment in hazardous sites without compromising safety. The company's BlastLine SlamShut window has a restricted opening that allows natural ventilation and also features as standard thermally enhanced glass that contributes towards energy efficiency. In the event of an explosion the opening vent is slammed closed by blast pressure. The window is designed to be low maintenance, is finished in an anti-corrosive paint system, and features an integrated water drainage system. It is fitted with the SlamShut latch and locking system for security and can be supplied with an energy efficient coating. Different fire rated options are available and glazing can be single, double, triple, security or acoustic.

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New Independent Network member



North Lakes NLG Window Systems has been quick to take full advantage of its **Independent Network** membership, having joined the pioneering installer support organisation just six months ago. Recently rebranded from Network

VEKA, Independent Network recognised North Lakes with one of two 'Best New Member' awards at its annual Members' Weekend. The Penrith-based company has been full of praise for the benefits that membership has brought, such as training; marketing support and heightened customer confidence.

01282 473170 www.inveka.co.uk

Senior's successful delivery



The flagship distribution centre for Trilanco, has benefited from an attractive fenestration package from **Senior Architectural Systems**. The slim sightlines of Senior's thermally-efficient SF52 aluminium curtain walling have

helped to maximise the flow of natural light into the building and offer an attractive contrast to the grey cladding used on the other elevations. Providing daylighting for the offices within the centre, the fenestration package also includes Senior's SPW600e aluminium windows and Senior's SPW501 aluminium doors, which are ideally suited for high traffic commercial applications.

www.seniorarchitectural.co.uk



Machinery upgrade for Garador

One of Britain's leading garage door manufacturers **Garador** has recently invested heavily in new production machinery and equipment. Garador offers a full range of garage doors, including Up & Over, Sectional, Roller and Side Hinged garage doors. Expertly engineered and available in a selection of designs and colours, as well as being easy to fit and maintain, it is no wonder Garador's garage doors are one of the UK's market leaders. In the last three years the company has invested over £2 million in production technology together with other enhancements for its Chevron, Salisbury and Sutton steel Up and Over doors. These developments will help to ensure a long-lasting garage door delivered at a reasonable price. The new machinery and equipment has been fully tested and is now fully in operation at Garador's state of the art factory in Somerset.

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Kingspan Light + Air has helped to transform two outdated warehouses in Stockton-on-Tees into bright, modern workplaces with a specification combining Kingspan Day-Lite Kapture rooflights and Kingspan Smart-Lite Kite lighting – delivering projected lighting

cost savings of over £13,000 per annum. The modular design of the lights allowed them to be configured to each warehouse's exact requirements whilst their high quality LED's ensured excellent durability. To further reduce energy consumption, occupancy and daylight harvesting controls were also installed.

01352 716100 www.kingspanlightandair.com

Architects Datafile website



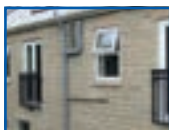
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PILKINGTON

Schöck and cross-laminated timber feature at Hoxton cinema

The neglected Hoxton Cinema in East London is undergoing a transformation, with plans for a replica of the original 1914 Gaumont facade to be reconstructed. Behind it will be a development of black-brick one, two and three bedroom apartments – and in the basement a new three-screen arthouse cinema.

The design consists of two distinct elements. A concrete ground level to accommodate the cinema and an acoustically insulated cross-laminated timber (CLT) upper residential element. The balconies on the western elevation are of steel construction; and unusually the requirement here is to connect the balconies to the CLT. Cross-laminated timber performs well thermally, but the steel cantilever penetrates the insulation layer and it is important to minimise the risk of any thermal bridging problems at this point.

One of the leading solutions for preventing thermal bridging involving practically any cantilever connectivity, is the Schöck Isokorb range. It is the type KST – usually for steel-to-steel connections – which has been cleverly integrated here. A right angle steel retaining plate has been fixed to the CLT outer wall and floor using heavy duty screws. The inner face of the Isokorb is then bolted to the retaining plate and the steel balcony connected to the outer face of the module. The result is a more rigid structure and the prevention of increased heat loss or, just as importantly, condensation. Particularly where it might occur under the steel retaining plates at the connectivity points with the CLT.

The Schöck Isokorb range meets full compliance with all relevant UK building regulations, the highest standards of BBA Certification and offers LABC Registration.

01865 290 890 www.schoeck.co.uk



MAIN PROJECT TEAM:

Architects: Waugh Thistleton
Cross-laminated panel fabricators: KLH UK Ltd
Principal Contractor: Simply UK
Structural Thermal Breaks: Schöck Ltd



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By the seaside with Kingspan Kooltherm



The premium performance of the Kingspan Kooltherm K108 Cavity Wall Board has led to its specification on a new residential development in Hendy, Swansea, helping the project to meet its thermal performance

requirements with a slim construction build up. Part of Kingspan's new Kooltherm K100 range, Kingspan K108 Cavity Board features a fibre-free phenolic core with an outstanding thermal conductivity of 0.018 W/m.K. This excellent performance enables housebuilders to meet or exceed target external wall U-values, without encroaching on living space or moving away from preferred cavity sizes.

01544 387 384 www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk

Kingspan TEK is fit for a King



Holiday-home owners at Haggerston Castle Holiday Park will be relaxing in style this summer at the Park's new owners' lounge, constructed from the Kingspan TEK Building System of Structural Insulated Panels. Kingspan TEK Building

System formed both the walls and roof of the lounge. The insulated core of Kingspan TEK Building System panels can allow them to achieve U-values of 0.20 W/m².K and below. Both the Kingspan TEK Cladding Panel and Kingspan TEK Building System panels are available in a 172mm thickness, delivering U-values of 0.17 W/m².K.

01544 387 384 www.kingspantek.co.uk

MAC Metalcraft celebrate 30 years



This year MAC Metalcraft Ltd celebrates 30 years, founded in 1987 the role of the company then was to supply solid fuel fire parts to the industry. The company now manufactures Granite, Slate, Marble, Stone and Tiled Hearths and Inglenook Chambers specifically for use in solid fuel applications.

Its Trade Counter and Retail showroom "FIREPARTS LTD", offer a comprehensive range of Fireplaces, Stoves, Flue Systems and Fireside accessories along with a full range of installation and maintenance products.

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Rural charm without the harm

Solid fuel stoves are gaining in popularity in urban areas, but do they contribute to pollution? Phil Lowe of Schiedel Chimney Systems tackles some misconceptions



Modern clean-burning stoves can cut emissions by up to 90 per cent

Despite the wide variety of heating systems available today, nothing quite compares to the distinct atmosphere and warm ambience created by a solid fuel stove.

Their timeless appeal is fostered by the simple fact that these appliances generate a different kind of heat, one which is more palpable than that produced by gas-fired, oil or electric heating. Offering a real semblance of rural charm in urban settings, stoves are becoming increasingly popular in such areas.

This popularity is further fuelled by the appliances' contribution to minimising energy bills, since net solid fuel prices are lower and more stable than the cost of electricity, oil heating or natural gas. Securing lower energy bills would in addition mean a property equipped with a stove could benefit from higher market value.

All this has contributed to tackling the scepticism towards certain types of solid

fuel stoves. As demonstrated by the findings of a 2016 government survey, the use of wood as a heating fuel has risen three times higher than previously estimated. The 'Domestic Wood Use Survey' revealed that 52 per cent of woodburning appliances are stoves, and 40 per cent are open fires. The average weekly usage for a woodburning stove is 27 hours, down to seven hours in London.

The survey also showed that an astonishing 70 per cent of woodburning appliances in London are open fires – the worst way to burn wood because of the material's low heat generation and high CO₂ and particulate emissions.

Myth busting

These figures help to explain the background behind potential concerns around using solid fuel stoves in urban areas. Since the Great Smog of 65 years ago, there has been strong emphasis placed on air quality and stoves are seen as likely



GREEN OPTION

Modern wood burners are considered to be a 'green option' because they are a form of renewable energy and can be highly efficient

culprits to urban air pollution, particularly in the form of particulate matter.

In fact, nothing could be further from the truth. Although smoke from woodburning is made up of a complex mixture of gases and fine particles, these are produced by incomplete burning. Modern clean-burning stoves can cut emissions by up to up to 90 per cent and generate 14 per cent less CO₂ than burning wood in an open fire. In fact, it has been estimated that the smoke escaping through London's chimneys contributes just a small proportion – around five per cent – of the city's particle pollution over the course of one year.

Modern wood burners, in particular, are considered by many to be a 'green' option because they are a form of renewable energy, and can be highly efficient. The Stove Industry Alliance (SIA) reckons that by 2020 wood heating could contribute to the Government's carbon reduction targets by 10 per cent, with the potential to produce 25 per cent of the domestic renewable heat energy target.

Exemptions

As so often, there are some caveats. For example, if your client opts for a solid fuel stove in a smoke-controlled area, then you must specify one of the exempt appliances on the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) approved list. There are different exemptions in force across the UK, so it is essential to consult the DEFRA website for more information;

fuels are also authorised separately in the different countries.

However, all this is a small price to pay for the benefits that solid fuel heating brings. Wood, incidentally, is not a smokeless fuel, but when burnt in a DEFRA-exempt stove, it meets the Department's air quality requirements.

Smoke control

Smoke control areas are designed to protect people from poor air quality. They are commonly used in urban areas to combat the negative health effects of chimney smoke.

Following the introduction of the Clean Air Act of 1956, local authorities were able to declare smoke control areas within their boundaries to control the emission of smoke, dust and fumes from residential and industrial properties in urban areas. Today, many large towns and cities are located in smoke control areas.

It's an offence – punishable by fines of up to £1000 – to use unauthorised fuel in a smoke control area unless it's used in an 'exempt' appliance. The most recent Clean Air Act, which dates back to 1993, contains specific legislation to address legal requirements such as the height of chimneys on trade and industrial premises, the operation of furnaces, problems caused by dark smoke, and the use of authorised fuels.

Phil Lowe is a training manager for Schiedel Chimney Systems

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Consort Claudgen launches panel heaters with digital heating controls



Consort's PLE panel heaters feature an electronic timer which offers a seven-day programme with up to three heating periods per day. The concealed digital controls located on the side of the heater include an easy-to-read display, four large control buttons with audible and tactile feedback and an electronic lock to prevent tampering with the controls. Users can also benefit from four different operating modes including a 15-minute Boost with temperature control to provide the maximum comfort quickly. These slimline heaters are easy to operate and have strengthened grilles to increase durability. They also feature a snap-on bracket on their wall mounting system which allows easy installation and dismantling for cleaning and decorating. All heaters have automatic safety cut-out and splash proof to IP24 for use in bathrooms and other damp areas. They operate at a very low noise level making them ideal for hotels, offices, bedrooms, kitchens, bathrooms, laundries and many other areas. A perfect choice for domestic or commercial property owners, specifiers and contractors who demand energy efficient, space saving and stylish heaters.

01646 692172 www.consortepl.com

DRU expands Maestro gas fire range with new XTU model



DRU has released a new addition to its Maestro collection of contemporary gas fires. Maestro 75XTU is an eye-catching three sided gas fire that can be installed with a false chimneybreast and stone hearth or as part of a room-dividing wall. It features the impressive DRU dynamic burner system, which generates exceptionally high and dense flames, together with the exclusive DRU Eco Wave app, allowing the owner to control the flame pattern and gas consumption from a tablet or smartphone. With the fire being constructed almost entirely from glass, its appeal is further enhanced by the use of Clear View non-reflective glass, which renders the glass almost invisible. The balanced flue system of Maestro 75XTU means that it can be located anywhere in proximity to an outside facing wall, making it one of the most versatile gas fires in the DRU range. The addition of the DRU PowerVent® extended and motorised flue system means that it can be installed in previously inaccessible locations, such as high-rise apartments, hotels, restaurants and much more. And with versions available in natural gas or LPG, it is compatible with urban or rural properties.

0161 793 8700 www.drufire.com

The Yorkshire stove



In ordinary stoves, air comes up beneath the fuel, so that smoke, heat and waste gases are thrown from the top of the fuel into the chimney. The Yorkshire from Dunsley Heat Ltd is different – air enters above the fuel, sweeping in front of the window, forcing smoke down into the hottest part of the fire and on into a refractory-lined 'afterburn' chamber. Highly turbulent air is introduced to the hot smoke, which ignites generating temperatures of up to 1,100°C. The result is not just near-zero smoke emission, but greatly improved efficiency, virtually instant controllability and a truly astonishing swirling flame pattern.

sales@dunsleyheat.co.uk

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stocked range of historically correct cast iron radiators delivered fully finished to site in five to 10 working days. Suitable for traditional or contemporary settings, Paladin radiators provide a superb focal point for any room. With prompt professional attention, your inspiration really can become a reality and typically well within budget as well.

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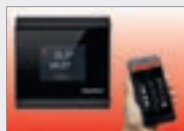
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Smart underfloor heating



The new Raychem SENZ range of responsive thermostats allows installers to optimise energy efficiency in floor heating systems. The technology is designed to offer homeowners an effective way to manage and monitor energy usage through an easy-to-use display and wifi-enabled app. Raychem's new

SENZ range is available with an innovative touchscreen functionality and wifi capability, allowing users to quickly respond to changing temperatures in the home and adjust their underfloor heating accordingly. The technology works through several pre-set programs.

senz.pentairthermal.com/en

Alpha of the Unvented Heating Industry

The OSO Hotwater Delta A range has received recognition for being at the forefront of design, OSO Hotwater are receiving recognition for the Delta A range of unvented cylinders.

The unmitigated success of the Dyson model revolutionised an everyday product such as the vacuum cleaner using a basic remit: redesign for efficiency and practicality is undeniable. Their success has been in creating a benchmark standard. Can this model be replicated by manufacturers in the Construction supply chain?

OSO Hotwater, the largest specialist manufacturer of unvented cylinders in Europe has continuously embraced the Dyson remit, and taken this further by making the most environmentally-friendly products in the heating industry.

Since inception in 1932 benchmark designs have been at the heart of our company ethos culminating in the manufacture of Delta A, the first entire range of unvented cylinders to be A-Rated. This has led to the Delta A design being the only unvented cylinder to be nominated for the Building Awards'

Innovative Product of the Year 2017.

Delta A cylinders use Vacuum Insulation Panels helping them to achieve their A-Rating. Traditional PUR insulation is less efficient, and as a consequence a greater amount is required to ensure a cylinder is A-Rated with the result being a larger product.

OSO Hotwater has always been a company of firsts. We were the first manufacturer to use Duplex steel, and the first to incorporate internal expansion. We also set the benchmark by using 100 per cent hydro-electric power in our manufacturing process.

Hence, we have been at the forefront of 'clean energy' design and manufacturing: Whilst competitors still use manual welding techniques OSO Hotwater's 100 per cent automated precision welding uses robots designed specifically for this job – design, efficiency, sustainability and longevity! OSO Hotwater will be exhibiting at U.K. Construction Week (10th-12th October) and at The National Self Build and Renovation Centre in Swindon.

01914820800 www.osohotwater.co.uk



Stylish & efficient electric heating from EHC

With Architects designing new homes to ever increasing insulation and heat retention levels and prospective homeowners demanding a modern designer look to their new homes, Electric Heating and Hot Water innovation specialists, The Electric Heating Company (EHC), have introduced the Ecosave Dynamic Electric Heater as the perfect solution for heating these modern homes.

The Ecosave Heater has designer styling to blend with any decor and the latest innovations to enhance heating comfort and lower energy usage. They are suitable as a heating solution for apartments, domestic dwellings, holiday homes and offices.

The Heating Elements and High Performance Heating Oil are housed within the sturdy aluminium body of the heater. Due to the modular construction and air flow outlets at the top of the heater the Ecosave Heater benefits from fast heat up times and provides an even surface temperature with optimum convection through all heating cycles.



At EHC the company values your safety and as such the Ecosave Heater is fully protected against overheating using a high precision automatic cut-out device. During periods when the Heater is not required the main on/off switch located on the side of the radiator can be switched off.

"Click & Fit" hanging brackets make the installation of the Ecosave Heater easy and

quick to install however Feet and Castors are also available which make the Heaters a versatile heating solution.

For ease of operation the easy-to-use digital programmable thermostat is located at the top of the heater. It allows accurate manual control of both time and temperature, is fully programmable 24/7 and offers comfort, economy, frost protection and on/off settings.

The Ecosave Heater comes with inbuilt Smart Control capability. To convert the Wi-Fi ready Ecosave Heater to an intelligent appliance that can be controlled anywhere, anytime through our free EHC APP you can install the EHC Smart Wi-Fi kit. The 'easy to use' APP has a selection of menus designed to maximise your comfort and reduce your heating costs. This Wi-Fi control capability makes the Ecosave Heater the perfect heating solution for apartments, domestic dwellings, holiday homes and offices.

01698 820533
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Simple & affordable underfloor heating

Underfloor heating has never been more affordable and unlike bulky radiators it is completely hidden from sight and is more energy efficient, giving you the space to create luxurious heat without compromising interior design. JG Speedfit offers a wide range of UFH equipment to make underfloor heating simple & affordable.

Innovative, tried and tested heating solutions

Whether building a new house, planning an extension or renovating a room, you can be sure with our huge range of systems we have the right solution for your project. All of our products are manufactured to the highest standards using the latest technologies and are compatible with conventional and renewable energy heat sources.

Save money by using less energy

Underfloor heating cuts heating bills and energy consumption. It is more efficient and environmentally friendly than radiators, as it enables better heat distribution, operates at a



lower temperature than conventional systems and is easily programmed to only heat rooms in use.

Add space, style and value to the property

Underfloor heating can add value to the property as it is considered a luxurious form of heat and therefore a home improvement. Our stylish wall mounted or portable, JG Aura heating controls, have a contemporary design, adding a touch of elegance to the way underfloor heating is controlled.

All-round heating control

Alongside controlling underfloor heating, JG Aura can be combined with existing or new radiators. A single solution capable of controlling underfloor heating and radiators. Also allowing occupants to manage heating for different rooms.

Smart heating controls

Using the free JG Aura App occupants of a household need not worry about returning to a cold house or forgetting to turn off their heating when leaving. There is freedom to manage heating from anywhere, at anytime using a smart device.

Bring your project to life

Our highly skilled design team can offer free CAD drawings and project cost estimate. They pay great attention to detail while designing the most effective underfloor heating solution for the property. For more information please call John Guest or visit the website.

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Twin fans selected for Axiom Belfast



The prestigious Axiom building situated in Great Victoria Street, Belfast has undergone an upgrade of its washroom and shower areas across five floors and Vortice fans have been chosen for the ventilation installation. The Vort TF acoustic twin cabinet range of fans is

IPX2 rated and comes in four different models which can be selected according to the specific fan power required. The range is ideal for the application required in the Axiom building where quiet running, high performance ventilation was needed.

01283 492949 www.vortice.ltd.uk

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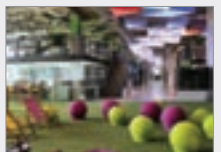


BoilerMag has secured Building Information Modelling (BIM) Level 2 compliance for its range of XT industrial heating system filters. Aimed at industry professionals including architects, specifiers and building consultants, BIM drawings of the industrial BoilerMag XT can be quickly and easily downloaded

from the BoilerMag website, . Ideal for large heating systems, the BoilerMag XT prevents the build-up of ferrous oxide and scale in central heating systems, and is available in sizes from 2" to 12".

0114 225 0600 www.boilermag.com

Innovative air conditioning for Plexal



AET Flexible Space recently supplied a bespoke underfloor air conditioning system to the Plexal innovation centre at Here East, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. AET Flexible Space have supplied and commissioned a total of 13 downflow units (CAM-V) and 146 slimline TUS-EC

Fantiles. The underfloor system designed for the cellular office pods was required to run in conjunction with other services, such as the four-pipe fan coils used to cool the mezzanine co-working areas and the pre-existing trench heating system installed at the perimeter.

01342 310400 www.flexiblespace.com

Vengen²⁸ used in manufacturing centre



Naco's Vengen²⁸ is providing natural ventilation for a new engine manufacturing centre. The company required a natural ventilation system that could be easily maintained from the outside of the building; it would cost the

company thousands of pounds per minute to disrupt production. Naco was able to manufacture and install Vengen²⁸ louvres with weather rated actuators to be fitted on the outside of the building – a bespoke design for this one application. The louvres are providing sufficient natural ventilation to the centre and are easily accessed for maintenance and cleaning work without disturbing production inside.

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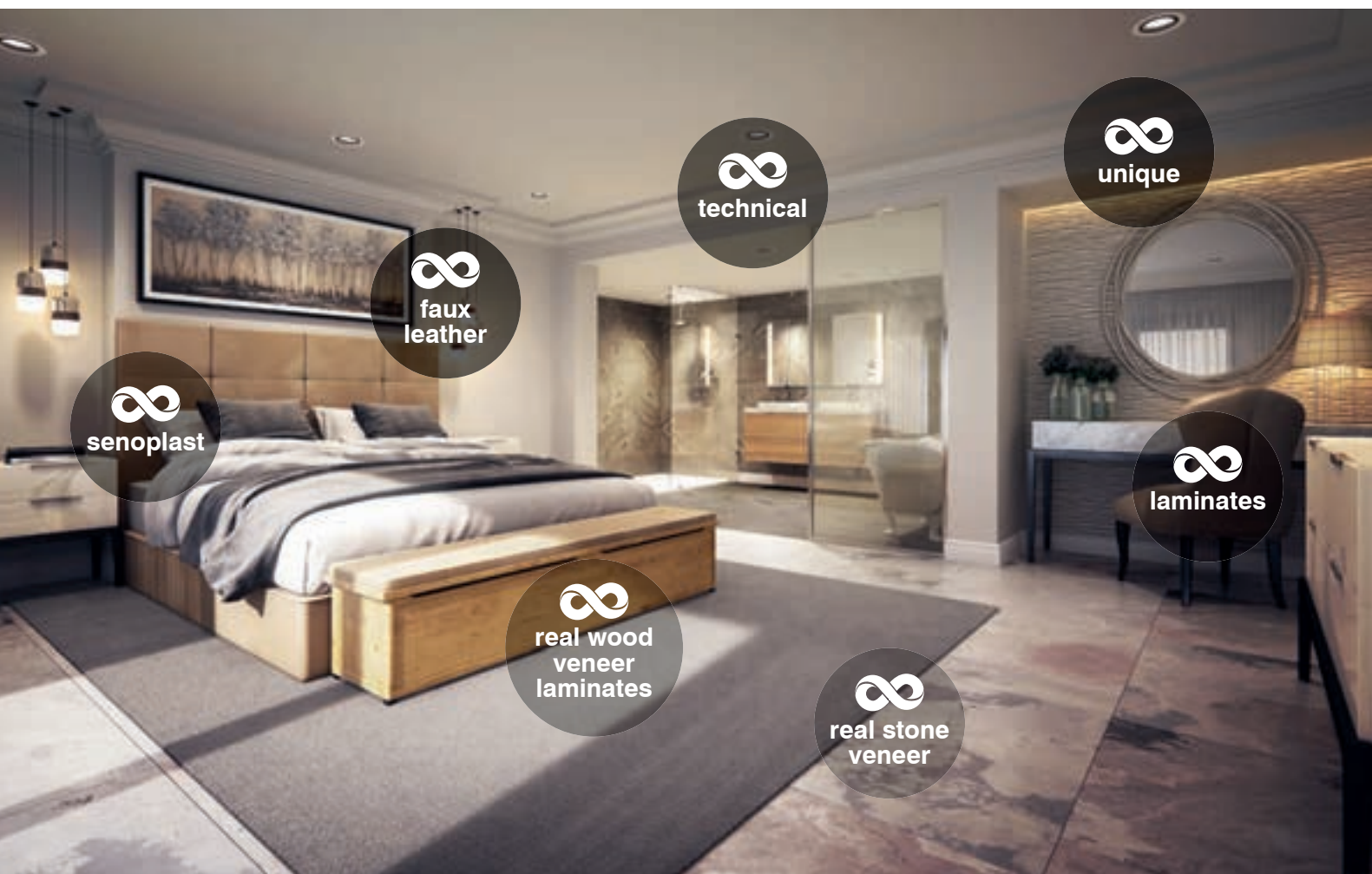


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Underpinning the evolution of the modern workplace

With the evolution of modern offices arguably having come full circle, Jeremy Broadhead of Heckmondwike considers how flooring has addressed workspace trends

The impact of the physical workspace on employee productivity, morale and motivation has been the subject of much debate, discussion and research. In fact, research conducted by the Chartered Association of Building Engineers indicates that the workplace environment accounts for 24 per cent of job satisfaction and can affect performance by up to 15 per cent. However, with many industry professionals declaring open plan office design obsolete, it is time to consider how the workspace of the future would look like and what design challenges it would pose for architects.

From open plan to cubicle and back

Open plan offices first appeared in Germany in the 1950s as a way of creating a non-hierarchical working environment where all staff could sit together, thus fostering communication and collaboration.

But open plan in its truest sense didn't last very long; as early as the 1960s, office furniture manufacturers saw an opportunity to redefine the workspace and used advancements in manufacturing techniques to create modular office systems that consisted of structural panels. When assembled, they made a workstation designed to provide workers with both privacy and the opportunity for interaction.

In the UK, the office cubicle became widely embraced during the 1970s and continued to dominate the office landscape when personal computers became commonplace. During this period, the use of carpet tiles that were functional, hard-wearing, easy to maintain and replace, became widespread.

At the start of the new century, the emerging dominance of digital technologies in the 'dotcom' era ushered in a more flexible approach to working and the workspace. Hot desking and the virtual office were born, alongside a generally more flexible approach to the physical workspace.

Today, the prime question for architects isn't about the viability of a certain type of design, but how to successfully employ aspects of closed and open plan offices in a new kind of workspace. This approach has brought the hybrid office to the fore; it combines the best of both design typologies and can be adapted to suit an organisation's specific needs.

Sound & colour

Advancements in flooring manufacturing techniques have also highlighted a role for carpet beyond just covering the floor.

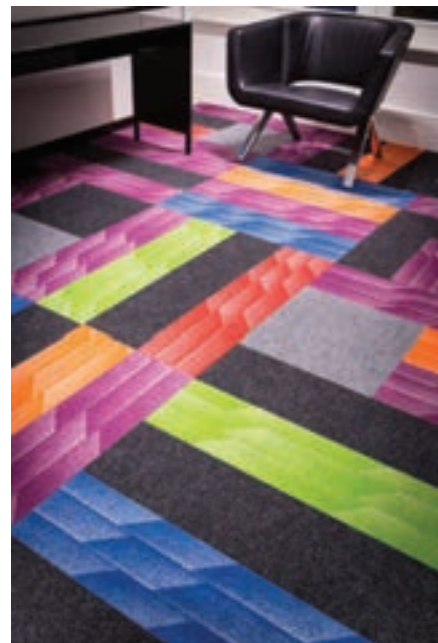
Research shows that poor acoustics negatively affects employee productivity, stress levels and morale, leading to a 5-10 per cent decline in performance when undertaking tasks that require concentration. Investing in a floorcovering with acoustic properties at planning stage is therefore a very wise move. Fibre-bonded carpets, for example, can help reduce sound transmission between different floors, thus keeping noise to a minimum.

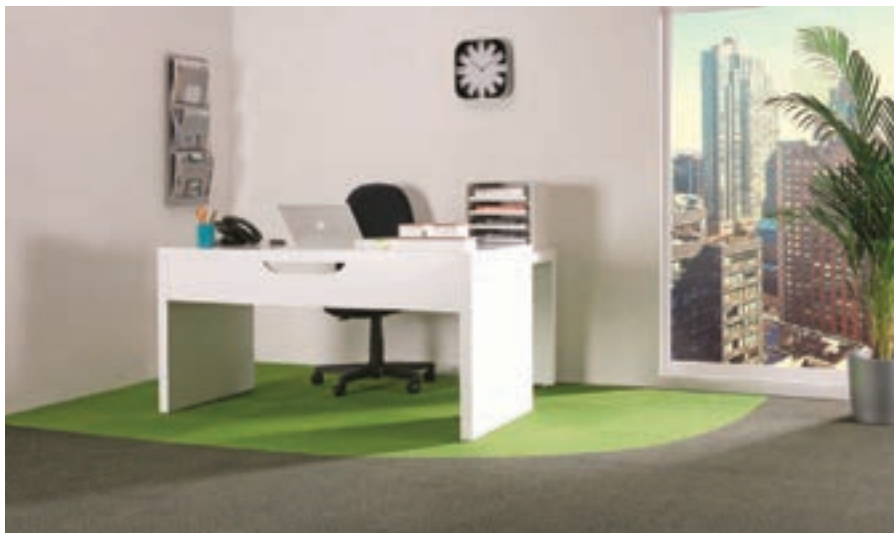
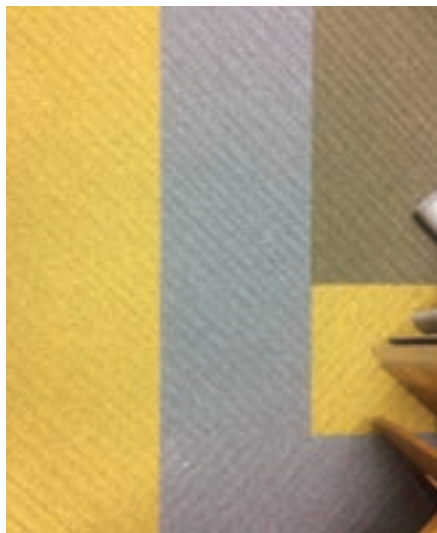
A further consideration is the use of colour, as this has been found to encourage creativity and productivity and to boost morale in the workplace. Different colours provoke different psychological and physiological responses, so careful choice of carpet is becoming increasingly important for office areas, breakout spaces and boardrooms. Use of particular shades has been shown to maximise productivity and minimise fatigue, as well as stimulating creativity and team working.

Carpet is also used for walkways, area demarcation and zoning larger, open plan spaces, and also to bring a sense of individuality and personalisation to smaller, compartmentalised spaces.

Custom choice

So, if the office of the future is already here, what can emerging technologies in flooring offer in the future? Increasingly,





Fibre-bonded carpets can help reduce sound transmission between floors, keeping noise to a minimum

creative carpet tiles and carpet planks, which are growing in popularity, are available in corporate colours. Flooring can also be customised to carry company logos and strap lines, while custom entrance carpets and barrier matting have become the norm.

When it comes to choosing floorcover-

ings for today's hybrid offices, there are some essential factors to take into account, which not only impact on the aesthetics of the workplace, but also the productivity, health and happiness of those within it.

Jeremy Broadhead is a commercial manager at Heckmondwike




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Gerflor's new award-winning range



The International Design Awards (IDA) fundamentally exists to recognise and promote legendary design visionaries. It's no surprise that Gerflor's new Taralay Impression vinyl floorcovering collection has scooped a bronze award in the

prestigious IDA product category. The Taralay Impression range is a multi-purpose vinyl floorcovering available in 2m sheet format with a Group T wear rating. It's ideal for a host of heavy traffic environments where R10 slip resistance is a requirement. The 2017 collection displays a wide palette of 21 designs and 83 colours.

01926 622600 www.gerflor.co.uk

Fresh Floor for Williamsburg Plant



After abandoning plans to build a new \$70 million state-of-the-art plant, world-famous craft brewers, Brooklyn Brewery, sought major re-development work at their long standing home in Brooklyn's Williamsburg neighbourhood. Bucking the trend for dairy

brick, the brewer opted for close to 8,000sq. ft. of Flowcrete's urethane cement. Flowcrete's durable and slip-resistant, Flowfresh SR cementitious urethane was selected for installation in the brewery's main production hall with a subsequent topcoat of 100 per cent solids Flowcoat CR for additional chemical resistance.

01270 753000 www.flowcrete.co.uk

Polysafe offers sustainable slip resistance



Safety flooring from UK manufacturer Polyflor was chosen to help create a safe yet homely interior design scheme for Somerset Care's latest care home, Stockmoor Lodge in Bridgwater. Three safety flooring collections featuring sustainable wet slip resistance were

used throughout communal areas and bathrooms within the care home – Polysafe Wood fx PUR wood effect flooring, Polysafe Hydro Evolve flooring for continually wet areas and Expona Control PUR luxury vinyl tiles.

0161 767 1111 www.polyflor.com

Polyflor's Forest fx flooring collection



Vinyl flooring manufacturer Polyflor has added new wood effect designs to their relaunched Forest fx PUR flooring collection, incorporating the latest commercial interior trends into one of their most popular sheet vinyl ranges. The expanded 18 design heterogeneous collection features nine exciting new shades, including two parquet effect designs for creating dramatic statement floors as well as a selection of contemporary grey-toned oaks and rustic wood designs which add variety to

the collection. To find out more information visit Polyflor's website.

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Creative thinking

The Creative Range from Heckmondwike provides an eclectic mix of designs and colours, making your carpets a stunning design feature in any building

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The Importance of Movement Joints

Fluctuations in temperature and moisture cause movement in the subfloor and result in cracks transferring to tile and stone coverings – or worse, cause a loss of bond between the covering and the substrate which can result in overall damage to the surface covering. For this reason, industry standards state that all tile and stone installations should include the use of movement joints.

In many circumstances, movement joints are overlooked or left to the contractor; however, a lack of movement joints can be a contributing factor to many different types of failure. Furthermore, if movement joints are not included in the specification, liability for any resulting problems (even if the problem doesn't directly relate to a lack of movement joints) could fall to the architect, as it's their responsibility to specify the type of joint and location of them.

The question, however, is how do you provide the movement joints necessary to ensure a durable installation and what movement joints should you use?

Movement joints have to go through screed to the covering, with consideration to intermediate surface joints and therefore need to be designed into the specification. Understanding the types of movement that can occur – namely drying shrinkage, differential movement, deflection movement, structural movement, moisture movement and thermal movement – will help when deciding which type of movement joint will best counteract the resulting stresses.

In floors, there are two basic types of movement joints: structural and non-structural. Both types will be subject to different movement patterns – for example, whether movement will occur from the covering through to the floor slab or just in

the covering assembly, and this will affect the type of joint needed to prevent damage.

Pre-formed joints can accommodate roughly 15-20 per cent of their movement zone. Schlüter®-DILEX movement joints offer complete protection and are available to specifiers in a wide selection of materials, colours, and movement capability.

Find out more by hosting the CPD seminar *'Movement Joints and Uncoupling Membranes for Tile and Stone Coverings'* at your architectural practice, call Schlüter-Systems today. For priority booking quote ADFMJU09.

Schlüter-Systems Ltd has NBS Clauses and BIM Objects available on NBS Plus, National BIM Library and on the website.

01530 813396 www.schluter.co.uk



Mapei's decorative wall covering specified for BUPA Healthcare offices

Mapei UK have supplied 500m² of their complete Ultratop Loft system in Silver Grey Ultratop Loft F & W finishes, and applied these at the BUPA head offices at The Spectrum Building, Cabots Circus, Bristol. The highly decorative cementitious covering was installed over existing concrete columns during refurbishment works, with installation of the complete Ultratop system taking place over one week.

Ultratop Loft is the ideal coating product to create decorative interior floors and walls with a pronounced textured effect. The consistency of the product means that it can be used on both walls and floors and with the scope for installing in a wide range of colours, a variety of unique, attractive and original finishes can be achieved.

Mapei's technical team provided training to installers TPS 360 to use the Ultratop Loft product. Gary Allman from TPS 360 commented: "Mapei training was an



Ultratop Loft at BUPA Spectrum Building
Image © The Bush Consultancy

understanding of the product how to prepare and how to prime, we really like the product now we've mastered the silver grey catalogue effect and TPS 360 see some potential for this product and an area of growth in the business."

The complete system was installed as part

of a renovation project for the BUPA offices; the Ultratop Loft was installed over Mapei's Eco Prim Grip and Primer G primers on the vertical surfaces to provide an unsealed finish.

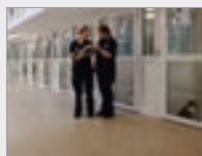
Ultratop Loft was specified as a highly decorative wall covering by The Bush Consultancy Architects of Bristol. Architect Declan O' Donnell at Bush consultancy commented: "We liked the pattern and silver grey cloud effect of the finished Ultratop, looks very modern."

Thanks to its ease of use, versatility and excellent resistance to abrasion, this product is also ideal for creating decorative floors subjected to intense pedestrian traffic in retail, hospitality and domestic areas in refurbishment and new build environments.

Email or call for more information on how Mapei products can be used in your project or visit the website to view the full product range.

0121 508 6970 www.mapei.co.uk

Polyflor donates flooring to RSPCA

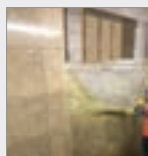


Vinyl flooring manufacturer Polyflor recently donated Polysafe safety flooring to the new RSPCA Bury & Oldham facility at Strinesdale Country Park, Oldham. The new £1.7 million centre currently houses around 50 cats and 15 dogs, has a state-of-the-art veterinary suite and boasts

cat and dog 'meet and greet rooms'. Three shades of Polysafe Mosaic PUR safety flooring were used throughout the building, with various colours being used to indicate different zones. Polysafe Mosaic PUR complies with HSE and UK Slip Group Guidelines.

0161 767 1111 www.polyflor.com

Hanover Building unveiled by Remmers



The Grade II Listed building located in Manchester is being refurbished by Quadriga Contracts Ltd as part of the NOMA regeneration scheme to provide Grade A office space, retail and leisure facilities. The interior walls have accumulated a thick build-up of dust, dirt, polish and even nicotine residue, all of which needed to be removed. Remmers Arte Mundit Eco was selected as it is a self-vulcanising cleaning paste designed for thorough, water-free removal of residues and soiling on a wide range of substrates. The Arte Mundit Eco was applied using a 4" brush and left to 'set' overnight.

01293 594010 www.remmers.co.uk

New trade catalogue from Croydex provides professionals with technical specifications



Croydex has launched a new trade catalogue, the Specification Solutions Catalogue, exclusively for professionals who need in-depth technical product information when working on bathroom projects. The listings feature detailed technical specifications, images and line drawings for a wide range of products chosen for their quality and durability. All are designed to be fitted using Croydex's no-mess, no-fuss fixing methods, including the patented Flexi-Fix 'X' plate which uses existing fixing holes and the patented Hang 'n' Lock wall bracket for one person installation of large cabinets and mirrors. The Specification Solutions Catalogue provides colour-coded symbols and logos to illustrate product features and benefits, as well as easy to follow installation instructions. It includes sections on showers, rods and rails, shower curtains, toilet seats, bath panels, wall-mounted accessories, cabinets, storage and inclusive ranges. Also featured is a wide choice of plumbing, fittings and homewares, such as robust cistern repair parts and retro-fit converta plugs. To request a copy of the new catalogue, please call Croydex or visit the website.

01264 365881 www.croydex.com

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Yeoman Shield Contributes to Sustainability at Pinderfields Hospital

Yeoman Shield engaged once more with Engie in conjunction with Consort Healthcare and Mid Yorkshire NHS Trust to continue to improve the sustainability and lifecycle of wall coverings in key areas of Pinderfields Hospital.

After having replaced printed graphics on the low level part of the walls previously, with Yeoman Shield Imagery wall protection panels, The Estates Department were keen to do the same for the walls on the other levels of the hospital.

“The lower part of walls in such a busy place as Pinderfields Hospital really receive some damage from trolleys, trucks and the general passing through of people.” Explained Michael Kenward, Engie Capital Works Co-ordinator. “The previous patterned wall panels that Yeoman Shield supplied and fitted for us has certainly shown benefit in protecting against damage, keeping the walls looking pristine as well as saving on repair and redecoration costs.

“We therefore thought it wise to invest in the same product for walls on other floors within the hospital.”

Yeoman Shield were required to copy images and dimensions from the printed graphics on the original wall covering. This was then replicated on Yeoman Shield’s FalmouthEx 2.0mm thick protection panels cut and shaped on their in house CNC machine.



Colour matching was achieved using shades of Yeoman Shield’s newly increased colour range. The manufactured panels in shades of Yellow, Purple and Orange were installed, seamlessly against the original upper wall covering, by Yeoman Shield’s directly employed fixing team. A grey “dado” strip completed the look of the new wall protection panels.

Keeping lifecycles on track

As part of Pinderfields Hospital lifecycle programme, Yeoman Shield were also able to provide a solution to the continual damage being caused to door frames throughout the Pinderfields Hospital.

– The continual repair of which was proving to be a drain on the maintenance budgets.

Door frames are inevitably vulnerable to wear and tear caused by the everyday activity on a busy site, being especially prone to damage from wheelchairs, trolleys and mobile equipment.

When damaged the door frames not only look unattractive, detracting from the clean and pristine environment that The Pinderfields facilities management team work hard to maintain, but splinters, dents and crevices caused as a result of the damage, make the frame work hard to clean leading

to a potential build-up of dirt and bacteria.

Michael Kenward commented “We have in the region of 3000 door frames on site and a long term alternative to the perpetual and costly refurbishment of the timber frames was required.”

After a survey carried out by a Yeoman Shield Area Sales Manager Steve Hawke, a bespoke product was decided upon.

Post formed Yeoman Shield angles, to the required dimensions, were fabricated from 2.0mm thick FalmouthEx material, for fitting to the existing timber door jambs.

Where necessary a timber infill piece was manufactured to fill any gaps between the frame and angle so providing extra support to the internal angle.

Supplied in Dusty Grey the formed angle protectors were installed at 1250mm high by Yeoman Shield’s directly employed fixing operatives.

“Now in place the frame protectors will reduce our repair and maintenance outgoings whilst having a positive effect on the lifecycle of the building.” Concluded Mr Kenward.

For more information on Yeoman Shield’s cost saving wall & door protection products go to visit the website or call Yeoman Shield directly.

0113 279 5854 www.yeomanshield.com



Shower down your tax bill



Did you know that the stylish Duso shower column from **Horne Engineering** can reduce your tax bill? If you buy an asset that qualifies for First Year Allowances, you can deduct its full cost from your profits before tax. The Duso is named on

the ECA Water Technology List as it is both water and energy efficient. A flow rate of 8 L/min optimally balances the need to conserve pre-heated water but still provide an effective shower. The auto shut-off prevents water wastage and the 60 second duration per paddle push also improves your customer experience.

01505 321455 www.horne.co.uk/products/duso

S+B furniture systems



S+B UK Limited is one of the UK's longest established and leading specialists in the design, manufacture and installation of laboratory furniture, fume cupboards and associated services. S+B furniture systems have

been developed by one of Europe's leading specialist industrial designers to combine durability, function, ergonomics with a modern, clean, crisp and attractive appearance. We can supply everything from a single workstation or fume cupboard to a complete suite of state of the art research laboratories, serving R&D, Healthcare, Universities, Utilities, Food & Beverage and Industry.

sales@splusb.co.uk

Crown Paints masters university project



Crown Paints has received top marks from a West Midlands-based university after transforming their Students' Union café. The Pear Tree Café, in the heart of the University of Worcester's St John's Campus, has been given a new lease of life with a vibrant new colour palette.

Crown Trade Clean Extreme Scrubbable Matt has been used on the walls, with a teal colour being applied to the feature wall and a complimentary grey on the others, whilst the metal staircase was decorated with dark grey Crown Trade Fastflow Quick Dry Gloss.

0330 0240310 www.crowntrade.co.uk

Refurbishment includes Hunter Douglas



Architectural products manufacturer **Hunter Douglas** has provided modern new ceilings for the Darwin Centre, in Shrewsbury, as part of a major refurbishment programme. Its team specified a plain white Tavola baffle ceiling in white RAL9010 for the 600m² space in the main malls, ideal for large spaces because it offers a high quality aesthetic finish and

profile. Each baffle is 150mm deep by 60mm wide and is installed on a straight carrier, with the exception of three small areas, where they are installed on curved carriers to achieve a barrel vaulted design. It also specified its Cell 40 Ceiling system for another 500m² ceiling.

01604 648229 www.hunterdouglas.co.uk

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Build right for smart home technology

Over the last couple of years, home technology has been referred to in a number of ways: smart home, home automation, custom installation and the integrated home.

To give a simple definition, it is the integration of technology in the home. This includes a wide range of features, such as entertainment systems, multi-room audio, lighting control, smart security, heating systems, blind control and so on. The majority of people now use some sort of technology in their life, for lifestyle and / or work. Thanks to iPhones, iPads and other devices, we as a society have never been more in tune with technology. Home technology provides a multitude of benefits to us.

The benefit of integrated home technology is that all integrated technology can be controlled from one interface, either on control panels situated throughout the home or via mobile devices, proving the simplicity and ease of managing home technology.

From finger-tip electronic control over any aspect of your home, to pre-programmed settings that turn on your lights and unlock your doors when your car pulls in the drive, home technology is the future of 21st century homes. Capable of assisting us with everyday duties to bespoke requests, home technology is becoming the norm for homeowners up and down the country, with more and more new house buyers expecting their property to be technology ready.

Today's integrated home allows you to control, conceal and operate electronic systems within your home as never before – this is the world of CEDIA (www.cedia.org), the leading global authority for home technology professionals, who can make this a reality.

Infrastructure is king

CEDIA® has recently sponsored and contributed to the latest Publicly Available Specification (PAS) by the British Standards Institution (BSI) titled, 'Design and Installation of Telecommunications and Broadcast Infrastructure within the Home'. A credible and useful tool for architects, the PAS includes all the latest technical standards and regulations required when designing and installing a smart home wiring infrastructure. The new document will be published and available to access from 31st March 2017.

As market leaders in the home technology industry, CEDIA has been working with the



BSI to create a document that outlines the recommendations for designing and installing a domestic wiring infrastructure for both single residential dwellings and most homes with multiple occupations. Based on the requirements outlined in BS EN 50173 and BS EN 50174, 'Design and Installation of Telecommunications and Broadcast Infrastructure within the Home' provides the latest technical guidance and recommendations for integrators working on new build properties to meet the changing and increasing requirements of designing and installing a domestic wiring infrastructure that supports a connected, integrated home.

How CEDIA Can Help

Although this code of practice outlines the fundamentals of the required infrastructure for an integrated home, CEDIA members are fully equipped to design and deliver more bespoke systems, dependant on the needs of an architect. All CEDIA professionals are trained in the latest technologies, design, project management, and installation techniques. Working with a CEDIA member is the best assurance housebuilders have that the final system will meet their expectations, without any unexpected set-backs.

Build a relationship with a home technology professional

To ensure the best service from design to installation, it's important to build a relationship with a home technology professional from the get-go. CEDIA members are the best informed and trained in the latest technologies, design, project management and installation techniques. CEDIA members understand that technology in the home is



becoming more and more valuable, and will specify a system and infrastructure that most suits your project.

CEDIA Finder Service

CEDIA offers a Finder Service on its website – www.cedia.org, which allows clients to locate their nearest home technology professional. Users can search CEDIA member companies by postcode, services, and certification. This will provide you with enough information to start the conversation. You can find your CEDIA member via www.cedia.org/find-a-edia-professional.

01480 213 744 www.cedia.org

SPECIAL EVENT FROM CEDIA

CEDIA are hosting a special all-day event dedicated to the architectural and design community on 11th October at the Building Centre in London. The Lifestyle Technology Showcase will include CPD sessions from key product suppliers in the home technology space as well as CEDIA's own RIBA accredited material, and a special keynote showcasing the synergy that can be achieved between architecture and technology. The day will finish with an opportunity for technology integrators and design and build professionals to network and discuss the challenges and opportunities that home technology and design and build phase brings. This free to attend event can be booked by visiting the CEDIA website at cedia.co.uk/cedia-events

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Well-travelled staircases gain the Mighton finish



A striking cladding design was created for a pair of staircases at York University with installation being completed within the students' three-week spring break, despite having to be constructed on site before being dismantled and removed for painting then brought back for reassembly. The unusual design incorporated 10mm shadow gaps, which required finishing in-situ to ensure the accuracy of the gaps before the MDF panels could be factory painted. Specialist paint supplier **Mighton Products** worked closely with Bailey-Hague Joinery in not only in choosing the right materials but also in producing a colour match for the non-standard grey that was specified. The company had been using Mighton's exterior products so had no hesitation in putting its interior range to work. A team of five joiners and one spray-painter worked on the project, with the panels making the 30 mile-plus round trip to Bayley-Hague's spray-shop in Sherburn-in-Elmet. The moisture resistant MDF was treated with Mighton Ultra high-build MDF Internal Primer and Internal Opaque Topcoat.

0845 0945 215 www.mightonproducts.com

Sylvania leads the retro revolution



Sylvania has expanded its range of ToLEDo™ Retro lamps to give even more choice. The hugely successful lamp collection truly replicates the look and feel of traditional incandescent and halogen lights and is one of the largest selections available on the market. The improved range includes new dimmable and non-dimmable versions in a range of lamp shapes.

The new ToLEDo Retro dimmable V2 lamps now share same construction design as the popular non-dimmable range and no longer feature a white plastic band around the base, making them much more aesthetically appealing.

info@feilosylvania.com

Compact LED High Bay from Luceco



Luceco has recently launched Ceres, a compact high bay utilising the latest lens technology. Ceres benefits from a computer designed die-cast aluminium housing with vortex cooling for maximum LED chip performance providing over 50,000 hours of operational life and a luminaire efficacy up to of 130 Llm/cW.

With a rating of IP65, Ceres offers 60, 90 and 120-degree lens variations and is available with on/off presence detection options, often a requirement in industrial and warehousing applications. The Ceres family also includes the Ceres Extra and Ceres Ultra.

01952 238100 www.luceco.com



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SWA member supplies hotel winter garden



The phased refurbishment of both private rooms and the elegant public spaces of a Manchester hotel has been successfully completed with a member of the Steel Window Association, The Cotswold Casements Company, playing a pivotal role

in the supply and installation of screens and doors. Cotswold Casements, began by tackling the restaurant and winter garden where highly experienced operatives installed large screens as well as double and single doors to divide what was once the trading hall of a major insurance company.

info@steel-window-association.co.uk

Council completes paving with Resiblock



Following the completion of paving reparation works and installation of new paving at Bedford Square in Tavistock, Devon County Council have purchased Resiblock '22' A/F (Architects Finish) to seal, stabilise and protect the paved areas at this historic site.

Devon County Council placed their trust in Resiblock due to the historical successes of sites such as Silver Street (for Leicester City Council) and Station Boulevard (for Coventry City Council). Resiblock '22' A/F was recommended due to its sand stabilisation and stain resistance qualities, as well as its striking appearance.

custserv@resiblock.com

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RECYFIX® MONOTEC drains outdoor surfaces at school

The Ysgol Gynradd Lôn Las Primary School, Swansea, has currently 535 pupils from Year one to six as well as Reception and Nursery Classes. The school site is split into four main areas. Having a large gymnasium and a separate school canteen there are plenty of outdoor playing areas including a hard surface yard, an enclosed area for Nursery and expansive areas of grassland.

Hauraton Limited introduced the RECYFIX® MONOTEC, surface drainage system in January 2016. The Lôn Las school, joins numerous installations successfully completed in the United Kingdom.

The RECYFIX® MONOTEC system was installed to provide surface drainage in the paved entrance/play areas and the car park's asphalt surface. Having a grating width of 100mm (Channel internal dimension) with an overall height of 280mm and a cross-section of 245.5cm², the 176 metres of channel supplied provide



a total water capacity of just over 4329 litres.

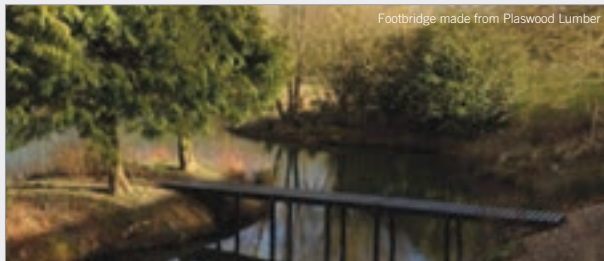
The MONOTEC one metre long channel component is of a sturdy monolithic design where the HEELSAFE grating and the tongue and groove linking system are integral to the channel moulding. The whole unit is made of tough, virtually unbreakable polypropylene (PP) formulated to be very resistant to

daily temperature fluctuations from frost conditions to strong sunlight, including the Ultra Violet (UV) spectrum. PP is naturally resistant to de-icing salt. Complying with the requirements of EN 1433, the PP is given its UV resistance by adding just sufficient stabiliser so that the structural strength of the material is unaffected and a consistent appearance is maintained.

Shaun Davies the Site Agent for the Contractor also observed, "I was very impressed with the durability of the MONOTEC channels. Not a single unit was damaged by site traffic or whilst laying the asphalt. Any queries or information required was easily and quickly obtained from Hauraton's technical support team".

All Hauraton surface water drainage systems' comply with European Standards (hENs) and carries the CE mark".

01582 501380 www.hauraton.co.uk



Increased demand for a renewable building product

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