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EDITION

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WINTER 2022

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Cover image: Armourcoat
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Aico receives a Royal visit

Aico were honoured to receive Her Royal Highness Princess Anne to their headquarters on Friday 8th October, in recognition of their impact as a prominent business in Shropshire.

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal arrived at Aico headquarters in Oswestry, Shropshire and was met by Aico's Managing Director Neal Hooper, alongside local dignitaries Mandy Thorn, Deputy Lieutenant of Shropshire, Councillor Vince Hunt, Chairman of Shropshire Council, Owen Paterson, North Shropshire MP, Councillor Mark Jones, Mayor of Oswestry and Ruth Jones, Mayoress of Oswestry.

Neal Hooper then commenced an in-depth tour of Aico's building and facilities, providing Her Royal Highness with an insight into the company's history, their pioneering innovations

within home life safety and their award-winning Corporate Social Responsibility programme. Each of Aico's four bespoke Mobile Training and Demonstration Units were on display, as The Princess Royal was informed of how the company's ethos of education, quality, service



and innovation drives all that they do; enabling the delivery of their mission statement as the leaders in home life safety, promoting best practice and engaging with communities to deliver safer homes.

After meeting with all Aico | HomeLINK colleagues and discussing the significant work the company does for the UK housing sector, as well as the support they afford the local and wider



community, Her Royal Highness was presented with a gift – a horse headcollar adorned with an Aico monogram. Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal concluded the visit with the unveiling of a commemorative plaque that will reside in Aico's dramatic atrium.

Managing Director of Aico Neal Hooper commented "At Aico, we are committed to providing the highest quality in all that we do and this is evident in our passionate people, continued innovation, exceptional service and unrivalled support. Our philosophy has provided a foundation for growth, constantly driving forwards, seeking novel ways of doing things which has proved to be the essence of our approach to Corporate Social Responsibility. To receive this recognition from Her Royal Highness is nothing short of an absolute honour, we are privileged to have been able to share Aico's ethos with The Princess Royal."

01691 664100 www.aico.co.uk



LAMILUX launch new website: www.lamiluxskylights.co.uk

LAMILUX U.K. Ltd invites you to visit www.lamiluxskylights.co.uk – the brand new website that's visually clean and easy to navigate around. Four simple headings direct you to the 'Rooflights' 'Smoke Ventilation' 'Access' and 'Passivhaus' overview pages, each detailing their respective available products within that category.

The new comprehensive website brings together all products from both the LAMILUX and roda family to promote the companies wide portfolio of thermally efficient rooflighting and ventilation solutions. The site features clearly displayed details of the new LAMILUX U.K. Ltd

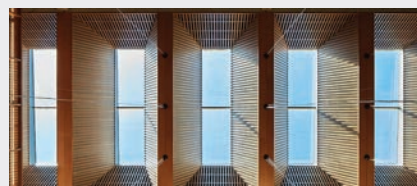
standard product offering, which has been selected based on the most sought after sizes and specifications. The new site enables visitors to download the specific data sheets and drawings for each standard product variant within the LAMILUX U.K. standard portfolio. Furthermore, if standard is not what you are looking for, the site links through to the LAMILUX product configurator where architects and specifiers can create their ideal product variation. Additional support and guidance can be offered to the user when a completed online enquiry form is submitted to the LAMILUX U.K. team of experts – who are on hand



ready to respond to your enquiry. The website has been designed and created to help architects, main contractors and specifiers locate vital information, quickly and easily.

The site will be updated regularly with the latest news, product information and case studies, but don't take our word for it, type in www.lamiluxskylights.co.uk to check out the new website and see for yourself.

01284 749051
sales@lamilux.co.uk



Fabulous new Powdertech finishes on stand 241, Surface Design Show 2022

Architectural powder coating has really come into its own, demonstrated by the progressive Collections launched by Powdertech Corby over the past 24 months. The company has curated three new Collections to complement the popular Evolution Collection, two brand new Collections were launched this year and another new finish will be revealed in the first quarter 2022. The new Collections will be featured in the hands-on Surface Spotlight Live section of the Surface Design Show, Feb 8-10, 2022 as well as on the Powdertech stand.



Powdertech provides professional powder coating services for the architectural and interior design markets using high performance powders from world-leading manufacturers. Working for many years with these powders, the team has developed methods of providing unique effects and textures. Late summer 2021 saw the launch of 'Zest', a vibrant range of powder finishes adding a fresh look to architectural metal work. Suitable for exterior and interior use on steel and aluminium, Zest shades really 'pop', reflecting the colours of sherbet sweets and fruit crushes..

The popular Evolution range offers shades based on colourful patinas caused in nature by metallic oxidation. Powdertech has added three further ranges – Stone, Rust and Terracotta. These offer designers the chance to achieve the appearance of a natural material, without any problematic issues such as weight, strength, cost, staining from run-off or



the need for time-consuming cleaning and maintenance regimes.

Freeform™ is the very latest new Collection giving customers the ability to have any design, logo or text reproduced by powder coating and easily applied to metal for external and internal architectural metalwork.

Visit the website for more information on Powdertech finishes.

01536 400890
www.powdertechcorby.co.uk



55 years of “making business a pleasure” for Harrison Thompson & Co. Ltd.

November 2021 saw Leeds company Harrison Thompson & Co. Ltd. celebrate 55 years of trading. A testament to an established company that having grown and moved with the times, still holds family values, along with customer service and quality of products, at the very heart of their business.

Established in 1966 by Peter Brumwell and partners, the company is now presided over by his two sons, Graeme and Tony. The day-to-day running of the business being led by a further three Directors who, between them, have clocked up 95 years of service, offering a wealth of experience.

Starting out as installers of wall protection rails, Harrison Thompson soon began to manufacture, supply and install its own brand – Yeoman Shield Wall and Door Protection Products – which are now highly recognised as a leader in the market.

The Yeoman Shield brand has continued to expand with product development at the



forefront along with the addition of Yeoman Shield Fire Door Services, launched to facilitate the growing industry requirement for accredited fire door maintenance and installation.

Yeoman Rainguard Rainwater Systems are also a part of Harrison Thompson's product portfolio offering quality gutters and downpipes to the developer and self-build sectors. Their aluminium gutters, downpipes and fascia range are constantly being

enhanced to keep pace with the ever-growing requirements of easy to fit, maintenance free and ecologically sound rainwater systems.

The growth of Harrison Thompson has certainly brought many challenges along the way but none maybe as unknown and trying as the current pandemic.

Graeme Brumwell explained: “The commitment and understanding of our team has been key to our company coping as well as we have these last 18 months. Not only have we had to consider the needs of the business and our clients but also the welfare of our employees and their circumstances along the way.”

“It has been a testing time but one that has strengthened our core values and has enabled us to adapt, take on new, smarter more efficient ways of working, enabling the company to flourish and positively celebrate our 55th anniversary.”

yeomanshield.com rainguard.co.uk



F. Ball crowned for 25th time

F. Ball and Co. Ltd. has reaffirmed its status as leading manufacturer of adhesives for floorcoverings, after being named 'Adhesives Manufacturer of the Year' for a 25th consecutive year at the CFJ/CFA Flooring Industry Awards 2021. Each year, F. Ball invests heavily in research and development to enhance its range to help flooring professionals meet increasing customer expectations, facilitated by on-site laboratories at its Staffordshire headquarters. Most recently, advancements in adhesives technology have enabled F. Ball to create a fast-track, fibre-reinforced, vinyl adhesive for Luxury Vinyl Tiles (LVTs), Styccobond F58 PLUS.



01538 361 633 www.f-ball.com



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Helping the industry to help the environment



Simon Woods, European Sales, Marketing and Logistics Director explains how West Fraser is helping the construction industry to help the environment:

As the world becomes more and more aware of the effect it has on the planet, it is important for the construction industry to realise how it affects the world

in ways it doesn't intend to. At West Fraser, their products are net carbon negative. This means that they lock up more carbon in the products than they emit in the end-to-end production and distribution of them (delivery to their customers' gates). Attaining net carbon negativity, as West Fraser have done, is a significant step and demonstrates the company's determination to be a market leader in sustainable, climate-friendly products.

uk.westfraser.com



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Spiral and helical staircase CPD webinars



Staircase experts, Spiral UK, offer architects a live bespoke staircase CPD presentation on Microsoft Teams or Zoom free of charge at a time that suits them. The session covers: staircase design, stair regulations ADK, ADB, ADM and specifically BS5395 Part II (which relates to spiral and helical staircases), the design, manufacture and install process,

materials and finishes and case study examples. The session is 30-40 minutes depending on questions and can be tailored to the interests of the practice. Certificates of attendance can also be issued.

0330 123 2447 www.spiral.uk.com



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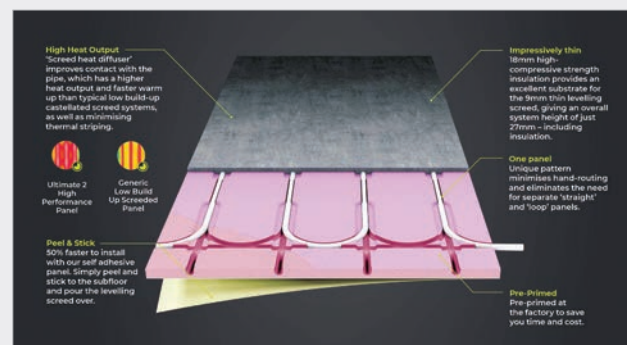
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OMNIE's new generation Ultimate2 system

Heating and renewables specialist OMNIE has once again developed an advanced solution to speed the installation of low build height underfloor heating (UFH), which also fits within its Tileover selection and offers significant cost savings. Further enhancing the established Ultimate system, the Ultimate2 board consists of XPS insulation – improving output while the unique 2-3 mm deep diffuser channel surrounding the multi-directional runs increases screed contact with the pipe, thus cutting the warm-up time. The overall installed depth of just 27 mm leaves plenty of room for tiles to be laid on top without the need to trim doors or skirting in retrofit situations. The upper surface is pre-primed so the RS Flex leveling screed can be directly applied to achieve a strong bond; while the pre-glued lower surface – with peel-off backing – ensures the panel can be rapidly installed across the subfloor without the need to apply additional adhesive.

01392 363605 www.omnie.co.uk



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Schöck Isokorb for Passivhaus Large Project of the Year

Winner of the Large Projects category of the UK Passivhaus Awards 2021, the first phase of Agar Grove, in Camden – anticipated to be the UK's largest residential Passivhaus development when completed – tackles occupant wellbeing, climate action pledges and fuel poverty. In meeting such high levels of sustainability, a key element is the avoidance of thermal bridging; and one of the most effective countermeasures has been incorporated – Isokorb technology from Schöck.

Balconies always pose a risk

Throughout the 493 home redevelopment, brick and reconstituted stone facade materials predominate, with stone banding providing depth and a quality finish to the balconies that run the full width of the facade. Balconies are always likely to pose a risk when it comes to thermal bridging and it is here that the design detailing involves the first of the Schöck load-bearing structural thermal break types used at Agar Grove – the XT type K. Thermal bridging is a frequent cause of increased heat and energy loss and also condensation, which is likely to result in mould formation, building damage and even consequent health implications. The Isokorb XT type K for concrete-to-concrete applications is one of the most technically advanced countermeasures for incorporation into Passivhaus projects and features a compression module HTE-Compact and 120 mm insulation thickness. Designed for free cantilevered balconies, it transfers negative moments and positive shear forces.



Image – Jack Hobhouse

More thermally efficient than wrapped parapets

The second Schöck product at Agar Grove protects against any thermal bridging risk at the parapets – without any wrapping being required. With most parapets, the conventional method is to wrap the perimeter of the wall with an insulation barrier. However, the Schöck Isokorb XT type A is a product that requires no wrapping and which offers a more cost-effective and more thermally efficient solution. Its installation results in low psi-values, significantly reduced heat loss, greater freedom of design – and there is no risk of any additional thermal bridging through balustrade fixings. Other

key benefits are durability and water impermeability, so there is no maintenance required due to waterproofing problems.

Unquestionable environmental performance

Not only does the Isokorb range provide a number of solutions to meet Passivhaus standards, it also exceeds the requirements of the Future Homes Standard, helping the industry move towards the Governments 2050 net zero carbon targets. In addition to concrete-to-concrete and maintenance free parapets, there are solutions too for concrete-to-steel, steel-to-steel – and innovative technology from Schöck even enables the retrofitting or renovation of balconies. Products meet full compliance with the relevant UK building regulations and there is also the security of independent BBA Certification, which provides NHBC approval. The requirement that the temperature factor used to indicate condensation risk (fRSI) must be greater than, or equal to, 0.75 for residential buildings, is easily met by incorporating the Isokorb.

Contact Schöck or visit the website for a full introduction to the extensive range of product solutions.

01865 290 890
www.schoeck.com



UK's tallest residential tower protected by Advanced fire panels



Fire alarm control panels from UK manufacturer, Advanced, have been installed on yet another landmark development in London.

The installation of Advanced fire panels at the Landmark Pinnacle marks another tall-building win for the manufacturer who, in 2019, announced its specification at Western Europe's second tallest building, 22 Bishopsgate.

Standing 75 floors high at the head of the South Dock in the heart of Canary Wharf, the Landmark Pinnacle is the tallest residential building in Europe with more habitable floors than any other building in London, the UK and Europe. With prices starting from £480,000 and amenities including a roof garden, gym, private dining facilities and a cinema, London's latest skyscraper, at 239 meters tall, offers stunning views across London and the surrounding counties.

Four market-leading 8-loop and two 4-loop intelligent MxPro 5 fire panels alongside three repeater panels have been installed by Bedfordshire-based Firelec Controls Limited – responsible for the design, installation, testing and commissioning of the fire system. The MxPro 5 panels are networked with the tower's BMS using BACnet, include a custom graphics package and link to over 140 AOV

vents and sprinklers with phased evacuation between floors.

Richard Randall, managing director at Firelec, said: "Advanced panels are our first choice every time, combining reliability and superior technical ability. Given the nature and size of the Landmark Pinnacle we needed a high level of protection to secure the public areas of the building and thanks to Advanced's vast cause and effect capabilities they were the ideal solution for this installation project."

The MxPro 5 is the unbeatable multiprotocol fire system. Approved to EN54-2,4&13, it offers four protocols, Apollo, Argus, Hotchiki and Nittan and a completely open installer network that benefits from free training and technical support. Panels can be used in single-loop, single-panel format or easily configured into high-speed, 200 panel networks covering huge areas. MxPro 5 panels are backwardly compatible with existing MxPro 4 networks and include a host of features including AlarmCalm complete false alarm management and reduction.

Amanda Hope, new business development manager at Advanced, said: "Landmark Pinnacle is the latest in a long line of tall buildings to benefit from Advanced protection, including western

Europe's tallest and second tallest buildings, the Shard and 22 Bishopsgate. Where complicated cause-and-effect programming is required, our panels deliver market-leading performance and protection and we're thrilled to have been able to support Firelec with the equipment required."

Advanced, owned by FTSE 100 company Halma Plc, have an impressive history of protecting some of the most prestigious and iconic sites across the globe, including London's Shard, Istanbul's Hagia Sophia and Abu Dhabi International Airport.

Halma is a global group of life-saving technology companies with a clear purpose to grow a safer, cleaner, healthier future for everyone, every day.

Advanced is a world leader in the development and manufacture of intelligent fire systems. The performance, quality and ease-of-use of its products see Advanced specified in locations all over the world, from single-panel installations to large multi-site networks. Advanced's products include complete fire detection systems, multi-protocol fire panels, extinguishing control, fire paging and false alarm management systems.

0345 894 7000
www.advancedco.com



Sika's modern methods of construction division hits the mark on expertise



Sika's modern methods of construction division is testament to its world-leading status as a manufacturer and supplier of construction materials for a wide variety of applications. The team works with offsite manufacturing and assembly companies to look at how Sika products can be used as part of the process in this fast-growing sector. Sika's decision to create this team of experts in 2019 came at a time where offsite manufacturing was growing in popularity, as a result of its multiple benefits including improved quality control and reduced waste and speed of construction. Now, an extended team of offsite manufacturing specialists has been selected to cover a breadth of skill and expertise. Sika offers the industry's widest product ranges for sealing and bonding, roofing, building finishing, passive fire protection, damping and reinforcing, concrete, flooring, waterproofing and wall finishes for interior and exterior applications, and bathroom pod waterproofing and tiling systems. With extensive technical expertise and solid practical experience on every continent, in many climates and environments, Sika is a qualified, reliable partner for all manner of manufacturing and construction needs.

07803 667225 www.sika.co.uk



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Premier Tech launch the next generation of Rewatec compact and vertical pump stations



Premier Tech Water and Environment is pleased to announce the launch of its Rewatec range of compact and vertical pump stations. Building on over 50 years' of experience in the design, development and manufacture of innovative water and wastewater treatment systems, Premier Tech has redesigned its range of compact and vertical pump stations to provide a reliable and efficient solution for raising sewage, effluent, wastewater and surface water in areas where a gravity discharge is unavailable. By consolidating the design methodology and relevant componentry of the existing range where appropriate, and by analysing the operational effectiveness of each tank, Premier Tech has streamlined its manufacturing and ordering process to significantly reduce lead times across the new range, resulting in a much quicker delivery time for all its customers across the UK. In addition to increased efficiency, the performance of the new compact and vertical pump stations has also been elevated, providing robust, easy to install and long-lasting solutions for total peace of mind. As part of the new range, a single pump is provided with every pump station as standard.

0191 587 8650 www.premiertechaqua.com/en-gb/wastewater-treatment/pump-station



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Circoflo UFH system selected for stylish Yorkshire residential scheme



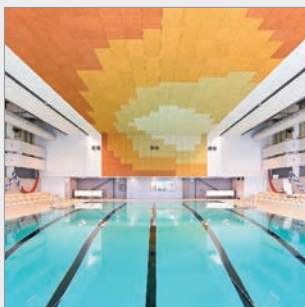
The practical and logistical benefits, as well as the price competitiveness offered by Circoflo's range of underfloor heating solutions, have led to its ClipRail system being employed for a development of nine stylish dwellings in a beautiful rural location in West Yorkshire. As the sub-contractor's founder, Rob Jones confirms his decision to use ClipRail was based on the competitive quote given by Holmfirth based merchant, Holmebuild and the service support available through Circoflo, together with E Tupling, the underfloor heating specialist's main distributor across the north of England. The Plumbing Manager for Holmebuild, Darren, added: "We've been impressed with the direct contact we've had with Circoflo". In the first five houses completed, R. J. Jones' engineers have clipped the 12 mm pipe runs down across Jablite insulation ready for the flooring contractor to lay a conventional wet screed, and connecting each circuit back to the plot specific manifolds provided as part of the Circoflo package. The 133 mm pipe spacing and good thermal transmittance via the screed will help achieve very good occupant comfort while assisting the heating systems to run at optimum efficiency.

01392 360457 www.circoflopro.co.uk



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Acoustic panels can embrace the extreme



Recent tests have shown that Troldekt acoustic panels withstand moisture levels up to 98%, even when combined with high temperatures up to 40°C. These latest tests were carried out by the accredited Danish Technological Institute to the European product standard for suspended ceilings (EN 13964). While the composition of the panels has remained unchanged, this new round of stringent testing reinforces the fact that the panels are suitable for the most demanding of wet, warm and humid environments such as swimming pools, changing rooms and shower rooms. In these environments, it was found that the panels are dimensionally stable and retain their flatness. This means they do not warp over time, giving them a life span in excess of 50 years. The panels are inherently robust and durable because the combined strength of the cement coupled with the breathability of wood means the structure does not rot and acts as an anti-microbial surface resisting fungal growth and other microorganisms. For very humid environments where chlorine is also present, Troldekt offers special structure screws in the highest corrosion protection category.

Troldekt.co.uk



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Advanced reaches new heights at Manchester Climbing Centre



A QuickZone conventional fire alarm system from UK manufacturer, Advanced, has been installed at BlocHaus Climbing, Manchester's newest bouldering wall.

Newly opened, BlocHaus Climbing boasts an array of facilities at its East Manchester site, including 130 climbable boulders, routing roof and on-site cafe.

As part of the active fire protection for the site, the 4-zone QuickZone conventional fire panel from Advanced has been installed alongside Hochiki conventional heat/smoke detectors, Apollo conventional call points and Boshni conventional sounders.

Responsible for the design, installation and commissioning of the fire system at BlocHaus Climbing were Manchester-based, Surefire Protection Ltd. Surefire installed the QuickZone panel alongside music shutdown integration to ensure clear audible notification for all building users in scenarios where the system goes into alarm.

Michael Rouse, fire alarm supervisor at Surefire Protection Ltd, said: "As long-term partners of Advanced, we've worked with its solutions for many years and are confident in their capability to deliver high standards of protection throughout sites large and small. We only specify Advanced fire panels due to their quality, reliability and standard of technical support, and we firmly believe they offer the best solutions available for open protocol systems."

QuickZone is the conventional and twin-wire fire system from Advanced that is quick and simple to install and manage and ideal for installations that have less complex programming and configuration requirements. Offering eight panel variants across the QuickZone and QuickZone XL product lines, the panels will support 2 to 32 zones, are approved to EN 54 parts 2 and 4 and support comprehensive false alarm management.

Neil Parkin, sales manager for the North



of England and Ireland, said: "Surefire's installation of Advanced at BlocHaus Climbing demonstrates our solutions' versatility. Not only will you find our panels installed throughout airport terminals, hospital complexes and university campuses, but also smaller, less complex sites, such as offices, retail outlets and activity centres. Whether you opt for the simpler QuickZone panel, or the feature-rich QuickZone XL, Advanced can deliver the conventional system you need."

0345 894 7000 www.advancedco.com



Doors fit for a new world!

Residents deserve unquestionable comfort and safety in the post pandemic era, as do the professionals responsible for providing it. Many things have changed over the past eighteen or more months since our world was turned upside down. However, perhaps it's also true to say that some things such as expectations and fundamental living principles have just been re-evaluated and prioritised into what's important for personal well-being. For tenants and residents living in affordable homes; whether rented or part owned, that can often be distilled into a not unreasonable must have list, which includes: fire safety and security, comfortable and durable surroundings, which demonstrate

contemporary design and all of which has real environmental credentials.

As a key product in every home, interior timber doors should always exemplify these criteria, without short-cuts, compromise, or half-measures. Being a leading manufacturer and supplier to Housing Associations, Local Authorities, social landlords and affordable homes developers, Vicaima door and doorset solutions ensure buyers and specifiers can meet not only tenant expectations, but also to satisfy their many regulatory and practical concerns at the same time.

Among the many challenges presented in the social housing market and indeed elsewhere, is a lack of skilled labour and for that matter resources in general, when it comes to the installation of doors on site. This is often compounded by the reluctance of many to move beyond the somewhat antiquated 20th century practice of face finishing doors in situ, with its inherent lack of continuity, added expense and drain on time. Fortunately, Vicaima's extensive range of cost effective, designer led, fully finished products alleviate this concern. However, it does not stop there. With the supply of complete doorsets (door and frame), which not only speed up the installation time; but also ensure compliance with appropriate regulations, insuring much of the uncertainty is removed.

Vicaima have always been at the forefront of regulatory and performance measures, with



complete tested and certified product solutions, offering transparency and peace of mind for all. These include Q-Mark authenticated dual scope FD30S/FD60S fire and SBD security doorsets; combining fire and acoustic rated solutions with durability and testing to PAS 24: 2016/BS 6375-2 + 3; all with a 10-year guarantee. What's more, given that all Vicaima products are manufactured to ISO 14001 standards and are FSC certified, you can be sure that the need to protect our planet is as important as the need to provide doors that are fit for affordable living today.

01793 532 333 www.vicaima.com



Creating healthy homes: Aico launch new Environmental Sensors



Introducing an exciting innovation in home life safety from market leaders Aico, their brand-new HomeLINK Environmental Sensors.

Designed to create better maintained, healthier, energy efficient homes, Aico's Environmental Sensors are discreet and secure, placed throughout the home to monitor temperature, humidity and Carbon Dioxide (CO₂).

Available in two models; the Ei1020 measures temperature and humidity while the Ei1025 measures temperature, humidity and CO₂, the Environmental Sensors provide actionable insights into conditions such as mould risk, draught risk, excess cold, heat loss and indoor air quality.

Sustainability is part of Aico's core ethos and they are passionate about supporting the drive to reduce carbon footprint throughout the industry. Insights from the new Environmental Sensors on indoor environmental conditions allow for preventative measures and proactive maintenance, enabling landlords to adhere to requirements outlined in Standards and Legislation, such as the Homes (Fitness for Human Habitation) Act 2018 and the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing, as well as supporting reaching net-zero targets.

Seamlessly integrating with Aico's revolutionary Ei1000G SmartLINK Gateway, the Environmental Sensors overcome many challenges, from compliance and carbon footprint to mould risk and fuel poverty. The SmartLINK Gateway extracts the data from Environmental Sensors and provides a central hub for data from both Fire and Carbon Monoxide alarm systems and Environmental Sensors. Advanced Machine Learning technology

constantly interprets the data to provide clear, actionable insights which are available via the HomeLINK dashboard.

The HomeLINK dashboard provides detailed property and portfolio views and is designed for multiple user roles. With data from Environmental Sensors and connected Fire and Carbon Monoxide alarm systems segmented by high, medium and low risk, top-level data can be viewed on the main dashboard, while deeper insights can be accessed to tackle problems, maintain compliance and enable preventative strategies within housing stock. With all data in one place, landlords can benefit from increased efficiency and improved asset management.

As resident engagement is a crucial focus for Aico, they have developed the HomeLINK Resident App, specifically designed for the Environmental Sensors, in order to empower residents. Through the HomeLINK Resident App, residents are provided with personalised, user friendly data and insight into their home health through an overall rating, temperature, humidity and CO₂ data and handy advice on the measures they can take to improve the quality of their home, including alarm testing notifications.

Aico's Managing Director, Neal Hooper comments: "As the European leader in home life safety, it is vital that we innovate to drive the UK housing industry forwards, meeting the needs of our customers in novel ways, aligning with sustainability and net zero targets, with resident engagement and wellbeing at the fore. This is exactly what our HomeLINK Environmental

Sensors will do. Alongside our SmartLINK Gateway, our Environmental Sensors will support in the advancement of the connected home, providing a wealth of benefits to landlords and residents alike."

Chris Jones, Chief Executive Officer of HomeLINK says of the launch: "Prior to our acquisition by Aico, HomeLINK had huge demand for Environmental Sensors due to the obvious and sizeable compliance and maintenance business case they presented. As Aico's first smart home product outside of smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarms, these sensors represent a large milestone. Having already connected 65,000 devices in UK social housing, and with backorders of several thousand of the new sensors, it is clear that Internet of Things technologies have truly taken hold in the sector."

The brand-new Environmental Sensors, HomeLINK dashboard and Resident App adds another dimension to resident safety while helping landlords to meet their strategic goals, creating safer, healthier homes.

01691 664100

www.aico.co.uk/HomeLINK



Apartments meet BS 8629 Code of Practice with EvacGo



Two seven-storey residential apartment buildings in the cultural and social hot-spot of Cardiff Bay are now protected by evacuation alert systems from UK manufacturer, Advanced.

The EvacGo panels have been installed to meet the criteria set out in the BS 8629 Code of Practice for the design, installation, commissioning, and maintenance of evacuation alert systems for use by fire and rescue services in England and Wales.

Situated in Cardiff Bay's Tiger Quay development, Roath House and Queen Alexandra House are a mix of 73 social and market-rented one and two-bedroom apartments managed by Trivallis, one of Wales' largest housing associations. Trivallis appointed Cardiff-based, Tremorfa Ltd, to complete the installation, requesting that Advanced's EvacGo solutions be installed to ensure both residential buildings met the BS 8629 recommendations.

With all Advanced evacuation alert systems custom-manufactured to reflect each individual building's evacuation zones, Advanced supplied two EvacGo systems to Tremorfa complete with 1-loop card, expandable from four to eight evacuation zones. The two systems were installed alongside a combined total of 63 sounders to provide audible warning to building occupants in the event of an emergency.

Graham Smart, Fire & Security Installation Manager, at Tremorfa Ltd, said: "Having installed Advanced solutions for a number of years, we knew we could depend on its evacuation alert system to meet the requirements of the BS 8629 code of practice. The systems in both apartment buildings are now performing as required and we will be completing the installation of further EvacGo systems at Trivallis' properties."

Evacuation alert control and indicating

equipment (EACIE) is now strongly recommended in England and Wales for all new tall residential buildings – and is mandatory in Scotland. The EACIE must operate completely independently of fire detection systems and be designed to support any evacuation strategy chosen by the fire and rescue service.

Ken Bullock, Business Development Manager – Evacuation Alert Systems, said: "We are seeing a rapid growth in interest in evacuation alert systems from local housing authorities and private landlords eager to ensure that the safety measures installed in their tall residential buildings meet the latest regulations.

"EvacGo has been built using our industry-leading MxPro 5 fire panel technology and, in developing our solution to meet the BS 8629 Code of Practice, we have consulted with fire industry experts involved in developing the standard. Both Trivallis and the residents of Tiger Quay can now rest easy knowing that they have the latest and most sophisticated fire evacuation equipment installed in their homes."

BS 8629:2019 is the new Code of Practice for the design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of evacuation alert systems for use by fire and rescue services in England. In place since November 2019, this code of practice recommends the installation of a dedicated evacuation alert system intended for the sole use of the fire and rescue services and separate from the building's fire alarm system. New high-rise residential developments are among the buildings being prioritised for evacuation alert system installation. Although not yet a legal requirement in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, EACIE installation is already mandatory in new buildings containing flats over 18 metres in Scotland and considered best practice by a



number of fire and rescue services.

Advanced, owned by FTSE 100 company Halma PLC, protects a wide range of prestigious and high-profile sites across the globe – from London's Shard to Abu Dhabi International Airport and the Hong Kong – Zhuhai – Macau Bridge.

Advanced is a world leader in the development and manufacture of fire protection solutions. Advanced's reputation for performance, quality and ease of use sees its products specified in locations around the world, from single-panel installations to large, multi-site networks. Advanced's products include complete fire detection systems, multiprotocol fire panels, extinguishing control, fire paging, false alarm management and reduction systems as well as emergency lighting.

Halma is a global group of life-saving technology companies with a clear purpose to grow a safer, cleaner, healthier future for everyone, every day.

evacgo@advancedco.com
www.advancedco.com



Baldwin Boxall designs residential tower emergency communication solution

Following the Grenfell Tower incident resulting in the tragic loss of life in 2017, and other events in residential towers, it has become clear that a method of informing residents of a situation is urgently needed.

Baldwin Boxall has addressed this problem by designing an ideal solution, which has been successfully installed in a residential tower. Fire officers, council personnel and landlords were consulted and have fully endorsed this ground breaking pilot scheme.

The specially designed, networked, enhanced public address system enables fire rescue services to broadcast speech and message announcements to single floors, multiple floors or the whole building in the event of an emergency situation. Installed as a secondary measure to the building's fire detection and traditional sounders, the Baldwin Boxall system can be used to broadcast information and reassurance to the residents – including instruction as necessary.



Standards compliance

As with all projects, particularly those that require a system that differs from the norm, Baldwin Boxall checked and reviewed the available British Standards which may have been partially applicable, this includes: EN54-16:2008, BS5839-8:2013, BS8629:2019 and BSEN50849:2017. It was found that, due to the application being purely residential, there are no current standards against which this system could be certified.

Protection & coverage

The loudspeakers installed for the enhanced PA system are vandal resistant, rugged units, in addition, to reduce possible exposure to

system damage, the end-of-line monitoring ability has been achieved by specially fitting monitoring PCBs within the loudspeaker units. (EOL monitoring is usually achieved via separate, wall mounted enclosures.) The design of the system ensures that damage to a loudspeaker or cabling – or indeed should a line fault arise – the system will keep functioning thus ensuring the residents will still receive emergency broadcasts in their vicinity.

Monitoring 'Pulse'

Like voice alarm, every part of the enhanced PA is monitored, and battery-backed to ensure it will function as needed during an

emergency. To check the integrity of a monitored system, a '20kHz pulse' is sent through each length of cable from one point to another (critical signal path) at regular intervals which can, on occasion, be detected by animals and those with exceptional hearing. In order to eliminate any possible effects on residents, or pets, a 20kHz filter has been specially added to each EOL monitoring PCB.

The System

The design includes a network of Eclipse4 units and surface mount touch screen microphone. The Eclipse4 has a slim profile and can be installed as a stand-alone PA/VA unit or with multiple units in a networked system. It is a fully integrated public address/voice evacuation system which takes up minimal floor space and is secured by bolting to a wall or suitable solid upright.

The surface mount touch screen microphone (BVRDTSMS) is housed in a robust and weather-proof enclosure. The unit has been designed specifically for the voice alarm market and will interface with any Baldwin Boxall VIGIL voice alarm system.



Baldwin Boxall surface mount touch screen PAVA microphone BVRDTSMS



The Baldwin Boxall VIGIL Eclipse4 PAVA wall mount system

01892 664422
www.baldwinboxall.co.uk



MS Fire Retardant, from Delta Membranes



David J Symes from Delta Membrane Systems Limited discusses the versatility of Delta MS 500 Fire Retardant membranes when it comes future proofing construction

In an age where prevention to fire is rightly under scrutiny in the construction industry, thoughts should be given to specifying materials which have properties which not only reduce the risk to occupants' safety, but also have a lesser reaction time in the event of fire.

Delta's new innovative fire-retardant MS 500 membrane gives a unique opportunity to the structural waterproofing sector for Type C systems to be used in reducing the spread of fire or where installation has not previously been possible for fire safety reasons.

Delta's new fire-retardant Type C Cavity Drainage System provides architectural freedom and allows systems to be used in not only deep basements but where national Building Regulations Euroclass B or C are

required, meeting building requirements of today, but also that of tomorrow.

Delta MS 500 Fire offers a B-S2, d0 Euroclass fire rating (EN 13501-1:2018) whilst maintaining its strength, durability, functionality, and workability.

The first and most essential element of a Type C membrane is keeping structures dry. Water ingress will potentially result in a corrosive environment, with structures having a reduced life service. Delta MS 500 Fire Retardant has been manufactured using DELTASAFE, compared to the traditional MS 500 membranes.

In principle a Type C, cavity drain membrane system allows moisture or running water to travel behind the membrane within a controlled drainage system. A cavity drain system requires minimal preparation and disturbance to an existing substrate.

In terms of appearance, Delta MS 500 Fire Retardant has the same physical properties to MS 500, a membrane designed from High-Density Polyethylene with 8mm stud.



Delta MS 500 fire retardant enhances a structure's fire performance. MS 500 fire-retardant not only slows down but will reduce the intensity of a fire, limiting damage to a build's structure and its contents.

David J. Symes, Managing Director
01992 523 523 www.deltamembranes.com



Join the green scene

Klasse Group is excited to announce the launch of Outwear™ a high-performance sheathing board designed to transform the construction of the building envelope. Created using a distinctive green finish it provides the important Euroclass A1 level of fire protection and is designed to be fully compliant on structures over 18 m in height.

It is so easy to cut to size using a simple 'score and snap' technique which will negate the need for specialist tools and will eliminate dust and noise on site.

Fixing is simple using the dedicated FixingPoint screws and can be easily handled as the boards are typically 30% lighter than traditional cement boards. This also allows them to be curved and used with a variety of facades including brick, timber, metal, render and rainscreen panels.

As well as being A1 fully non-combustible, it is water resistant and can be left exposed on structures with a 12-month guarantee before you need to complete



the cladding. Once installed it is backed up with a 12-year warranty to give added peace of mind.

The versatile capabilities of Outwear™ makes it ideal for installation on modular buildings, concrete & steel frame buildings and timber frame buildings. Construction costs can be reduced by quick installation enabling internal trades to start quicker.



Klasse is a family run, British owned manufacturer of adhesive solutions and multi-layer laminate protection solutions. Klasse's specially formulated products are the result of years of development and testing by its chemists. Klasse products are successfully sold throughout Europe.

01432 842 030

www.klassegroup.co.uk/outwear-board



The new forest of learning

Erlev school in Denmark's Haderslev is visionary and award-winning for many reasons. With all columns and beams constructed in wood, it is one of the largest timber structures to be constructed in the country for a long time. It's also unusual for the teaching method it employs which comprises student-centred learning and flexible open-learning environments. The school has also just won Denmark's prestigious School Building of the Year 2021.

Architects Arkitema conceived the design based on the principle of a supported forest-like grid of columns in a fixed modular system. This supports high ceilings lined with Troldekt acoustic wood wool panels to create quiet and attractive leaning areas.

Pernille Svendsen of Arkitema Learning is very pleased with the acoustic solution, comprising fine surface wood wool panels. She comments: "I think that the Troldekt ceilings are a wonderful match for the wooden structures and the many interior elements in wood. Troldekt is both an acoustic solution and also suits the overall

design catalogue for the school. The panels have a surface that is a bit rough, but in a good way. A school shouldn't look too fine and polished. It should signal that it can withstand use, hanging things up, exhibiting and moving around. There's room for change here."

The new school is divided into seven clusters, one cluster for each year group from 0 to 6 and a maximum of 70 children in each year. They comprise a variety of spaces ranging from small private niches to multifunctional workshop zones. The varied environment encourages the school's diverse instructional strategies together with a strong focus on movement and physical exercise.

Founded on the Cradle-to-Cradle design concept, Troldekt's natural and inherently sustainable panels are available in a variety of different surfaces and colours and contribute positively to a building's BREEAM, DGNB and LEED ratings. In addition to their high sound absorption and tactile surface, they offer high durability and low-cost lifecycle performance. Available in



Photography: Niels Nygaard



various sizes and in four grades from extreme fine to coarse, the panels can be left untreated or painted in virtually any RAL colour.

Samples, case studies and technical guidance are available from Troldekt, while more information about this project can be found at bit.ly/3gB9Eau

01978 664255 Troldekt.co.uk



VitrA honoured with design award for new London flagship showroom



The new display of Liquid, the VitrA collaboration with Tom Dixon

VitrA Bathrooms has secured a further prestigious industry award, this time for its stunning new flagship showroom in Clerkenwell, London – VitrA London.

The Designer Awards held this year at The Connaught Rooms, London, celebrates

the best in residential and commercial design with numerous categories for design and innovation. VitrA has won Bathroom Show Space of the Year, a recognition for its new 5,500 ft² showroom which was completed during the pandemic.

VitrA London is a creative hub for architects, designers, and thinkers. In addition to a wide range of product displays, the showroom has dedicated spaces for product specification, events, and workshops.

Margaret Talbot, European and UK marketing manager for VitrA said: “We are delighted to receive this award for VitrA London. We are all thrilled with the response to the showroom. I must take this chance to thank everyone who has made it a success, particularly to tpbenett who designed the space, and to thank The Designer for this recognition.”

Please visit www.london.vitra.co.uk to find out more about the showroom and the events programme.

01235 750990 www.VitrA.co.uk



Margaret Talbot receives Bathroom Show Space of the Year from Tom Reynolds, CEO of the BMA and TV's First Date's, Fred Sirieix



VitrA London's event space



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Professional flooring for performing arts & dance education



Dance

The world performs on Harlequin floors

Harlequin is the global leader in the manufacture, supply and installation of performing arts floors and studio equipment. Established as the industry choice for architects, building contractors and the world's most prestigious dance and performing arts companies and schools, we continue to carry out site visits in person or remotely and are working with our partners and clients to ensure we can carry out installations following government health and safety guidelines.

For information about specifying the correct floor for dance and performing arts download our RIBA approved CPD online at www.harlequinfloors.com or via the RIBA CPD page.

If you are interested in booking a CPD please contact cpd@harlequinfloors.com

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Bespoke Stairs in Heritage Tower by Spiral UK



Spiral UK created a bespoke spiral staircase to fit an awkward space in a Listed historic battlement.

Archirondel Tower was originally built in 1794 as part of defensive works around the island to deter French invasion, with a specialised masonry gun platform ensuring it stayed in use when other towers became obsolete. However, during the Second World War it was modified by German Occupying Forces who removed the original stair and poured concrete to allow for machine gun mounting – there's still a swastika inscribed above the steel blast door to this day.

It wasn't until 2019 that the structure was sympathetically renovated and made into a holiday let, to honour its history and secure its future, with Jersey Heritage overseeing the project. Architects Antony Gibb Ltd designed the sensitive refurb with V&V Stonemasons employed as main contractor. They approached us to help with the conundrum of the stairs.

The accommodation is split over four levels including the ground floor terrace and rooftop space – the Jersey Heritage website description states a 'very narrow spiral staircase takes you up to a sleeping area... then continues on up...' which alludes slightly to the difficulties posed by the space available. It's in such spaces that the compact footprint of a spiral works so well.

The proposed stairwell was of varying width – the first challenge. Was there a way to wiggle a spiral stair up through the space? It was decided the best proposal was

to lessen the clear width of the treads, so they were all the same size but the overall stair would be smaller. The clear width of a stair usually has to be of a certain size, depending on how often the stair will be used and by whom, but in this instance Building Control had to agree that this was the safest option to work with the history of the building. The treads were made of steel pans (supporting timber infills) that have front and rear downturn to ensure compliance with the 100 mm sphere rule – gaps in stairs have to be small enough to stop people tripping or small people falling through.

The next challenge was fixing the stair in place so it would be strong and stable without infringing on the fabric of the building. As it turned out, it was necessary to lay services

right through the centre of the stair foundation, yet another tricky obstacle to overcome, especially as they were having to carve the actual bedrock to make it work. In the end, they were covered with a 170 mm deep concrete slab on over the bedrock, to which the central core pole and welded base plate were fixed, with insulation and 70 mm of polished concrete making up the finished floor.

The final intricacy was the fixing of the handrail, with the design alternating between wall-hung and fixed atop the balusters – there was a lot of tweaking and back and forth between all involved to make sure the result was just right, with Spiral opting for adjustable fixings to allow for on site anomalies.

The finished stair? A fairly unassuming galvanised steel and timber tread spiral that belies the amount of work that went into it but sits snugly in its space and performing the all-important function of allowing visitors to explore the previously neglected building and reach that wonderful view.



0330 123 2440 www.spiral.uk.com
info@spiral.uk.com



Immerse yourself in a sensory experience for doors

When we talk about interior doors in the context of sensory experience, the obvious topic is to think about looks and general appearance. However, in our hopefully soon to be, post-pandemic world, a more immersive experience is sought in our future daily lives.

Innovative door design can often be limited to visual perception. In other words, does it turn heads and stand out in its surroundings? A not unrealistic aspiration, although seldom achieved these days. This is especially true given the humdrum and quite frankly tired result presented by the ubiquitous white painted moulded skin doors you see at every turn. The use of colour and wood grain pattern can elevate interior doors immeasurably. This is something Vicaima have been perfecting for over 60 years, with their factory finished decorative door portfolio. However, now they take us on a new journey of sensory experience with the introduction of doors that invite you to feel in every sense of the word.

Two of Vicaima's very popular ranges have recently been extended to provide doors with something more than just great looks. Both ranges are from the Dekordor® collections and include: Dekordor 3D presenting a pronounced embossed grain effect finish, which although rippled to the touch; is very durable. The horizontal designs in Grey, Black, Washed Oak and Dark Cedar have been extended to encompass new vertical Oak inspiration with Glacier and Silver finishes. The second door range offering something more, is Dekordor SD Touch. Here its subtle grain effect foil and highly realistic wood look, blurs both the visual and textural line between technologically advanced materials and original real wood veneer. Available as a vertical grain pattern, in a rich hue of Coffee Oak or for the perfect alternative to plain white; Pearl Oak SD Touch offers a tactile head-turner that adds chic to any room without stretching the budget.

Both these sensory ranges are manufactured and suitable for a variety of applications and



sectors, be it homes, hotels, education, or commercial spaces. Products can be supplied as 'door only' or as part of a complete door kit for rapid assembly on site. All with UK tested and certified fire, security, and acoustic performance where applicable. Vicaima can even offer larger projects the option to select matching wardrobes or wall panels, for the complete room package.

Last but by no means least, is the attention to environmental responsibility. Dekordor 3D and SD Touch, like all Vicaima products, are manufactured to ISO 14001 standards and are FSC certified. So, you can be sure that your choice of doors is not only good for you, but also good for the planet.

Don't just take our word for it, request a sample so you can see and feel for yourself.

01793 532 333 www.vicaima.com



Responding to the design challenges of modern offices

Rudiments is a unique carpet tile and plank collection from IVC Commercial. With a shared colour palette, modular options and designs that work beautifully together, Rudiments can respond to the design challenge of modern offices. Featuring Jute, Teak, Basalt and the brand-new Clay and Clay Create, all carpet tiles in Rudiments are made from solution-dyed nylon for hassle-free performance, meaning that designers can focus on the job in hand, delivering inspirational spaces that support the productivity and wellbeing of their users.

Sharing a similar design, Clay and Clay Create carpet planks are made to work together. With the all-over look of Clay adding texture across large areas and Clay Create's ability to explore colour combinations that mark out activity or transition from one area to the next, it's a combination that makes powerful flooring layouts possible. The new 25 x 100 cm plank



format also means a perfect match to Rudiments carpet tiles, for even more creativity. Adding organic structure to projects, it's presented in a selection of 12 colours from the Rudiments palette. In a random lay plank made to work easily with all Rudiments styles, Clay brings new ways of breaking up spaces.

Rooted in ancient and timeworn stone blocks, Basalt is a random lay carpet tile that adds bold texture. Creating a random

organic pattern well-suited to large areas, the rise and fall of Basalt's structure is available in all 12 colours of the Rudiments carpet tile collection.

The coarsely spun plant threads of woven hessian are the muse for Jute, a subtle and undeniably elegant look for schemes with a sophisticated materials palette. Available in all 12 colourways of the Rudiments collection that blend functional colours with complementing trend hues, this design brings a relaxed harmony to commercial projects.

For Teak, IVC Commercial has explored our innate connection with wood, creating a random lay carpet tile with a structured look and a casual touch for endless mix and match possibilities. Echoing the light and shade thrown by oiled blocks arranged in arbitrary geometric patterns, the carpet tile offers a structured yet casual aesthetic across open spaces in all 12 Rudiments colourways.

01332 851 500 www.ivc-commercial.com



VitrA introduces Liquid, a new bathroom range in collaboration with Tom Dixon

This Autumn, global bathroom brand VitrA introduces Liquid – a new range designed in collaboration with Tom Dixon. Liquid is the first ever bathroom range by the acclaimed British designer.

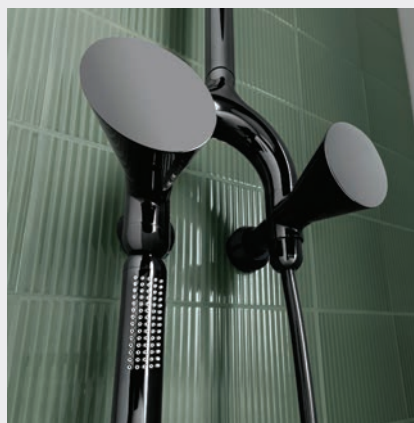
The range is the latest addition to VitrA's portfolio of designer collaborations, part of a long-standing programme of working with world-renowned designers to create distinctive, modern bathroom collections to complement any washroom space.

Tom was impressed by VitrA's extensive experience and highly specialised in-house design team, spending time at the sophisticated manufacturing plant and Innovation Centre at the core of the company's operation. The collaboration with VitrA has allowed Tom to explore new design opportunities while gaining an appreciation of the complexities of manufacturing products for the bathroom.

VitrA and Tom Dixon share a similar vision for creating innovative and original designs that retain their appeal over the years. For Liquid, part of Tom's inspiration was Victorian bathrooms. "I like the feeling of permanence in Victorian bathrooms, with their big chunky taps and fat tubes," Tom notes, "It's an aesthetic that's closely connected to a whole tradition of British engineering and influenced the development of the bathroom." The fact that clay is readily available and extremely durable resonated with Tom, particularly from a sustainability perspective. He found it fascinating "the way a bit of grey and greasy earth can transform

into something so white, clean and shiny." Like much of Tom's recent work, the new collection is aligned with his increasing use of round-edged aesthetics. The designs have been inspired by elements of pop art, such as Jeff Koons and his Balloon Dog and the work of Claes Oldenburg, as well as the sculptor Barbara Hepworth's geometry of soft forms and use of rounded marble.

Tom and VitrA's shared vision was to create a complete bathroom solution that is for everyone: "contemporary without being of the moment," states Tom, while being sufficiently different from other collections on the market. Over months of close collaboration, VitrA and Tom Dixon explored lots of new ideas. "I think design should always increase the potentials," says VitrA's Design Director, Erdem Akan.



"If you get the core pieces right, you can create combinations and potentials – creating more with less." The final result is Liquid, a range that is wholly new and yet somehow familiar.

Recognising the current obsession with skinny and reduced designs, Tom has created the opposite, incorporating fatter, softer lines that are inherently more generous, strong, and long-lasting. The smooth, rounded edges are easy to clean, alongside taps with simple controls, while soft edges ensure a safe bathroom environment.

While the overall design is stripped back and reduced, a style Tom refers to as 'expressive minimalism', the functionality is intuitive so that users can instinctively



understand how to operate the products. "I wanted the collection to look like a kid's sketch of a bathroom basin or a tap," says Tom, "displaying a clear logic and simplicity in looks and usage."

Consciously choosing to offer only white ceramics, the range combines different materials including fluted glass and metal mesh. Taps and showers are available in chrome or for contrast, a new gloss black finish that is atypical in modern bathrooms. The range also includes distinctive wall tiles, available in five designs and with colour options of white, black, grey, sage green and ecru. The tile designs reflect ripples in the water and patterns inspired by the classic U-bend, featuring embossed dots and waves that can be creatively configured. Each of the products can be combined to create different styles and purposes, such as private and public usage, offering customers the opportunity to personalise the bathroom space by choosing from a wide range of products that includes a urinal, bidet and touch-free tap. This flexibility means that customers can use the collection in a wide variety of locations from domestic settings in the home to more professional environments such as offices, restaurants and hotels.

Tom Dixon joins designers including Ross Lovegrove, Sebastian Conran, Arik Levy, Terri Pecora and Claudio Bellini, each of whom has collaborated closely with VitrA's in-house team to create bathrooms that reflect their own vision and aesthetic style.

01235 750990 www.VitrA.co.uk



SUPERPLAN ZERO from Kaldewei

The SUPERPLAN ZERO is the latest product from Kaldewei. This impressive enamelled shower surface has been created by the Berlin designer Werner Aisslinger, the style is reserved and extremely comfortable underfoot.

Kaldewei has always paid attention to customer requirements and as such have translated these needs into Superplan Zero. The shower surface becomes part of the bathroom floor, installed at ground level, the very narrow edges make it possible to tile directly up to the shower edge with almost invisible joints. The waste is placed close to the wall so that standing comfortably and moving safely on the Superplan Zero is guaranteed. The new

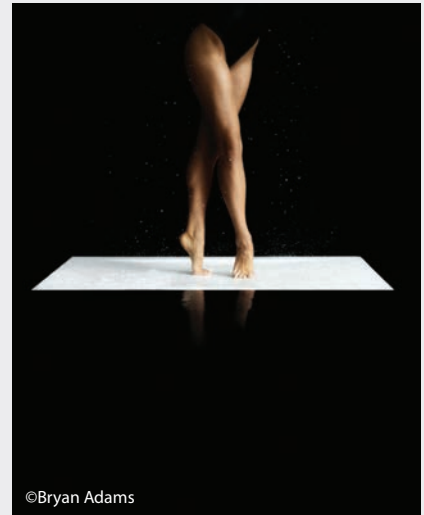


shower surface is characterized by its elegant and precise lines and is easily accessed from three sides, without having to step up or into the surface.

The base is sustainable, extremely long-lasting and 100 percent recyclable steel enamel. The exquisite glass surface is applied to the steel using a special process and this is what gives it such a luxurious finish. Kaldewei is the only steel enamel manufacturer that produces the enamel, i.e. the basic substance for the glass coating, in-house and using a secret formulation. The quality and durability of these surfaces are legendary.

There are over 50 different dimensions from 70 to 180 centimetres, diverse surface variations and a wide range of colours, all of which make the Superplan Zero even more attractive. Whether in large or small bathrooms, building owners, planners and installers have full flexibility. The shower surface is available with the almost invisible, anti-slip surface finish Secure Plus, upon request. The Superplan Zero is 100 percent compatible with all the sealing sets, assembly systems and waste fittings from Kaldewei.

01480 498053
www.kaldewei.co.uk



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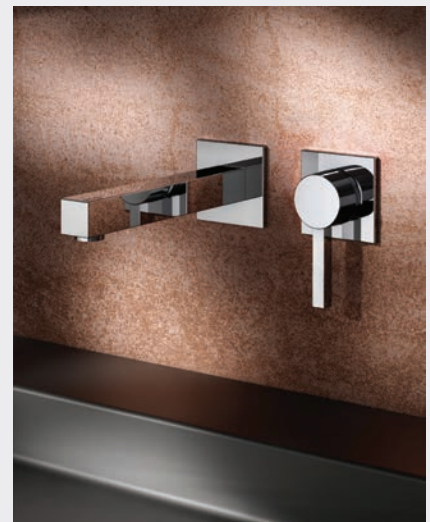
EDITION 90 SQUARE by KEUCO

The square is a pure, strong shape and forms the basis for EDITION 90 SQUARE's consistent and elegant design. The precise 90 degree angle, linear contours work extremely well in chrome; the shine on the surfaces with their defined edge, flat surfaces and exact dimensional accuracy are a special challenge where the production is concerned.



EDITION 90 SQUARE fittings and accessories by KEUCO make a striking addition to any bathroom, with their strong contours and continuous architectural lines, combined with a delicate, fine almost filigree design. Innovative technology is used in combination with traditional manual expertise; the art lies in the precisely detailed grinding and polishing of each individual element before they are electroplated.

The EDITION 90 SQUARE range includes three single-lever mixers in different sizes for washbasins, a wall-mounted spout mixer in various lengths and a bidet fitting. Alongside this are high-quality accessories including items such as towel rails and tumbler holders. With their highly polished reflective quality EDITION 90 SQUARE fittings and accessories bring an airy lightness to modern bathroom design.



The products in this series have been created to meld and blend with KEUCO'S EDITION 90 bathroom furnishing concept; which includes bathroom furniture, washbasins and illuminated mirrors. This makes it the ideal choice for those with a fondness for architectural and angular design elements within a minimalist interior.

01442 865 220
www.keuco.com



IVC Commercial creates inspiring spaces at Assemble by Seven Dials

IVC Commercial's award-winning Studio Moods modular vinyl concept has been used to make a feature out of the floor at 16&20 Short's Garden, a contemporary office space in Covent Garden, London.

A Cat A office in London's Covent Garden district, 16&20 Short's Garden blends urban warehouse with contemporary office design. Across two buildings directly opposite the iconic Neal's Yard, the Grade II Listed Victorian warehouse provides three floors of office accommodation amounting to some 990 m².

On the first floor of 16&20 Short's Garden is a plug and play ready workspace that's used as a showcase of Assemble by Seven Dials, a turnkey fit-out programme offered by the landlord. Here, IVC Commercial's Studio Moods modular vinyl floor was specified by fit-out specialist STOiCA to create a designated zone for the fully integrated kitchenette and breakout and congregation areas.



Ciara McClelland, STOiCA, says: "We originally proposed LVT but felt that IVC Commercial's Studio Moods modular vinyl would be a really great way to elevate the space. We just loved the aesthetics of the flooring and have since received positive feedback reinforcing our own thoughts. Great design was delivered at a sensible price."

Selecting Studio Moods Diamonds and Wicker patterns, STOiCA have used a range

of natural wood and stone effects to create a relaxing look that upholds the premium feel of the entire space. In breakout and congregation areas, the design team selected Sierra Oak in a stylish Wicker pattern for a modern solution to wood effect flooring. For the kitchenette, Diamond in a combination of Verdon Oak and two shades of Jura Stone for a striking tri-tone geometric pattern.

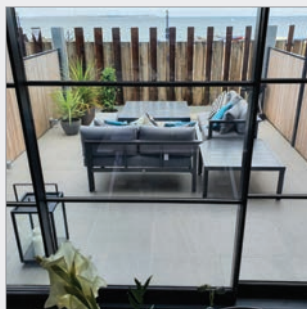
Made in Belgium using 50% recycled content, Studio Moods is IVC Commercial's modular vinyl floor that brings bespoke floor design to commercial interiors. Using nine geometric shapes combined with wood, stone and colour decors, the concept provides 107 off-the-shelf looks that make it fast and easy to select a floor personalised to projects. The modular vinyl also allows the creation of unique patterns, as well as a completely bespoke floor in any combination of 160 Moduleo 55 looks.

01332 851 500 www.ivc-commercial.com



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Norcros Adhesives is the trusted solution for seaside new build properties



Norcros Adhesives has been involved in a project to construct a new development of houses and holiday lets in the popular seaside town of Whitstable, Kent. The project consists of seven houses for private sale and eight holiday lets. All are designed according to the local style to fit in with surrounding buildings and are finished to a luxury standard, offering spectacular views across the bay towards the Isle of Sheppey. The tiling contractor was Cerface of Gillingham, while the main contractor was Westridge Construction. The tiles were supplied by Plus 39 of Rochester and Solus Ceramics. Norcros Adhesives has had a long and successful partnership with Cerface, who prefer to use Norcros Adhesive products wherever possible.

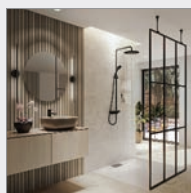
"Projects these days are challenging enough," says Chris Clark the director of Cerface, "so to be able to use products from suppliers that you know will work makes a lot of difference. On this project we had every confidence that the Norcros Adhesives products would work very well for the areas involved."

01782 524140 www.norcros-adhesives.com



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Introducing Midas™ 220 mixer shower range



Bathroom specialist Aqualisa has announced an additional series within its premium Midas™ 220 mixer shower collection, featuring an elegant black metal finish. The Midas 220 in Black makes a bold, contemporary statement, and satisfies the growing demand for black bathroom products and accessories. Manufactured to

exceptional standards, the Midas 220 in Black series is equipped with a thermostatic brass body and brass handles, and each model complies with Water Regulations Advisory Scheme (WRAS) criteria for quality.

01959 560010 www.aqualisa.co.uk/midas-220-black



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Out with the old, in with the Ali VU

Whether helping to future-proof new build homes or improve the energy-efficiency of existing housing stock, Senior Architectural Systems' slimline Ali VU aluminium windows have been specifically developed to offer exceptional thermal performance and outstanding design flexibility. Featuring a strong yet slim profile, Senior's Ali VU aluminium windows have a depth of just 38 mm when specified as a fixed light, or 66 mm with a standard vent. The attractive narrow sightlines make Ali VU the perfect cost-effective option for replacement windows, with the system combining the aesthetic appeal of traditional heritage steel windows with ultra-modern levels of thermal efficiency.



01709 772600 www.seniorarchitecturalsystems.co.uk



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A new generation of libraries defined by copper

Nordic Brown Light pre-oxidised copper cladding, in the form of large shingles and vertical fins structuring glazing, creates a strong civic identity for the expanded and remodelled library in Kirkkonummi, Finland.

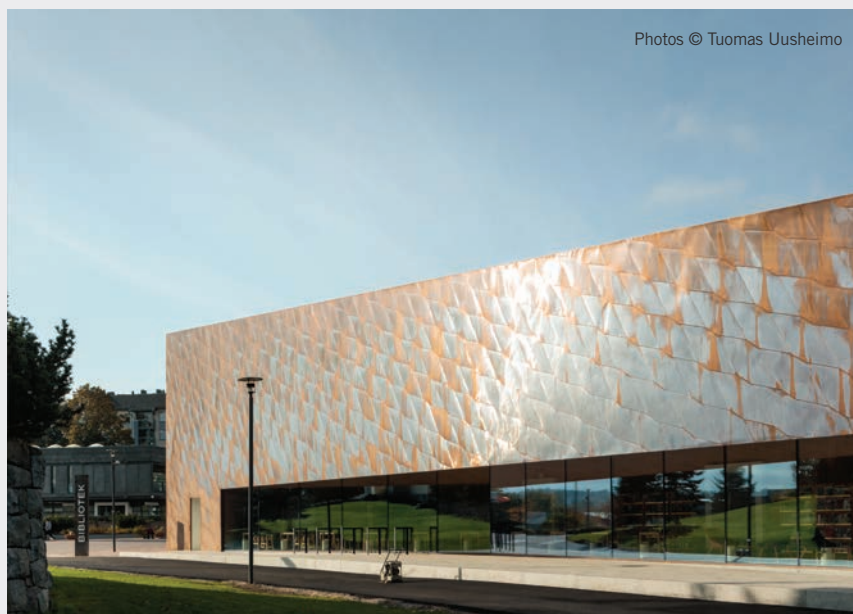
The revitalised building exemplifies a new generation of Finnish libraries which its architects, JKMM, have been active in shaping. As JKMM founding partner Teemu Kurkela explained: “The library typology in Finland has changed. They are no longer solely about books but also getting together to share knowledge and experiences through multiple channels. They are not unlike community halls, which is why Finns today refer to libraries as public living rooms.”

The project is a sustainable, adaptive reuse of the original 1980s concrete library building, utilising its embodied carbon. JKMM have remodelled it and doubled its size, introducing new spaces for community uses such as toddler groups, youth clubs, exhibitions, events and performances.

Nordic Brown Light Skin

Externally, the library is now clad in Nordic Brown Light pre-oxidised copper enwrapping the building and giving it a unity and strong presence as a civic landmark. Teemu Kurkela said: “The neighbouring medieval church has a distinctive green copper roof and we created a dialogue between the old and the new. Libraries have a very long lifespan, so it is sustainable to use a facade material with an exceptionally long life. It is an inherently timeless material that ages beautifully and we expect the library to look even better in 50 years”.

Nordic Brown provides the same oxidised brown surface that otherwise develops over



Photos © Tuomas Uusheimo

time in the environment. The thickness of the oxide layer determines the colour of the surface finish, with darker or lighter (Nordic Brown Light) shades of brown. Nordic Brown Light gradually changes over time to a stable dark chocolate brown.

Unified by materiality

Nordic Brown Light copper is used in several architectural forms – unified by their materiality – notably, distinctive shingles generating diagonal wave-like patterns. Teemu Kurkela added: “The shingle patterns bring to mind images of fishing nets, particularly fitting for a city with an extensive and beautiful coastline, and maritime heritage. Previously, we used similar Nordic

Brown Light shingles to clad our extension to Alvar Aalto’s landmark Seinäjoki Library. But at Kirkkonummi, we used slightly larger shingles to make the pattern stronger, and arranged them at a more dynamic angle”.

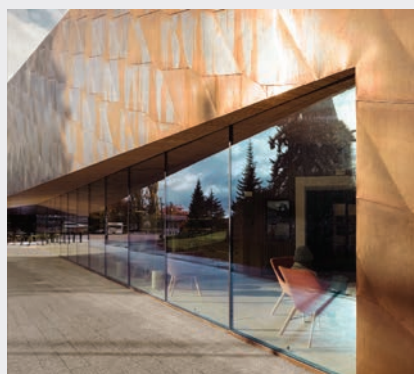
Living copper surfaces

As well as Nordic Brown, the extensive Nordic Copper range also includes Nordic Standard ‘mill finish’ plus Nordic Blue, Nordic Green and Nordic Turquoise, developed with properties and colours based on the same brochantite mineralogy found in natural patinas. In addition to the solid patina colours, ‘Living’ surfaces are available for each colour with other intensities of patina flecks revealing some of the dark oxidised background material.

Nordic Copper alloys include Nordic Bronze and Nordic Brass – which can also be supplied pre-weathered. The innovative Nordic Royal is an alloy of copper with aluminium and zinc, giving it a rich golden through-colour and making it very stable.

A growing series of ‘copper stories’ building studies exemplify the best in contemporary architecture and showcase the diversity of surfaces, forms and applications available with Nordic Copper today.

01875 812 144
g.bell@aurubis.com
www.nordiccopper.com



Schöck Isokorb for award winning 'Sky-House' scheme

Part of the 'Sky-House' development.
Image courtesy of CODA Architecture



The 'Sky-House' development, at Oughtibridge Mill to the north of Sheffield, comprises forty high-specification homes. The term 'Sky-House' being derived from the spacious feel of the properties, which benefit from unrivalled views and offer bright and airy living, complete with riverside balconies. Designed by CODA Architecture, it is built very much with sustainability in mind and minimising any risk of thermal bridging at the balcony detailing is critical. The load-bearing structural thermal break that easily achieves this; and most effectively helps the project meet compliance with the necessary Building Regulations (and the impending Future Homes Standard criteria) is the Schöck Isokorb. Specifically it is the Schöck Isokorb T type SK for concrete-to-steel connectivity that is incorporated at Oughtibridge Mill. This is a complete system thermal break. It is unique in being the only formally UK approved product that satisfies the load-bearing and thermal insulation requirements for this type of application, providing assurance to the end-user that the safest product has been selected for their building needs.

The avoidance of thermal bridging is extremely important for a number of reasons. Any local heat loss will result in more energy being required to maintain the internal temperature of the building. Also, low internal surface temperatures in the area of any thermal bridge can cause condensation and this in

turn is likely to result in structural integrity problems. Mould growth too is a possible risk, which in a residential situation can cause asthma and allergies.

AWARD WINNING SCHEME

Oughtibridge Mill 'Sky-House' is an award winning scheme – recipient of the Development of the Year (fewer than 50 homes) at the Insider Yorkshire Property Industry Awards 2021. It is part of a wider scheme for 320 new homes that will enable the regeneration of this former industrial mill site. It had been a flourishing paper mill from Victorian times until its closure in 2007 and renovation of the old mill building for use as a mixed-use food hall, community hub and leisure facility is underway. To reference the industrial history of the area, a sensitive contemporary design style features saw-toothed roofs on the three and four-bed townhouses.

ALL ISOKORB PRODUCTS ARE FULLY COMPLIANT

In addition to its comprehensive range of Isokorb solutions for concrete-to-steel, concrete-to-concrete and steel-to-steel – Schöck also offers a maintenance free alternative to wrapped parapets. All products meet full compliance with the relevant UK building regulations and have the security of independent BBA Certification, which provides NHBC approval. The temperature

Graphic of the T type SK in position



factor requirement (FRSI) used to indicate condensation risk, which for residential buildings must be equal to, or greater than, 0.75 is also easily met by incorporating the Isokorb.

01865 290 890
www.schoeck.com



LISTEN HERE

MEG makes a splash!

Located in the foothills of the Franklin Mountains in El Paso in Texas, Camp Cohen is one of three new waterparks designed to celebrate the culture of the city's diverse communities.

Parkhill Architects were appointed by the City Authority to design them and Camp Cohen was the first. It was decided to use Abet Laminati's MEG exterior grade laminate for this exciting and creative camp-themed park which includes water slides, a toddler pool, lazy river and more amenities for all ages.

MEG was specified as the architects were looking for wood effect cladding which would complement the camp theme and which could be cut into planks to simulate a cabin. It was also heavy duty enough to cope with the sustained usage and the extremes of sunlight and temperatures which can easily range between -2°C in the winter and 35°C in the summer. As a result, MEG 754 Padouk was seen as the perfect solution. This visual plank look can now also be achieved with the newly-



Photography: Keith Talley, Talley Photography

launched and competitively-priced Easy MEG siding product.

Camp Cohen is another example of MEG in action where the need for high performance and durability is married up with low life-cycle costs, aesthetic design and resistance to weathering. The range comprises 58 colours and 29 woodgrains together with 5 concrete and metal effect finishes.

MEG is a self-supporting high pressure laminate (HPL) for cladding the exterior of buildings, balconies and other applications. It features high resistance to temperature, climate shock, weathering, UV light and impact. Samples and technical literature are available from Abet Ltd.

020 7473 6910
uk.abetlaminati.com



Introducing enhanced components for flat roofing systems

Bauder is introducing two new products to enhance its waterproofing systems. Bauder has launched BauderTEC DBR 06 for use as an Air and Vapour Control Layer (AVCL) in single ply systems, and as an AVCL and carrier membrane in cold applied liquid applications. This product will be replacing the current 0.4 mm BauderTEC DBR used in Thermofol and Thermoplan single ply systems and replacing BauderTEC KSD DUO used in Bauder LiquiTEC and LiquiTOP cold applied liquid systems.

BauderTEC DBR 06 is a 0.6 mm thick, technically advanced, self-adhesive, elastomeric, reinforced bitumen AVCL, featuring an aluminium foil facing for vapour impermeability. In both single ply and cold applied liquid applications, BauderTEC DBR 06 can be used over certain new and existing roof systems and new deck substrates including profiled metal, plywood and OSB.

The additional thickness of DBR 06 when installed within a single ply system increases

the robustness of the overall system and allows for use within a fully adhered assembly. When used in cold applied liquid systems, DBR 06 increases flexibility of the system and the thickness at the laps is reduced, resulting in easier installation of the system and a smoother finish. In addition, the product is more lightweight than other AVCLs meaning projects benefit from safer and faster installation, resulting in shorter lead times.

Bauder has also released a new accessory product for waterproofing soil vent pipes. The Bauder SVP Cover is designed to facilitate the detailing of soil vent pipes up to 600 mm high on Bauder RBM, Thermofol, LiquiTEC and LiquiTOP flat roof systems. The Bauder SVP Cover provides a visually appealing way to waterproof soil vent pipes.

01473 257671
bauder.co.uk



A cracker of a project – self-build in Lincolnshire



Fulfilling the meaning of “Crackerjack”, which means an exceptionally good person or thing, everything about Crackerjack Barn is exceptional; from the barn style building itself to the stunning views of the surrounding land, and incorporating Jo’s Great Grandfather’s name Jack.

Having previously lived in the Cotswolds, working long and intense hours in London for Jo and Greg came to realise it was time to move back to Jo’s Lincolnshire roots and seize the opportunity to build their dream home.

The land the house was built on once belonged to Jo’s Great Grandfather, where he lived for most of his life but sadly the house was beyond repair. Now standing proudly on the land is the home that Jo and Greg designed themselves.

By the end of 2017 plans began to form for the initial designs of the property. The couple created a list of necessities as well as a ‘wish list’ for their potential home, visiting show homes and looking up plans online for inspiration. There were many variations of design before settling for a Potton timber frame building beautifully complimented by George Barnsdale timber windows and doors.

As works began in August 2018 and

with winter quickly approaching, the need to have the house watertight before the weather turned was essential. Having gained quotes from other companies, it was George Barnsdale’s UK manufacturing that was the key selling point.

Wanting Crackerjack Barn to maintain an authentic feel to a traditional barn, they opted for double height windows to allow as much light in as possible. With the house being south facing, the windows had reflectors added to keep rooms cooler in the summer months.

Choosing a traditional front door surrounded by large glass panelling gives a modern barn twist that floods the entrance way with natural light.

Adding two sets of bi-fold doors to the kitchen to feel connected with the outside and allow for socialising when hosting summer BBQs. The couple took their time viewing samples and colours before deciding on dusty grey (RAL7037) for the windows and wanting a vibrant front door, they chose purple violet (RAL 4007).

“We knew we wanted grey for the windows. At the time, anthracite grey was very popular, but we wanted something lighter and softer. For the doors, we changed our minds on the colour scheme several times, but after seeing a sample of purple violet, we knew it would look great for

Crackerjack Barn and we’re really pleased with the final results!” Jo said.

Deciding to add a touch of glamour, they chose a set of French doors in the main lounge, also finished in dusty grey. The special touch is an additional bi-fold door in the master bedroom giving stunning views of the summer sunsets over the farmland surrounding this beautiful barn home.

When it comes to maintenance of their George Barnsdale products it couldn’t be easier, “we have a window cleaner scheduled for every 4 weeks, he cleans with only distilled water and the windows really sparkle afterwards!”

The final touch to the windows was the double glazing with titanium warmedge spacer bars, opting for a darker spacer bar allowed for the double glazing to blend into the building. Giving a modern finishing touch was the addition of our classic collection hardware in polished chrome.

Greg project managed the house build from start to finish, and worked tirelessly for the duration. He even spent a solid four months tiling the kitchen and bathroom himself, but it was very much worth it when Jo and Greg moved into their forever home within 11 months, in late June of 2019.

01775 823000
www.georgebarnsdale.co.uk



Sika Demonstrates Extensive Fire Safety Compliance Using Extended Application Assessments

Sika Sarnafil single ply on OCL Facades Ltd New Head Office, by Contour Roofing (Essex) Limited



Market-leading roofing manufacturer Sika has now completed Extended Application Assessments, testing to CEN/TS 1187:2012 Test method 4 for the entire Sika Sarnafil range of PVC single ply membranes. Subsequently, the most common Sika Sarnafil roof systems are now all classified under BSEN 13501-5 as BROOF(t4).

Working closely with independent global fire safety testing, inspection and certification company Warringtonfire – part of the Element Materials Technology Group – Sika has undertaken significant investment to attain the BROOF(t4) classification across all PVC membrane systems. This covers a range of permutations, including membrane type, thickness of PIR insulation, up to a 70-degree pitch and on any structural substrate.

A project spanning over two years' work, Sika has invested a substantial amount of time and resource, utilising the EXAP standard CEN/TS16459, which is available as a means of covering ranges of system permutations.

Dean Grady, project leader and Senior Product Engineer at Sika, comments on why Sika has opted to invest in this type of testing: "The market has become acutely aware of

fire safety and it is looking to industry leaders to help. We have seen for a while now that specifiers, architects, clients and building control are increasingly insisting on fire test certificates that directly reflect the exact system being installed. As it is very problematic to test every single permutation of a system, when you factor in multiple substrate types, insulation thickness and membrane type/thicknesses, EXAP testing through an independent body allows us to cover most variations of the system being installed. With Sika Sarnafil roof systems classified as BROOF(t4), we're able to demonstrate and facilitate regulatory compliance for fire safety and satisfy current market demand."

Continuing, he explains how the update will affect specifiers: "Having this comprehensive BROOF(t4) classification, which indicates the highest external fire performance for roofs, means that specifiers and other stakeholders can use Sika Sarnafil on their roofing projects with a very high degree of confidence, assured that they're complying with fire regulations."

The only people who are permitted to undertake any degree of desktop/extrapolation studies now are accredited, independent fire

test houses. This clearly removes the ability for anyone else to interpret or extrapolate the fire test data that may have been practiced in the past.

"We are not offering a view, we are offering wide-ranging test data and evidence that covers most permutations and situations – all with third-party verification, which is key. It's a clear way forward in terms of mitigating roof fire risk and helping support those with the heavy responsibility of ensuring people's safety," he adds.

The project involved taking a huge existing body of fire testing reports into consideration and conducting further, more extensive physical testing. On completion of the programme, Sika now has independent test reports readily available on request.

With plans to extend the initiative across the entire Sika roofing range, Sika looks forward to increasing the confidence and reassurance specifiers are looking for and strengthening its position as an expert and leader in testing and compliance.

01707 394444
www.sika.co.uk/roofing



LISTEN HERE

A mindful eco build from Blue Sky Property Services and West Fraser

Timber frame specialist, Blue Sky Property Services, of Norfolk, is always mindful of the environmental impact of its building and renovating projects. This is certainly true of the conversion of an old engineering unit into a luxury two double bedroom eco holiday rental being built in the Norfolk countryside. The property, owned and managed by Emma and Neil Punchard, will be finished to the exacting standards of their other Eco Barn and Hay Barn holiday lets.

"We always specify West Fraser products as they are easy to use and are produced with the environment in mind. We used CaberShieldPlus on the first floor as we didn't need to worry about leaving it exposed while we were building. The non-slip textured finish is not only safe; as the waterproof coating is permanent, it means there's no plastic to throw away!" said James Carter, Director of Blue Sky Property Services.



CaberShieldPlus is specially designed to withstand exposure to wet conditions. It has protection on both sides, not just the exposed upper surface. The top surface features a permanent non-slip coating that not only prevents damage to the board but also ensures a safe working platform. The underside is protected with the smooth coating that not only protects against damage but also makes the board easy to slide into position. For added durability, the coating applied to CaberShieldPlus is not designed to be peeled

off after completion but is bonded permanently on both sides of the panel and waterproof. BBA-approved for up to 60 days' continuous exposure to the elements when used with CaberFix D4 adhesive, the board lets builders carry on building even with the roof off.

All West Fraser panel products produced in the UK are net carbon negative and manufactured in mills that have obtained the coveted environmental ISO 14001 accreditation. Responsibly sourced, the panels are FSC certified and created from locally grown timber, cutting embodied carbon from transportation. Sterling OSB Zero is also the first OSB product to be made in the UK with zero added formaldehyde, ensuring an even 'greener' board that meets all standards with ease. Samples of SterlingOSB Zero, and West Fraser's other construction panels, can be ordered on the website.

01786 812 921 uk.westfraser.com

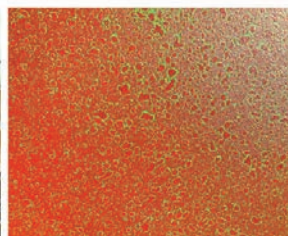
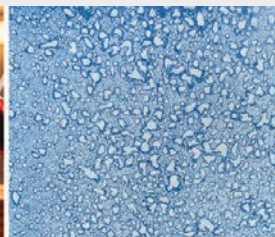
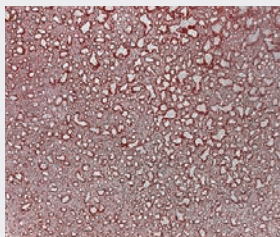


Refresh your designs with Powdertech 'Zest'

Powdertech Corby has launched 'Zest', a vibrant range of powder finishes adding an exciting fresh new look to architectural metal work. Suitable for exterior and interior use on steel and aluminium, Zest finishes have excellent colour durability as well as the usual high protective performance against corrosion and abrasion that all Powdertech's architectural finishes provide.

Zest shades reflect the wonderful colours on fruit stalls, and in gardens and parks. 'Blueberry Sherbet' and 'Tangerine Crush' are just two of the finishes waiting to be plucked off the shelves to bring vitality to your project. The finishes are not a flat colour but have texture, with lighter and darker shades of the one colour (in the case of Sherbet) or of two colours (for Crush) almost as though they are frosted. 'Sherbet' shades are fizzy and bright and as mouth-watering as the name suggests. 'Crush' hues are rich and deep and embrace the trend for colours that 'pop'.

Asked about the inspiration behind the new range, Richard Besant, director, Powdertech Corby explained: "We have



developed powder ranges that add more than just colour and protection to metal, over a number of years, starting with our Wood Finish Collection in 2000. Our Collections enable designers to bring metal to life in new and exciting ways for their

architectural exterior and interior creations."

Powdertech will be exhibiting at London Build on November 17th & 18th stand H101. Please visit the website to order free swatches.

01536 400890 www.powdertechcorby.co.uk



THE WAY FORWARD FOR MODERN HOMES

Garador's extra secure and highly insulated garage doors.



Garador's premium sectional garage doors offer high levels of insulation as well as security

Home security remains a high priority for homeowners throughout Britain and having extra security in place, from high security window and door locks to electronic surveillance, is a growing trend. But one area that is often neglected is the garage.

GARADOR'S PREMIUM SECTIONAL DOORS OFFER A NUMBER OF OUTSTANDING DESIGN FEATURES:

HIGH SECURITY

A garage door can be the first port of call for a burglar as it helps them gain access into the main house, but increasingly burglars also target garages for what they can find inside. With modern DIY and gardening equipment, home gyms, and now some being used as home offices, garages can provide valuable takings for a modern burglar.

Britain's leading garage door manufacturer, Garador, recognise the importance of high-security garage doors and recently introduced Secured by Design (SBD) accreditation to their fully insulated sectional garage door range. The

Secured by Design badge is a clear indication that the product has a much higher level of security and has undergone rigorous testing to withstand an attack from a burglar.

For full SBD accreditation, these doors also need to be fitted with a GaraMatic automatic operator. These operators transmit using 128-bit encryption that is used by many banks today for their online banking security, so no one can copy your signal but importantly, the system also has a mechanical locking mechanism built into the operator boom. This stops potential burglars from forcibly lifting the garage door and gaining access to the garage.

HIGH INSULATION

While security is today a vital element, Garador haven't forgotten insulation, another aspect that is essential in a modern home. Garador's exceptional premium sectional garage doors have been specifically designed to offer a high level of thermal insulation. Each section of the door is 42 mm thick and filled with PU foam. Additional features also include rubber seals on

all four sides, to ensure weather and drafts are kept outside. This thermally insulated design is ideal for keeping the garage warm and dry, especially when it is adjoining the main house when it can help to lower your heating bills.

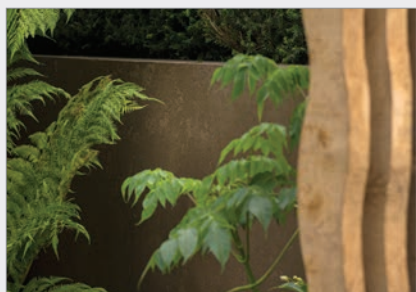
CONTEMPORARY DESIGN

As with any major feature in a home, design is also key and Garador have ensured that while these garage doors offer outstanding security and insulation, they also excel in other facets to suit modern properties. A very minimalist modern appearance is perfectly suited to contemporary architecture characterised by individuality, but it is also practical with door sections that lift vertically and run on tracks back into the garage meaning there is no "kick-out" from the door and parking right up close is possible. Garador's range of Premium Sectional Doors are the way forward for any modern home.

01935 443722
www.garador.co.uk



Armourcoat PPX® features in award-winning sanctuary show garden at Chelsea flower show



Armourcoat® were specified for an award-winning garden at this year's RHS Chelsea Flower Show. Designed by Thomas Hoblyn, and built by The Garden Builders, the Silver Gilt medal winning sanctuary show garden, incorporated Armourcoat's exterior polished plaster (PPX).

The garden design, entitled "The Boodles Secret Garden", is inspired by the well-loved children's story by Frances Hodgson-Burnett, and is an interpretation of the journey to

an enchanted, life-changing sanctuary.

Two walls were hand finished with Armourcoat PPX, a low maintenance, durable exterior limestone render that creates stunning honed and textured stone-like finishes.

Thomas Hoblyn commented: "The garden has a very naturalistic feel about it and I used a lot of natural products like timber in its raw form and hand dressed stone and I really wanted to create a wall that had the same

mood. Armourcoat PPX creates this lovely pitted effect so it looks like it's been there for a long time which is bang on for the ambience I was trying to create for the sanctuary garden. Armourcoat really does have that natural beautiful textured finish. It's a perfect exterior product as it looks flawless and is designed to last. I would happily use Armourcoat again and again and again, I would use them for all my show gardens because it's a great way to get a really good effect but it's a real product that you can use outside. This is not a stage set, this is a real garden and this is what Armourcoat are really good at doing".

The finished garden highlights the importance of finding an inner sanctuary to restore and enhance life after uncertainty and crisis; a space in which to heal and move forward, metaphorically and in the real space of our own gardens.

Tom Hoblyn is a British landscape designer, horticulturist, and gardener designer. An established figure at both Chelsea and RHS Hampton Court designs "The Boodles Secret Garden" is Tom's seventh show garden for the RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

01732 460668

www.armourcoat.com



Stunning solar powered Park & Ride goes green

Green-tech has made a significant contribution to the UK's first fully solar powered Park & Ride facility on the outskirts of Leeds in West Yorkshire. Designed by Mott MacDonald in partnership with main contractor BAM Nuttall, the brand new Stourton Park & Ride heralds in a new era of clean, green public transport.

The Park & Ride will help towards a net-zero carbon economy for the city by lowering carbon emissions, improving air quality, and reducing congestion.

A photovoltaic solar canopy covers a third of the site, which powers the terminal building, street lighting and vehicle charging points, and feeds excess electricity back into the local grid. The site provides 1,200 parking spaces along with 26 fast electric vehicle charging ports and four rapid chargers.

Care was taken to reduce the visual impact of the site from all directions, and over 11,000 trees have been planted in and around the park & ride site with an impressive

54:1 replacement ratio. The main central area includes raised Corten steel planters, shrubs, hedges, specimen and evergreen trees to provide year-round coverage, creating a soft, open and welcoming environment.

Green-tech involvement:

Green-tech has a good working relationship with both Mott MacDonald and BAM Nuttall, and supplied all the stakes and crossbars, canes, tree belting and blocks to support the trees in the central area. All Green-tech square-sawn softwood and machine round stakes are FSC Certified and available from stock.

To protect the new perimeter planting from browsing animals and the elements Green-tech supplied 6,000 recyclable tree and shrub shelters, 450 m² of 100% recycled jute Ecomatt mulch matting, as well as 275,000 litres of ornamental bark for the planters and beds. The Ecomatt allows air and water to pass through the layers while



suppressing weed growth and acting as valuable insulation around the root area.

To ensure the best chance of successful establishment, Green-tech supplied 200,000 litres of soil improver to help optimise the structure and fertility of the soil, as well as over 300 sets of irrigation pipes with Aria inlets and Mona reservoir tanks. On the more exposed trees, Green-tech DropMan anchor systems were used, holding the tree stable without the risk of soil contamination from sleepers or kerb stones.

Finally, 1,000 m² of impermeable gtRootBarrier® 325 was used where there was a need to deter roots from spreading too far.

01423 332100 www.green-tech.co.uk



Resin bound paving installed for hotel garden



Resin bound paving from Sureset has been installed for a hotel rooftop garden at Deansgate Square, Manchester. A luxury rounded marble, 10 mm Astro Peake, laid to a recommended 30 mm depth onto a honeycomb grid structure

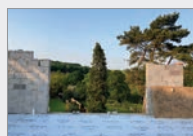
known as SureCell; this type of base structure is light, easy to transport and equally as strong and sound as more traditional bases.

01985 841 180

www.sureset.co.uk/case-studies/swanky-rooftop-garden-manchester



From neglected bungalow to forever home



When Mark and Jayne Holdsworth bought a neglected 1960's bungalow, they could already envisage a fantastic forever home. With the building situated on a steep slope, the floors needed to be installed to take the levels of the house up before making the building

watertight. The Holdsworths' builders' merchant recommended West Fraser's CaberDek and the results spoke for themselves! "We needed a hard-wearing heavy-duty product that provided protection from the elements. With CaberDek that's exactly what we got!" said Mr Holdsworth. Samples of CaberDek can be ordered on the website.

uk.westfraser.com



Magply partners with Prokol

A Dutch manufacturer of fireproof flat roof coatings is recommending IPP Limited's Magply boards as the ideal substrate on which to install its liquid applied treatments: based not only on their fire rating and stability, but also because of the material's flatness. A major installation is currently underway in Essex, on an industrial building known as 'The Gloucester's', where a long established local building company Davis Bros is overlaying the old 'northlight' roof over its own premises and that of its neighbours with a Prokol specification that includes 6 mm Magply. The roof structure is formed from concrete planks over steel trusses and has an existing felt waterproofing system nearing the end of its life. This is being overlaid with Soudal Foam and 100 mm of Xtratherm foil-faced insulation, onto which the 6 mm Magply boards are bonded using a polyurethane adhesive. The joints are sealed with Prokol's special high elongation tape before the MonoSeal top layer is applied. Magply MOS boards present a fire-safe and environmentally friendly alternative to conventional plywood or OSB products.

01621 776252 www.magply.co.uk





Cover image: Armourcoat
See page 28 for details