GASCOIGNE WEST, BARKING, LONDON

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A multi-phase regeneration project in Barking, east London, will see a notorious estate replaced by a highly considered development with a renewed sense of quality and space, including several schemes by White Arkitekter. The firm's Linda Thiel took James Parker through two of its phases

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FROM THE EDITOR



This week's Futurebuild at ExCeL pushed sustainability even further to the forefront, including the very visible move of removing the carpets (which I was shocked to discover were single use). The main conference programme saw traditional 'construction' or 'architecture' topics sidelined in favour of key sustainability themes like energy, urban masterplanning, rebuild versus retrofit, and our 'contract with nature.'

Even personal behaviours were in focus within a whole conference stream dedicated to 'Activism,' including what actions architects can personally take, as well as within practice, to make decisive moves on fighting climate change. While this of course amounted to more talk about the subject when the challenge is now painfully stark (a recent UN report stated "there is no credible pathway to [limiting temperature rises to] 1.5°C in place"), it was debate shot through with a sense of urgency regarding making practical steps, right now.

The vast gulf between personal actions and the potential to effect systemic change at either government or 'just' construction industry level is part of the problem. We are simultaneously discussing two very different scales of doability, and proportionate scales of results. However, given where we are, with the UK lagging behind other countries on net zero, I believe that all efforts are important. Essentially, we 'shouldn't let the perfect be the enemy of the good' (a borrowed phrase I find myself repeating).

Futurebuild coincided with International Women's Day. Fittingly, I was privileged to interview three inspirational female practitioners of sustainable architecture, two of whom were part of the Activism debate. Sara Edmonds founded her practice Studio SeARCH in 2014 but she increasingly finds her time dominated by her work on the steering group of the Architects' Climate Action Network. ACAN is about knowledge sharing and lobbying (such as demystifying Passivhaus), but also direct action. It's perhaps not insignificant that nine of its 11-strong steering group are women.

The 2019-founded UK Architects Declare network has been influential (such as paving the way for RIBA's 2030 Climate Challenge targets), but ACAN is taking activism further. Sara is also a leading advocate for LETI (the 1000-strong body developing guides for architects to reach net zero on projects, and which the RIBA based its operational energy and embodied targets on). The more progressive ends of the architecture sector are already combining forces and using their collective power – and Sara gives architects peddling greenwash short shrift. I'd argue that what we really need now are levers to make the system and the industry address and adopt such initiatives en masse.

I also spoke to Kat Scott, sustainability & regenerative design manager at dRMM, who's driving net zero both in her work and more widely in the industry. Rebecca Hall at Architype was similarly full of enthusiasm and great ideas for changing the status quo. She has recently shown Edinburgh Council that large-scale Passivhaus retrofit of properties including schools with antiquated boiler systems, is not just doable, but is affordable.

Watch this space for more in-depth content from all three of these architects.

James Parker, Editor



ON THE COVER....

White Arkitekter's Gascoigne West Phase 1&2 in Barking embodies Scandinavian urban design principles of social wellbeing, and welcoming public spaces which connect the development Cover image © Paul Riddle

For the full report on this project, go to page 28

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Three Scott Brownrigg buildings approved for Oxford Science Park

Oxford City Council have approved plans for three new buildings on The Oxford Science Park designed by Scott Brownrigg, totalling over 400,000 ft² and providing office and laboratory facilities for leading science and technology companies.

The office and lab markets have been performing strongly over the last six months, said Scott Brownrigg, "highlighting the potential of science and tech for the UK economy," however science companies' expansion plans have reportedly been stalled as they wait for laboratory stock to become available. With demand for nearly 2 million square feet of space in Oxford and Cambridge, according to the latest research, the 86,000 ft² Iversen Building, due for completion in summer 2023, helps address this need.

Plots 23-26 provide long-term capacity to help meet this demand through the creation of "exemplary additional office and laboratory space over the next three years." This additional capacity will "support the growth of existing occupiers, providing flexibility, and enabling new companies to join the Park's unique community."

The four-storey buildings "place wellbeing, biodiversity and sustainability at the heart of the design process, including walkable pedestrian areas and active frontages. Cafes and co-working spaces at ground level "define a range of external working and amenity spaces."

The landscape design creates a "fully biodiverse habitat" featuring native species, while brown roofs are being included on each building. Careful modelling of each building's orientation and facade ensures "excellent levels of internal natural light," and passive design principles reduce cooling demand. Use of steel and cement based materials has been minimised and the design is highly adaptable, meaning areas are demountable to be redesigned for future re-use.

Use of stairs is promoted to encourage not only physical wellbeing but serendipitous interactions to benefit in research and collaboration. Internal





layouts support views out from permanent workspaces for occupant wellbeing.

Rory Maw, CEO of The Oxford Science Park, said: "With The Iversen Building due for completion this summer and plans for the Ellison Institute on Plot 18 submitted for approval, the Park is securing its position as the leading centre of innovation activity in Oxford."

Ed Hayden, director at Scott Brownrigg

commented: "This development will provide much needed high specification wet lab space, securing the future of life science in Oxford. Congratulations to the entire team who worked seamlessly in a fully collaborative environment to achieve this design permission in record time."

The scheme is due to start onsite this summer, with the first stage due for completion in 2024.





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APPOINTMENTS

London studio rg+p promotes Torres and Mota to senior leadership team

Two architects from multi-disciplinary London studio rg+p have been promoted to its senior leadership team.

Victoria Torres – a specialist in social housing, student accommodation and Build to Rent, and Nuno Mota – who's skilled in major project delivery and luxury residential development, have both become associate architects in recognition of their "commitment, creative flair and commercial awareness," said Grant Giblett, rg+p London's director.

As associate architects, Victoria and Nuno will each manage a team of up to eight people in rg+p's London studio, which is based just off Tottenham Court Road. Both will mentor Part I and II trainees on their route to qualification; architectural apprentices; and support the studio's wider pledge to "nurture young talent" through student work placements.

APPOINTMENTS

Two promotions at Brewster Bye Architects

Leeds based architecture practice Brewster Bye has promoted Andrew Chapman to director; in addition, the practice's Tim Chesnutt has become a fully qualified architect after successfully completing his RIBA Part 3 exams.

Chapman is now entering his tenth year at Brewster Bye and during that time he has designed a wide range of "pioneering" residential and purpose-built student accommodation schemes throughout Yorkshire and beyond.

He has also worked on a number of high-profile developments in Leeds city centre – this includes the transformation of a 1960s office building into 154 apartments, along with a two-storey



Victoria will work closely with design director, Ben Walton on model making and 3D printing demonstrations, design charrettes and concept workshops, while Nuno is supporting rg+p's technical director, Wayne McKiernan to curate a material library of low carbon, sustainable building products.

Current flagship projects for Nuno, Victoria and their teams at rg+p London include The Bishops Avenue, a luxury residential development for over 65s by Hampstead Heath; Althorpe Street, a mixed-use scheme comprising student accommodation, co-working spaces and an extensive public realm/event plaza in Leamington Spa; student accommodation schemes in Newcastle and Guildford; and the complete regeneration of Paradise Depot, Hemel Hempstead for Dacorum Borough Council into 56 new homes and a purpose-built charity headquarters.

This month, rg+p London will celebrate its tenth year of business with a drinks reception and project showcase in the studio.



rooftop extension that will create a further 14 homes.

Andrew has led a nine storey student accommodation scheme in the Leeds Grand Quarter Conservation Area, that will offer 88 high specification apartments.

Tim Chesnutt joined Brewster Bye in 2019 as a Part 2 architectural assistant having graduated with a first class BA (Hons) Architecture International Degree, and a Masters of Architecture with Distinction. He had recently been involved in several affordable housing schemes and retirement developments. These include a development of 41 affordable houses, in the Long Lee area, between Keighley and Bingley, and a development of 20 retirement houses and apartments in Bentley near Doncaster, that are currently being built using modern methods of construction.

Brewster Bye currently employs a team of 21 in Headingley and plans to recruit further this year.



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Architect: Gary Johns Architects

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RESIDENTIAL

Studio Moren's plans for a varied residential development in Essex

Studio Moren has recently gained planning consent from Tendring District Council for a scheme of 86 new homes on the edge of the village of Great Oakley, Essex. The 3.7 ha development, for Great Oakley Development, features a mix of bungalows, terraced, detached and semi-detached homes.

Great Oakley is a historic village with architectural features such as staggered



building lines, varied roofscapes, frontfacing gables and multi-coloured facades. Studio Moren has incorporated all these elements into the proposed architecture of the scheme in a contemporary manner.

An emphasis on "nature, context and the living community" has driven the overall design of the scheme which is complemented by extensive landscaping, including communal open spaces for residents to meet and relax, as well as a woodland walk that extends the length of the site. A community building is proposed, opening out to a new play area and connecting the site to the local village and school.

While the site, which sits at the southwestern end of the village, presented a number of constraints, Studio Moren's collaborative approach – with consultants and the local planning authorities – has provided a scheme which "maximises



site potential and reinforces commercial viability," said Mark Wood, partner at Studio Moren.

Sustainability has been a key driver with this project, including measures such as electric charging points and air source heat pumps fitted to every dwelling and solar roof panels to power the Community building. Collaborating with landscape architect Turkington Martin, Studio Moren's design makes extensive use of permeable paving.

All dwellings meet Essex Design Guidelines and planning and building regulations, while being integrated into extensive new landscaping and several pedestrian-friendly streets.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Woods Bagot embraces custom climate change modelling

Global architecture firm Woods Bagot has announced that climate change modelling will be incorporated in the design of every new project, using a proprietary analytical tool developed by Arup which incorporates custom weather data.

Russell Fortmeyer, global sustainability leader at Woods Bagot, said: "The accelerating rate of climate change has rendered standard meteorological data less useful, requiring a new approach to ensure building design accurately factors in the risks."

Woods Bagot has successfully trialled the new design tool (which also leverages Ladybug and Grasshopper software), on four projects, and will now deploy it on all new designs across its 17 studios.

Fortmeyer explained the ethos further:

"Most buildings around the world are still being designed using Typical Meteorological Year (TMY) weather data. Typically, when designing a new building architects will model future energy demands using data that reflects climate conditions from the previous 30 years."

However, he added: "Our energy models, thermal comfort models, urban microclimate studies, reflect a climate that no longer exists. The extreme heat waves and expanded summer seasons we now see are just the start of a century of increasing temperatures."

Arup's WeatherShift software uses a "morphing" technique to "take traditional 8,760-hour digital weather files and transform them based on climate change scenarios established by the



United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change," said Woods Bagot. These include temperature, relative humidity, and wind data to provide a "high likelihood of representing future conditions," allowing architects to simulate energy performance or microclimate conditions to inform design decisions around orientation, massing, surface materials, and envelope performance.



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TODD Architects' wellness-oriented Salford apartments get green light

Manchester-based property developer Generation's plans for TODD Architects' 12-storey, 85 apartment scheme in Salford have been approved by Salford City Council.

Targeted at young professionals, the new-build scheme showcases a mix of residential accommodation with views across Manchester and Salford. Located in an area of the city undergoing major change due to increased demand for homes and residential investment, the proposed development "maximises the potential of an underutilised brownfield site by incorporating the entire footprint of its boundary," said TODD.

Amenities include a shared lounge and two communal roof terraces, and the scheme has been designed to encourage low-carbon living. The residents' lounge is a "critical component of the design," said the architects, and a "key differentiator from many comparable projects, as it will support the wellness of residents by facilitating social gatherings and providing space for home working."

The proposed development also has a high level of outdoor space for residents, "given the context and constraints of the site." The large communal roof terrace provides expansive views and can also



be used to host events, including summer parties and film screenings.

TODD Architects' design introduces a pitched roof form to create a "dynamic silhouette" that references Salford's industrial heritage. The massing and facade treatment is organised with a base, middle and top to "provide order and visual interest," whilst the facade of pale grey brick with green brick infills provides the "appropriate level of diversity and richness." The ground and upperground floor have been considered as "of a "piece, to maximise the potential for an active frontage onto Duncan Street," said the architects.

The design looks to balance the heritage



of the site, with transport issues, waste management, reduced energy demand, CO₂ emissions, water management to achieve a sustainable result. It takes a fabric-first approach to reduce heat loss and solar gain while providing natural light to the apartments to help reduce CO₂ emissions.

Seamus Lennon, principal of TODD Architects' Manchester studio said: "Our proposal will create a flagship urban scheme that will contribute to the new community emerging in this area of Salford, and which offers a true sense of place and community. The extremely high levels of shared amenity will encourage social interaction and further reduce the need to travel for some leisure and recreation pursuits."

Space Group awarded B Corp status

Newcastle-based Space Group (which includes Space Architects, Twinview, bimstore and BIM Technologies) has been awarded B Corp status, in recognition of its "social and environmental impact."

The group chalked up a 92.6 B Impact Score, following what it said was a "rigorous assessment process." It joins a group of just 12 other practices in the UK to have achieved the standard.

B Corp is a global movement which

is "designed to highlight organisations that reach the highest standards of ethical business." The assessment measures and verifies organisational performance, accountability, and transparency, including how it contributes to environmental sustainability, treats its employees and suppliers and gives to charities. Body Shop, Patagonia and Innocent Drinks are among the firms who have been awarded B Corp status. Chief executive, Rob Charlton, commented: "Space Group have always cared deeply about the impact the built environment has on the people who live, visit, learn, work and play in the spaces we create. From our carbon reduction strategies, and the technologies we've developed to support the race to net zero, to our caring, accountable culture, B Corp status felt like a natural progression."

He added: "It has allowed us to 'officially' measure and evidence our best practice around sustainability, environmental management and ethical design, which have always been part of the Space Group DNA."











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PRACTICE PROFILE

Medical Architecture

Creating therapeutic environments is Medical Architecture's specialty. Directors at the practice Lianne Knotts and Ruairi Reeves explain to *ADF's* Laura Shadwell how they are continuing to push boundaries in healthcare architecture

edical Architecture; it does what it says on the tin. However, the practice originated from academia – the Medical Architecture Research Unit at North London Polytechnic, in the early 1990s. The firm's founders, together with a more 'arts' focused colleague (Graham Cooper) – initially emerged in private practice when the faculty closed its doors in 1991.

To this day, the practice maintains an academic level of rigour – the benefits of which are particularly clear when working on healthcare projects. Medical Architecture also continues to contribute to NHS national guidance on design, including Health Building Notes (HBNs) which cover a variety of different elements of healthcare buildings.

Built on a shared focus

At its inception, the practice had one London studio, and fewer than 10 employees. Over the years, the practice has grown, forming a second studio in Newcastle upon Tyne in 2006, and now employs 50 staff. The two studios are similarly sized and are closely integrated, with a strong culture of collaboration. Although workload is not necessarily split geographically, the national reach provided by the two locations works well for the practice. Lianne Knotts is director and co-leader of the Newcastle studio, alongside fellow director Paul Yeomans. She tells *ADF* that the studios are both currently at a "really good size; everyone knows what each other is doing. We may grow, but we don't have plans to turn into a 100-strong practice."

Focusing exclusively on healthcare gives Medical Architecture a point of difference against other practices working in the sector; "We're not the only healthcare architects, but because we only do healthcare, everyone within the practice is focused, and comparatively experienced," says Ruairi Reeves, director and leader of the London branch, with director Bob Wills.

Resisting opportunities to diversify away from the sector, they have continued to play to their strengths, including deploying their skills on overseas projects in Ireland, Australia and Canada, which has been useful during periods when UK's capital investment in healthcare has been less.

Understanding healthcare design

Approximately 90% of the practice's work is in the NHS, with particular focus on mental health, acute care, and community health facilities such as community hospitals, and what Reeves calls an "emerging type of building, more of a 'mega health hub.'" These integrated care facilities combine many healthcare services on one



site with the aim of reducing hospital admissions. The pioneering Jean Bishop Integrated Care Centre in Hull is a key example of success. A study led by the Wolfson Palliative Care Research Centre at the University of Hull, concluded that frail patients at the Hull facility would be 50% less likely to need emergency treatment.

As a result of the team's combined experience, Medical Architecture is able to strategically look at healthcare needs, alongside a patient-focused design approach to both the building's interior and exterior. "We are continually pushing to think about things from patients' point of view, as well as staff," asserts Reeves. "For example, we've worked with artists in the early stages of projects to integrate art into the emerging designs, rather than just bolting it on at the end, and that's been really successful in maximising its value," adds Knotts.

Medical Architecture approaches a project not just as a building design, but as a diagram, in order to optimise the flow in terms of 'patient pathways' through the building, including where they intersect with all the functions patients will need to access. Retrofitting is a particular challenge when a healthcare building is in occupation, so as Reeves says, they "are passionate about getting the building right, first time. We want to create a timeless facility that ages well, but that also offers flexibility."

Medical Architecture says that challenges for designers working in healthcare revolve around issues of funding. The practice regularly works with NHS Trusts to develop their estates strategy, exploring ways to extract the greatest value from their estates from a clinical, operational and environmental perspective.

Style & practicality

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A new wing at Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Buckinghamshire is an example of a client brief that was initially unaffordable, but by creating flexible multi-functional space the architects reduced the building's overall size and cost. This design (which won an award for its use of materials) lent itself to volumetric modular construction. "We believe at the time of completion in 2009 it was the UK's largest modular healthcare building, says Reeves.

The other all too frequent challenge is the 'stop/start' nature of projects, says Reeves, as each individual business case stage has to be signed off. "It's a challenge for any architect," he adds.

Dispelling the stigma

Mental health accommodation was once poor, dark and claustrophobic. Knotts details how in the practice's early days they had heated discussions with clients as it sought to improve designs: "We helped pioneer a new approach in design to invest in circulation space, creating single loaded corridors with daylight, views out, and direct access to outdoor space."

Where in the past there has been a stigma around mental health buildings, resulting from the historic asylum model, mental health is becoming more normalised and the buildings located closer to communities. A project that exemplifies this is Blossom Court in Tottenham, London – a mental health inpatient unit in a tight, urban site completed in 2020. The architects' two-storey form provides its "own secure boundary, removing the need for secure fencing around its perimeter." Despite the sensitivity of the function, the building has become firmly cemented within the community and its urban fabric, and offers a positive therapeutic environment. The interior and exterior connect successfully, with residents and staff benefitting from natural daylight, views and easy access to a courtyard and terrace in each pair of wards.

Sustainability stance

While sustainability and BREEAM have become core parts of Medical Architecture's work, they say working to the standard presents challenges, especially in the mental health sector. For example, promoting rainwater harvesting to attain credits could pose a risk to patients who might drink the water. "It's about striving for those credits that you know will have a positive benefit on the project," asserts Knotts. They look to combine – where possible – therapeutic design benefits with achieving sustainability, "enhancing biodiversity in the grounds," for example, says Reeves. Using higher quality or durable natural materials – that can be repaired, rather than replaced – helps improve quality as well as sustainability. He says that when they have achieved BREEAM "Excellent" in projects, it's generally where the strategy "has been to really focus on health and wellbeing."

A former RIBA Part 3 examiner at Newcastle University, Knotts is keen to make sure the practice maintains its links with academia so students are aware of what healthcare architecture could offer them, and to inform them of the firm's past projects. "Healthcare isn't necessarily seen as a 'sexy' sector," she admits, accepting that students often end up working in the field as a "happy accident." She adds however: "the environments we design make a real difference to people, and the work we do is incredibly rewarding."

Successful strategy

Healthcare projects do get recognised in industry awards from time to time, such as the Friendship Hospital in Bangladesh, by Kasef Chowdhury/URBANA, winning the 2021 RIBA International Prize. Medical Architecture's schemes are no exception. It has three RIBA awards for Hopewood Park Hospital, Roseberry Park, and Bamburgh Clinic, and recently Clock View Hospital in Liverpool won in the 2022 Architecture Today Awards for 'buildings that have stood the test of time'. The judges said the 2015 project "set a new national benchmark in mental health facility design."

Reeves says it's hard to achieve such success without an "ambitious client," explaining: "When they are open to setting a benchmark for what good looks like, and understand the value of what you bring to a project, the results are always more successful."

The practice is now at a scale where it is "looking forward to designing and delivering larger projects of up to £150m," says Knotts. With the UK facing a recession, the short-term prognosis for investment in healthcare projects isn't clear. However, NHS trusts are acutely aware of the work needed to be done to improve their estates; "maintaining an ageing estate does not always provide long term value," adds Reeves.

Healthcare architecture may not often see the glamour or budgets of other sectors, but the success of Medical Architecture's focus is self-evident as it continues to grow as a practice, produce well-regarded buildings, and nurture its staff.



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VIEW POINT



Despite running an established practice with a strong senior team, Saunders MD Martin Williams explains what's needed from new talent in the market

Degan my career as a hungry young architect, willing to take on a variety of tasks and, at the time, often failing to manage them all, yet always learning from my directors and peers. I was very, very fortunate to have had good, patient, experienced people around me when I started out. Architecture is a reflection of humanity and the world we live in, which is, of course, ever evolving. There have been immense shifts in the profession, and none more so than in the last decade, and this is why we need to stay ahead of the curve.

American writer Mark Twain said: "Genius has no youth; it starts with the ripeness of age and experience." Although we all know that the journey to architecture is a very long, studious, and experiencebased path, we cannot underestimate the journey of those young architects and the need to give them the chance to gain the practical experience and opportunities that we were afforded.

I was given the opportunity to flourish 35 years ago, with my very first practice, where I was mentored, encouraged, and supported, with regular site visits and early supervised responsibility of projects. Yet this is not always the case. All too often, we see employees move to Saunders having not been given opportunities at their former practices, where they may have been used as draftspeople only, rather than future project leads.

Architectural practices are sometimes guilty of not letting go and making way for the next generation of enthusiastic designers and bright young minds. Founders are often so busy building their practices, watching the finances, and ensuring that their clients are happy that they forget that without bringing forward the next generation, they



All too often we see employees who move to us having not been given opportunities at their former practices

will always be too busy to grow, adapt, and progress. They will also miss the constant change that is happening and potentially become out of touch. Architecture is a constantly growing, changing, and developing profession that needs calm professionalism, intelligence, and flair, but because of this, it requires fresh new ideas and thinking. Good practices recognise the need to nurture new talent, not only because it is the right thing to do but also because without this, your company will not adapt, develop, and flourish in the ever-changing architectural world. You'll also have more time to review and ensure projects are on track. It can only ever be a 'win-win' situation.

Developing architects of the future

At Saunders we do our best to help nurture future architects in a number of ways. These include taking up to five work experience students each year from local schools for a week's structured, supervised work experience. They are assisted to come up with a design for a dream house in freehand sketch form first, as we feel that it is important that all architects can draw! We then show them how to draw this in AutoCAD; then once they are comfortable we help them to draw their house in 3D using SketchUp. We provide a portfolio so they can take copies of their work away with them and pay them a nominal fee, so it really feels like work.

We also give them advice on the routes into architecture, the qualifications required



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RSL New Class A1 Pedestals



The RIBA's recent announcement of education reform in architecture is welcome and a well overdue step towards change

and advice on preparing their portfolio needed for university interviews. Several come back during the summer for paid summer work, and several have actually been employed after sixth form to work for us full time and be sponsored to go to university.

We also take students straight from school to sponsor their education and mentor them through this by getting them to work in a small group with someone who is part way through their RIBA Part 1, and with an associate director who will monitor their progress.

We employ Part 1 students on a structured year out programme so that they can gain the experience required to complete their post degree work experience. Several Part 1 students decide to stay

CPD FOCUS

with us and complete their Masters/RIBA Part 2 part time so we agree a training programme/contract to sponsor them to complete their Masters/RIBA Part 2.

We also get lots of RIBA Part 2 applicants that have been employed by practices that won't give them the necessary experience to complete their RIBA Part 3 and use them as draftspeople. We guarantee them the correct experience and agree a training contract to pay their fees by a training agreement. We retain really good employees by doing this.

Saunders have greatly benefited from this approach, as students have often returned to us and become part of our talented team when qualified. I strongly believe that as employers, we can learn from the recent pandemic and of course Brexit: all employees and particularly those new to the profession should be given the best chance to thrive.

The RIBA's recent announcement of education reform in architecture is welcome and a well overdue step towards change. I believe that seven years of study is crazy as a system, and unnecessary. It should be reduced to three or four years in line with other degree courses, then two years' work experience to full qualification. This will reduce pressure on fees and loan debt – which is especially daunting for those from less privileged and diverse backgrounds – and will encourage more diversity in our profession. The emphasis is also far too much on design during the degree course and needs to include much more about masterplanning, the design process, and technical and management skills.

We see far too many students arrive to us as fully qualified architects but who are less useful than fully qualified architectural technologists whose training is much more in line with what the profession needs. Design is important and fundamental but should be part of a wide range of skills. These changes and a reduction in the course length could help remove 'barriers' to poorer students and students from diverse backgrounds, and help to produce good designers that have the broader range of skills the profession so desperately requires in the 21st century.

Martin Williams is managing director at Saunders

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ROCKWOOL® LAUNCHES NEW FIRE PROTECTION CPD



ROCKWOOL has launched a new CPD (Continuing Professional Development), 'Essential Principles – Passive Fire Protection Solutions', to give construction professionals a deeper understanding of the 12 key principles of passive fire protection and how these are applied to different building projects. Presenting

each of the essential principles as defined by the RISCAuthority Design Guide, the CPD will demonstrate how they work to reduce the risk of fire in buildings. The module will also discuss the importance of compartmentation, structural fire protection, inspection, maintenance and much more. Available to book online now at rockwool.com/ uk, the 60-minute session is offered as an in-person CPD and will allow designers, fire engineers, occupiers, consultants and building owners to strengthen their understanding of effective passive fire protection methods. Attendees will also learn about the ecological and environmental impacts of a building fire and understand who shares liability if a fire occurs. 'Essential Principles – Passive Fire Protection Solutions' is the latest addition to ROCKWOOL's expanding range of CPDs, which help specifiers and contractors better understand the role of insulation in the built environment.

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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.

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DY PATIL UNIVERSITY CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE, MUMBAI FOSTER + PARTNERS

The DY Patil University Centre of Excellence has opened in the planned new city of Navi Mumbai – a result of "close collaboration" between Foster + Partners and the university's chancellor, Dr Vijay Patil. The 10-storey building has been designed to support the ethos of the university, providing "high-quality learning and living spaces for 3,000 students." The project includes a two-acre sky garden with native planting, pond-life and areas for relaxation.

The building has been designed to minimise the environmental impact associated with water and energy use, material choices and operation. Communal covered courtyards, which are four storeys high, are oriented to optimise natural daylight and space on the triangular site. The entrance canopy is also four storeys high, with a glass roof that casts multi-coloured shadows across the building's facade. An open plan reception area, exhibition space, cafe and informal workspace encourage social interactions between students.

At the heart of the building, four large, flexible auditoriums are arranged around a sunken amphitheatre. The library is arranged across four floors, and a sequence of tiers, balconies and stairs create what the architects describe as a "dramatic internal environment." The corridors are naturally ventilated and offer glimpses of the two-acre sky garden which spans the full length of the building, between the academic and residential volumes.

The scheme incorporates a palette of high-quality materials, including travertine, timber, glass reinforced concrete, aluminium and sealed concrete. Ground-granulated blast-furnace slag (GGBS), has been added to the concrete mix, resulting in a paler concrete with a lower embodied carbon footprint. The project has achieved a LEED Platinum rating.



SHANGHAI JIADING FINANCIAL Centre Aedas

The new Shanghai Jiading Financial Centre has been designed by Aedas design principal Ken Wai. The high-rise project is located in the Jiading new city of Shanghai, and set within "ecological surroundings." The high-rise Grade A office tower plus five other multi-storey office towers are dispersed within the plot.

The project is located in a "well-equipped" new district, said the architects, with convenient transportation being adjacent to the urban axis of Yongsheng Road and the metro Line 11. The area is also home to ecological wetlands and vegetation, "which is rare for the city."

Wai drew inspiration from the reflections in water, and used glass curtain walls to scale down the building mass. The architectural form has clear edges, with the sides of the main building slightly tilted inwards and its four corners stretched outwards, further weakening the building masses to create a "vivid and upright architectural form."

The enclosed layout forms a communal square in the centre of the building. The overall landscape extends around the tower building, while the indoor and outdoor spaces are distinguished using natural greenery.

As the design is circled around the concept of a "community office," a multi-level shared space including an internal open floor plan, office terraces and roof gardens has been created. "Architecture is the art of responding to the environment," commented Ken Wai. "We hope to create a community-based commercial hub that complements nature in the core city area, where headquarters of Jiading New City gather and grow."



HOGEKWARTIER CITY DISTRICT, NETHERLANDS KCAP

Last month saw the completion of a new district, the Hogekwartier, in Amersfoort, Netherlands. In 2008, KCAP designed the masterplan for this city district, commissioned by housing corporation De Alliantie and the municipality. The neighbourhood had to meet a number of requirements: the partially built-up site had to be transformed into an affordable residential area, surrounded by public spaces and greenery; and the design had to provide Amersfoort with a proper 'entry,' and improve the traffic flow between the city centre and the A28 highway. The masterplan was part of a larger operation to sustainably renovate and renew the existing social housing stock in Amersfoort.

The Hogekwartier lies between Liendert and Schuilenburg, and is located on both sides of a busy traffic artery that connects the city centre to the highway. KCAP designed a raised, intersecting axis ("de Buurtas") which creates a "compact intersection," as a result, "transiting traffic moves underground, local traffic stays overhead," explained the architects. The Buurtas provides the district with a centre, flanked by a gateway of apartment blocks, where the new Amerena swimming and sports complex is located.

The central area of het Hogekwartier comprises small-scale urban blocks with different typologies, mainly single-family houses with a garden; and a series of connected green, public spaces. Along the Valleikanaal waterway, four towers – set on a plinth of low-rise buildings – mark the transition to the city centre. A 'wetland corridor' connects the Valleikanaal to the water catchment area east of the city. The green-blue structure of the Hogekwartier aims to reduce air pollution, noise pollution and heat stress. Of the 820 homes, 309 are social rentals, and more than 60% of the owner-occupied houses are covered by the 'National Mortgage Warranty'.



INNOVATION QNS, NEW YORK SWA/BALSLEY

As part of the recently approved masterplan by SWA/Balsley, 'Innovation QNS' – a "communitydriven plan for a walkable 24/7 mixed-use creative district" – will provide Astoria, Queens residents with a range of community amenities, forming an "inclusive public realm network of diverse open space experiences."

The project will "breathe new life into a low density corner of the neighbourhood," said the architects, and was recently approved by New York City Council.

Spanning five city blocks, the project represents a rare opportunity to deliver housing, jobs, parks, and other public amenities "at a district-wide scale." The project will include two acres of open space, community facilities, and 3,200 units of housing, more than 45% of which will be affordable. SWA/ Balsley collaborated closely with ODA, Kaufman Astoria Studios, Silverstein Properties, and BedRock Real Estate Partners to create the masterplan.

22 - 23 March 2023 Truman Brewery, London



ARCHITECT@WORK 2023



The curated two-day trade fair aimed at the British architecture and design community, ARCHITECT@WORK will return to the Truman Brewery, London on 22-23 March. The 10th edition will see a stellar line-up of talks plus over 200 of the latest product innovations in surface solutions, lighting technology, as well as interior and exterior fixtures and fittings – showcased by a selection of leading architectural suppliers.

ARCHITECT@WORK remains one of the UK's most respected trade shows of its kind; other show highlights include the RIBA Bookshop and a photographic exhibition by World-Architects. With a free bar and catering throughout, visitors will be able to network in a modern, creative and lounge-like atmosphere.

Talks programme

This year's theme, Energy & Ecosystems, will allow the talks programme to explore a range of different projects, places and experiences. Talks will take place both in-person and via live-stream.

The keynote talk in the series will be with Amin Taha. After working for a number of architectural practices such as Chris Wilkinson Architects (later Wilkinson Eyre) and Zaha Hadid Architects, he founded Amin Taha Architects in 2003 in London (which later changed its name to GROUPWORK). Author Dr Ruth Lang will be in conversation with Taha about 'the journey to a future built on the past.'

It is now well established that keeping our existing building stock and repurposing it is one of the best things we can do for the environment. This retrofit revolution has not gone unnoticed. It is the cornerstone of campaigns and being debated in Parliament.

For the first time, ARCHITECT@WORK will host a Negroni Talk. Created in 2018, The Negroni Talks – hosted by architects Fourthspace and sponsored by Campari – were set-up to replicate the lively and provocative debates that took place in the European café culture of the early twentieth century. This lively debate series has taken the architecture scene by storm, picking up an Archiboo Award in 2021 and spawning a host of articles and wider industry conversations.

'Net zero – fact or fallacy?' will question what the concept of net zero really means. With carbon offsetting taking place abroad, there is a fiery debate raging about the ethical and practical implications of net zero.

'Positive about energy saving' will explore how the energy our buildings consume (or operational carbon to the initiated) is one of the big challenges

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architects, designers and developers face. Tenants want to work in a green building, and new regulations are shifting towards more efficient places to live and work in. How do we manage this from the concept and financing, through to the landscape and lighting?

Decisions about little things can have a big impact as you reach critical mass. 'Making the most of waste' – chaired by Debika Ray, editor of Crafts Magazine – will question how we fit out our homes and workspaces with materials that make the most of waste, and whether this affects aesthetics.

'Earth Building: what can the planet provide?', chaired by curator and writer Vanessa Norwood, will explore how we create a new built environment using the materials supplied by Mother Earth. Ancient buildings were made of straw, timber and stone. It looks like a brighter and more sustainable path might be tread if we return to our roots, but as always, this will require research and clever engineering.

Historically, places and spaces have been commissioned from an extremely homogeneous perspective. 'Creating climate equity' will discuss how the key to making better environments for all is through inclusivity and diversity. We can create spaces that work better for different communities by listening to a broader spectrum of opinions.

Register for the London edition of this internationally renowned event using code 2430 at www.architect-at-work.co.uk

Article supplied by ARCHITECT@WORK

Design show success for enhanced Marmox range



Already widely regarded as a lead player in the creation of stylish bathrooms, wetrooms and spa facilities, manufacturer **Marmox** was able to unveil extensions to its widely specified range at this year's Surface Design Show in London, earning particular interest in its new Slicedstone – Large Format Veneer Sheets. The Sales and Marketing team were on hand throughout the three days at The Business Design Centre, showcasing the new large format version of mosaic style product introduced in 2020. Still displaying the beautiful colour variations of natural Indian sandstone, the new Slicedstone – Large Format Veneer Sheets are available in two sizes – 1,220 x 610 mm or 2,100 x 1,050 mm - rather than 50 x 50 mm mosaics on a mesh roll. However, the new product's slimline form – at just 4 (\pm 1.5) mm thick and supplied on a specially formulated decoupling layer – means they can still be applied to curved surfaces both indoors and out. The Marketing Manager for Marmox, Grant Terry, commented: "Our customers have shown great creativity in their use of the original Slicedstone offering and we are certain that the new large format sheets will prove equally popular."

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The best of lighting and wiring to 2023



Knightsbridge – one of the UK's leading manufacturers of wiring accessories and lighting – has published the 25th Anniversary Edition of its catalogue. This year sees Knightsbridge celebrating its Silver Jubilee, and this handy A5-sized, full colour publication is packed from cover to cover – over 3,000 items across nearly 500 pages, including

over 400 new products – with new range developments, impressive innovations and lots of inspiring ideas. Divided into easy-toreference sections, the catalogue provides full product details along with high quality lifestyle and detailed product images.

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Versatility and style with Vecta building linings

riginally introduced more than 10 years ago, Encasement's Vecta building linings range is a comprehensive bespoke interior finishing system, designed for use on stand-alone projects, as well as easily combining with the company's Verta column casings where integrated solutions are required.

Typically, building linings can be specified to perform several functions, but are chiefly centred on their ability to improve aesthetics or provide a practical solution to a specific requirement, such as protecting interior walls in high traffic areas, concealing building services and structural elements, or to indicate separation between interior zones, through the use of different materials or finishes.

To meet these diverse requirements, the Vecta range incorporates high quality wall linings and lift lobby linings, as well as reveals, soffit linings and bulkheads. As the lining specification will depend on factors such as the intended use of the space, aesthetics, their application, and the performance requirements the building, a choice of materials is available within the range.

Vecta metal wall linings are available in natural, brushed, anodised and PPC coated aluminium, stainless steel and textured materials, including Rimex, while further versatility is provided by compact laminate options, which can be specified in a wide palette of colours or incorporate custom images and graphics for unique interior designs.

As a result of this combination of materials, finish options and design versatility, both metal and compact laminate wall linings are already used in a wide range of projects in the education, health, commercial, hotel & leisure sectors, as well as transport, retail and public buildings.





While Vecta is usually specified for interior applications, some Vecta metal solutions, such as soffit linings and external bulkheads, are also designed for use on external projects, as they are inherently weather resistant. Also, as they can incorporate a PPC finish, selected from a wide range of BS and RAL colours, this can help add interest to a building's exterior.

As all Encasement's building lining solutions are bespoke manufactured to meet individual project requirements, the following overviews provide a general guide to each product group.

Wall linings

Suitable for use in both interior and exterior applications where decorative or protective solutions are required, Vecta wall linings are ideal for environments where there are high levels of pedestrian traffic, such as transport hubs, retail or commercial buildings, to resist damage to internal walls.

Aluminium and stainless steel are commonly specified, although compact laminates are also widely used, as the almost limitless choice of laminate colours and textured finishes provides an extensive range of specification options. However, the material specification is highly dependent on each application and whether it is an interior or exterior location.

Lift lobby linings

A fundamental part of many commercial interiors, lift lobby linings help convey the character and style of a building by integrating with its overall design scheme. Similar to wall linings, a wide range of materials and finishes can be specified to provide increased design versatility for projects where aesthetics are a primary consideration.

Bulkheads, soffits & reveals

Whether the requirement is for extensive services bulkheads, practical and decorative soffits or stylish lift reveals, Vecta provides a range of versatile and adaptable solutions.

Manufactured primarily from brushed or PPC aluminium as well as stainless steel, they are widely used to combine durable and decorative finishes with practical functionality, such as concealing building services, pipework or mechanical

and electrical components.

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BUILDING

GASCOIGNE WEST PHASES 1 & 2 BARKING, LONDON

An estate of renewal

A multi-phase regeneration project in Barking, east London, will see a notorious estate replaced by a highly considered development with a renewed sense of quality and space, by White Arkitekter. The firm's Linda Thiel took James Parker through two of its phases



hen its regeneration project commenced in 2017, the Gascoigne estate in Barking was a neighbourhood which periodically made the news for all the wrong reasons, including gang-related violence and drug problems. However despite its array of challenges, the multi-phase project developed by urban regeneration specialist BeFirst (which is wholly owned by Barking and Dagenham Council) hopes to reinvent the estate's reputation, while retaining a majority of affordable homes in the mix.

White Arkitekter was appointed in 2017 to design Gascoigne East Phase 2, a 546-home scheme including a large park. Now completed, this was one of three phases of the Gascoigne East masterplan. The outline masterplan for Gascoigne West by architects Fraser Brown Mackenna (FBM) – also three phases – was approved in 2018. White Arkitekter was appointed by BeFirst in 2019 to design West Phase 1, submitting a reserved matters application and an S73 outline scheme. The project completed in 2022, and in the meantime the practice also won the competition to design the currently ongoing Phase 2. In 2020, White Arkitekter was also commissioned to produce a "placemaking framework" (titled The Big Picture) for the wider Gascoigne estate.

Phase 1 of Gascoigne West provides 201 homes (60% of which are affordable) on a 0.9-hectare site. As well as designing the scheme from RIBA Stages 1-3, White Arkitekter undertook "design guardianship" post-planning, and were responsible for landscape design throughout the project. West Phase 2, due to complete in spring

The articulated line of the buildings was chiefly influenced by the row of retained mature London plane trees along Abbey Road

2024, provides a similar ratio of affordable homes among its total 386 units, plus a residents' hub and playground, on a 1.33 hectare site. Again, White Arkitekter has taken care of RIBA Stages 1-3 plus design guardianship during Stages 4-5. There is also to be a West Phase 3, which Haworth Tompkins have been appointed to design.

The Gascoigne neighbourhood project is one of London's largest estate regeneration programmes, providing tenure-blind family-friendly homes in a range of different volumes from towers to townhouses, and an "age-inclusive, climate resilient landscape," say the architects. The finished development will have around 3000 homes, situated around a "clearly defined hierarchy of public squares, local greens, semi-private gardens and private courtyards to create a safe and welcoming environment for all ages."

Gascoigne West, in the words of White Arkitekter, is "built upon existing amenities to create a development that contributes to its context, with improved connections to the site and surrounding areas." It maximises White's simple and rational Scandinavian design approach and public housing experience to bring key benefits including some of those inherent to MMC, as shown on recent major projects in Stockholm. The wide range of skills would all be required to be deployed on the east London site to successfully tackle its sensitive and complex requirements.

In Phase 1, the architects have cleverly worked with a constrained site. The design responds with articulated forms that provide good quality, efficient indoor and outdoor spaces for future residents of this resurrected estate. Similarly, Phase 2 provides the density required by the client but in a range of buildings that avoids the oppressive nature that characterised the previous Gascoigne Estate. Overall, the scheme represents a high-pressure architectural environment, with a host of factors to balance - not least time, with the client keen to deliver the apartments fast, alongside the spatial quality that the whole team is working towards.

Background & Procurement

The Gascoigne Estate was built in the early 1960s and sits between Barking and the A13, being originally composed of 17 high-rise blocks plus three-storey apartment blocks. There were a series of attempts in the early 21st century to try and improve the built environment, however it was eventually accepted that the best solution was to demolish the whole estate and start from scratch – with the Gascoigne East side being tackled first, and Phase 3 of the current West masterplan the final part. Various architectural firms have been

involved in the project, starting in 2015 when the Borough of Barking and Dagenham announced that Levitt Bernstein had been appointed for Phase 1 of the Gascoigne East development, whose design would replace towers with six lower blocks and a new street plan. White Artitekter's Phase 2 comprises Scandinavian-style family apartments and smaller homes with communal gardens, and the HTA and Pitman Tozer-designed (and currently ongoing) Phases 3A and 3B contain a mix of mid-rise mansion blocks, traditional terraced homes and mews houses.

White Arkitekter was appointed to design West Phase 1 by BeFirst (from RIBA Stage 1). When Wates Residential came on board at Stage 2, the practice was novated to the contractor, and continued through to planning.

The practice subsequently also won the competition to design West Phase 2 (from RIBA Stages 1-3 and through planning), and the two phases would finally total 587 units. As Linda Thiel, project director at White Arkitekter tells *ADF*, the challenge of tackling this extremely demanding, complex project was mitigated by the practice having weekly client meetings and a "very relaxed, open and candid relationship" with BeFirst's design team and its head of design, Jacob Willson.

Design development

Linda Thiel says that White applied its key principles, successfully demonstrated in projects across Scandinavia, combining a simplicity of form with "high quality in terms of balconies, windows and facade detailing. Simple, more streamlined detailing." As she says, this approach frees them up to "spend more on the public realm, because that is what stitches a community together – that's part of our core ethos of landscape-led urban design."

The scheme developed for (West) Phases 1 and 2 would be delivered in a very short timeframe. As well as a straightforward approach to the detailing, another factor helping address this challenge was a conscious methodology to have as much structural repetition as possible, including simple stacking, although this was offset by the variety of forms and facades created.

In West Phase 1 a certain degree of offsite construction was implemented such as pod bathrooms and utility cupboards, and balconies. (In West Phase 2 this was taken even further to include MMC-produced precast facades.) Thiel believes that such MMC approaches could be expanded in future similar schemes.

The scheme is designed as a car free development with limited parking, to enable a "more pedestrian friendly public realm." This meant the architects did not

LANDSCAPE-LED URBAN PLANS

The completed West Phase 1 (facing page) provides 201 homes on a tight 0.9 hectare site, in a range of volumes from three to 11 storeys. West Phase 2 (above, currently onsite) includes five towers Drawings © White Arkitekter

that were required." Possibly even more important for this scheme's lasting contribution to the community, as Thiel explains, is that across both Phases 1 and 2, "all homes are tenure-blind; there is no difference in the design of homes for market and those of affordable rent."

massing, while delivering all of the homes

The scale of the development is broken down by the higher blocks having a "stepped lower shoulder," says Thiel, to reduce the overall impact and relate to the scale of the surrounding buildings. The resulting volumes are six and 11 storeys for Block A, eight and five storeys for the skinnier Block B (which has a low block of townhouses sitting in front of it), and six and 13 storeys in the case of Block C. Its six-level portion, which is allocated to affordable housing, has a roof garden, located adjacent to the townhouses.

Blocks A and C have significant kinks in their form at the junction between the different heights, helping to add activity and variety to the overall composition. However the architects were pleased to discover in consultation with Wates that this "did not add too much to the costs," says Thiel. "As we had linear blocks, and the ratio efficiencies, it doesn't matter

PUBLIC REALM

White Arkitekter created a variety of safe and pleasant public spaces which connect buildings in both phases, informed by the practice's 'Places for Girls' research Photos © Paul Riddle

PROJECT FACTFILE

Client: London Borough of Barking and Dagenham/ BeFirst Regeneration & Wates Residential Number of homes: Phase 1 – 201 (60% affordable), Phase 2 – 386 (60% affordable) Site area: 0.9 ha (Phase 1) 1.33 ha (Phase 2) Phase 1 GEA: 19,300 m² Phase 2 GIA: 37,180 m² Architect and landscape architect: White Arkitekter Contractor: Wates Residential Structural and civil engineer: Mason Navarro Pledge M&E/sustainability engineer: AECOM Planning consultant: Be First Regeneration **Delivery architect (Phase 1):** TP Bennett **Delivery landscape architect:** White Arkitekter + Camlins

have to provide basement parking levels. The articulated line of the buildings in Phase 1 was chiefly influenced by the row of retained mature London plane trees along Abbey Road, which have also been used to locate small play areas with natural shelter. "It adds so much to the streetscape, and the space between the buildings" says Thiel, adding that to achieve this the designers worked "really closely with our landscape architects, and an arboriculturist."

Phase 1

The smaller first phase still manages to give substantial variety in form and character, from three to 13 storeys, with three blocks with their own varieties of heights, plus a block of seven terraced townhouses. The higher levels offer great views into central London, which would, as the architects say, normally be given to private rented or private sale flats. The building form is 'kinked' in a way that relates to the streetscape and landscape, to create a much more amenable urban presence with a series of "strong frontages'' broken up by "entrance squares."

The aim in terms of the block design and facades was to balance unity and visual coherence for the overall development with a desire to provide a set of distinctive looks for each block. As with the larger Phase 2, this would be done in the context of preserving existing connections out of the sites, including cycle routes, as well as mature trees, and paying close reference to the nearby school in the design.

Thiel sums up the challenge of Phase 1

A SCANDINAVIAN VIEW OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

White Arkitekter says Phase 1 embodies "Scandinavian urban design principles of social wellbeing" Photos © Paul Riddle

WEST PHASE 1

Storey heights: 3-13 RIBA Stages: 1-3 plus design guardianship post-planning to RIBA Stage 6 Project start: February 2019 Planning approved: November 2019 Construction start: January 2020 Construction end: March 2022 Housing tenures: 40% affordable rent, 39% market rent, 13% target rent, 8% LAR

WEST PHASE 2

Storey heights: 9-20 RIBA Stages: 1-3 planning & design guardianship during Stages 4-5 Project start: January 2020 Planning approved: March 2021 Construction start: July 2021 Construction end: Spring 2024 whether it's like a straight linear block, or whether you have a kink. As long as you don't have any cut corners or bay windows or other things; the facades are straight. They had no problem with the kinks, which was refreshing."

The massing is as a result, "layered," says Thiel – different elements that are actually within the same block look like separate buildings depending on where they're viewed from. The architects "bookended" the north and south ends of the site with the two taller elements to establish Phase 1 as a landmark at the edge of the development.

Special attention was paid to the landscape and public realm, with a "strong focus on providing spaces for all to enjoy," says White Arkitekter. The three buildings have been located in a way that "facilitates active use of the outdoor communal space" and the landscape design strategy "helps to develop the character of the different areas within the site, enhancing legibility, and strengthening identity," contributing to the overall welcoming feeling the architects were striving to realise.

Facades

A framework of facade types has been developed for each block, lending a sense of variety to the project, whilst defining the buildings as separate entities. They do however adhere to the same overarching design principles which makes them clearly identifiable as parts of the same development. The general principles set out a series of criteria, such as window sizes, balcony sizes, types of balustrades

and copings, which then vary in colour and appearance between each block. The result is a series of "well defined, pared-back facades that offer a generous sense of depth and articulation."

The various buildings in Phase 1 all have reinforced concrete frames but a mix of facades, however the majority have a brick rainscreen to tie in with the local vernacular. A light colour brick mix was chosen for Phase 1, which catches the sun well and provides a less forbidding presence along Abbey Road.

While all the elevations are in the same brick, there is a darker hue on the ground floor, and the elevations either side of the 'kinks' have subtle differences, simply brought by altering the mortar colour, and that of balconies and windows, to break down the facades visually within an overall coherent unity.

Phase 2

There are five towers in the ongoing Phase 2, ranging between nine and 20 storeys, plus four low rise blocks of townhouses, with the towers being clad in precast concrete unlike Phase 1. White sought to achieve a "landscapeled development" on this tight, long site hemmed in by a major road, which would "prioritise walking and shared amenities, while reinforcing existing pedestrian routes." The development is a gateway to the neighbourhood located at a point where routes through and around the old estate converge, and thereby had a key role in directly connecting residents to Barking Town centre.

Central to the placemaking strategy was ensuring a greater level of safety for residents while providing a wide range of external spaces to enjoy and connectivity across the site

To optimise the potential of the site and provide the required density of housing, a combination of tower buildings and townhouses are arranged around courtyards to create three main blocks. There's a mix of one, two and three-bed homes across this phase, and 10% of the units are wheelchair accessible.

Within the city block structure, the towers are rotated at different angles, creating new and interesting views, improving visual connections within and without the site and enhancing the legibility of streetscape. The tallest of the towers overlooks a public square with "active street frontages," which functions as a landmark and a welcoming entrance to the neighbourhood. A small community 'hub' occupies a prominent position at the heart of the development.

This phase also delivers a new children's play park, which is a "shared space for all forms of community and social activity." As in Phase 1, formal places to play and pocket parks have also been incorporated in other parts of the public realm, and the streets prioritise pedestrians over vehicles and create a safe zone close to the homes. Over 4,500 m² of play and public space is being provided in Phase 2.

Public realm & resident safety

Central to the placemaking strategy was ensuring a greater level of safety for residents while providing a wide range of external spaces to enjoy and connectivity across the site. The most striking example of this is White Arkitekter's research project, 'Places for Girls' which centred on the design for Phase 1 and 2, and consulted teenage girls on their views on using public space on the estate.

The architects ran a series of workshops with Greatfields School, which is on the estate, informing them about the project's intentions and asking them what they wanted from their neighbourhood. "That has also informed some of the informal routes and pocket parks across the project," says Thiel.

She gives the example of one pocket park which was overlooked by ground floor flats, and which gave girls "what they wanted the most – places to hang out that weren't necessarily on the edge of something like a sports area." She adds: "They really wanted to have their own space within their neighbourhood." It's a well-connected space, with pedestrian and cycle routes through the estate to and from the school.

'Climate-resilient' design

London Borough of Barking & Dagenham has a goal to be carbon neutral by 2030. Gascoigne West has driven this forward in a way that both provides amenity to residents as well as ongoing efficiency benefits to the client. Phase 1 embodies "Scandinavian urban design principles of social wellbeing" says White Arkitekter, which have been embedded within the design that focus on providing community activities for children and seniors.
In terms of the buildings in Phase 1 themselves, an optimised microclimate, generous sunlight/ daylight penetration and wind mitigation improve outdoor comfort. This enables greater social and community activities outdoors, leading to a higher degree of social inclusion, and healthier, more active lifestyles. Gardens and playgrounds unite the new residents with old to encourage a sense of belonging.

The 'climate resilience' theory integral to the Phase 1 design is based on resilience and strategic water and energy use, through incorporation of "ecosystem services," SuDS strategies and reducing heat loads through green roofs and gardens. The required target carbon reduction of 40.2% beyond Building Regulations has "strongly influenced the architectural design," says White Arkitekter, which includes high performance fabric, and PV arrays.

Phase 2 similarly brings sustainability to the fore. The buildings are designed to plug into a wider energy and district heating network for Barking Town Centre and to achieve a 10% reduction in CO₂ emissions compared to Building Regulations for energy efficiency alone. The buildings' energy consumption has been minimised using their geometry and orientation, and the towers have green roofs plus solar PV arrays.

The scheme provides secure indoor cycle parking for all residents, as well as spaces for visitors to lock up their bikes, and an underground refuse system. Flexible cycle storage units are placed on main routes with access onto the street – to allow them to be used for small business and residents' activities in the interim, until they are in full use for approximately 1,000 bicycles. Along with promoting urban nature and biodiversity, the landscape is designed for resilience and integration into the green infrastructure.

A new future

This is an incredibly important scheme for demonstrating how good quality affordable housing can be quickly delivered in one of the most deprived and challenged estates in the UK. White Arkitekter deserves huge congratulation for simply delivering it, notwithstanding the subtle qualities the design has brought to a formal composition of high density blocks. These have not been seen in this scheme previously, or many others which could benefit from such a carefully considered approach.



Thiel admits the project was "hard work," and at times "a bit of a struggle," including to identify where UK and Scandinavian housing design principles could merge. However, she says that there was "already a very good working relationship" with the BeFirst team, and it was a case of building up that same relationship of trust with Wates.

She pays tribute to the contractor's high levels of workmanship, exemplified by the air-tightness levels measured in the finished buildings: "They had a super dedicated team, they've really set their stall out with this scheme."

Phase 1 is now occupied with a diverse range of tenants and buyers from different strands of society, living together in a tenure-blind, tree-enhanced setting that contains all the elements you'd hope would foster community cohesion. The scheme shows the power of architecture to deliver a no-nonsense, efficient but ultimately empathetic contribution to society.

SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS (PHASE 1)

Target form factor (heat loss area/usable internal floor area): 0.8 - 1.5Target operational energy use intensity: $35-60 \text{ kWh/m}^2 \text{ GIA/yr}$ Target space heating demand: $<15 \text{ kWh/m}^2 \text{ GIA/yr}$ Onsite % carbon reduction (compared to Part L 2013): 40%Percentage of roof covered by solar panels/PVs: 20%Target 'upfront' embodied carbon: $<500 \text{ kg CO}_2 \text{ e/m}^2 \text{ GIA}$) (Modules A1-A5) Water use: 125 l/person/day

Cycle parking spaces: 373 Urban greening (UGF): 0.26 Target biodiversity net gain: > 10%

What makes Delta's 895 Foul Sump Pump Chamber a great product?

s Delta Membrane Systems Limited launches their new 895 Chamber for foul and grey water collection, Delta's MD, Kevin Dodds reflects on the journey from product concept to production.

"We bring an unwavering commitment to help our customers succeed, promote best practice and to continually offer product which meet the need of the industry. It's that sense of purpose and opportunity that drives us".

"Basement drainage products are an unseen, humdrum, characterless aspect to structural waterproofing. To us, basement drainage systems are a marvel and one not to be underestimated".

"Using our experience and industry knowledge we saw an opportunity in creating and manufacturing basement drainage systems to complement our Type C waterproofing membranes – investing in single–source responsibility. The main advantage of Delta manufacturing both Type C waterproofing systems and basement drainage systems is one which benefits all from developers to contractors and most importantly end users".

The redesigned Delta V3, V4, V6 (695 chambers) and V3 foul (895 chamber) delivers core performance expected from the Delta brand, whilst streamlining installation by reducing excavation and backfill costs.

"We haven't just reinvented a product or two, we have reinvented our product range to meet industry needs. The wheel has been reinvented thousands of times to serve thousands of different purposes. It had to be reinvented because it was being used for different purposes. The world changes from technologies to expectations. As the world changes, we need new and various kinds of wheels to help us solve the same problems."

Submersible Pumps/Packaged Pump Stations

As you may have guessed from the name, a submersible pump is one that is designed to be immersed in a substance (from groundwater to foul water). Whilst foul pumps are focused on pumping away foul and grey water, a groundwater sump pump will usually be installed as part of a Type C waterproofing solution for the evacuation of groundwater or surface water from a basement.

Packaged Pump Stations are a complete unit. Comprising of chamber, pumps, pipework kit, valves, etc which are preassembled as a complete unit.

The Delta V3 Foul Packaged Pump Stations are suitable for collecting wastewater from kitchens, bathrooms and/or utility rooms and discharging this into the mains drainage system.

The Delta Foul V3 is an effective way of moving foul/grey water to where it needs to be.

Advantages of the 895 Sump Pump Chambers

- New unique design
- Finite Element Analysis (FEA)
- Increased storage capacity
- Preformed Base Plate for pump location and installation stability
- Preformed float bracket for Delta HLA
- Sealing lip



- Compatible with Delta V3 Foul sump pumps
- New slim lid able to withstand pedestrian traffic

Delta Pumps are proud to be manufacturing and fabricating all their sump pump chambers from their new warehouse facilities in a new dedicated Pump Distribution Hub close to its Epping Headquarters to enhances the company's ability to serve their nationwide customer base.

To explore the new range of Delta Pumps visit Package Pumps and Basement Drainage Systems – Delta Membranes.

Whatever the needs of your project, you can rely on Delta's Technical Team to ensure you get the right advice, support, and practical help at exactly the right time its required.

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Pump it up

With an increased demand for package pumping stations thanks to their functionality and convenience, there are now greater variations in design and suitable applications for pumping stations than ever before. T-T Pumps looks at the options

> Pumping stations, lift stations, pump houses. Despite the different names, they are all designed to remove waste and 'nuisance waters' from a site where gravity cannot be employed – be it for construction sites, highway drainage, flood protection schemes and more.



Package pumping stations

Designed as single, complete, preformed units, package pumping stations consist of the chamber, pumps, pipework, valves, control panel and level controls. The units are primarily deployed in the private sector where access to gravity drainage and connection to a site's main sewage line is unattainable.

Because of the wide range of sizes available, package pumping stations are practical for small single dwellings up to larger multi-dwelling applications – effectively managing wastewater, drainage water, and sewage/treatment works across housing estates, schools, hospitals, hotels, and nursing homes.

Package pumping stations are conventionally installed below ground, but where this is not possible, there is the option of an above-ground station.

Above-ground pumping stations have the same suitability for surface water, sewage and drainage applications, but are more likely to be restricted in size due to land availability on the chosen site. Below-ground stations are less restricted in this sense.

A bespoke project is recommended for those who want a pumping station that can be adopted by a local water authority. This is because the station must meet stringent standards as set out in the Design and Construction Guidance (DCG). DCG replaced the previous guidelines, Sewers for Adoption, in 2020; setting out the provisions under which local water authorities can adopt a pumping station.

With package pumping stations being prebuilt, they will not meet DCG standards, despite undergoing testing for safety and durability. However, bespoke and adoption standard stations have their own drawbacks, with longer lead times on manufacturing/ installation and additional fees associated with the adoption process. Package pumping stations have comparatively short lead times and can therefore be taken from initial order to commissioning within tight construction schedules.

Glass reinforced plastic (GRP) vs polyethylene

There are two main materials in the construction of pumping station chambers – glass reinforced plastic (GRP) and polyethylene. GRP was once the more popular material, but polyethylene has seen a gradual growth in the market. Both are durable; however, polyethylene is not only recyclable, but has additional benefits such as resistance to chemical corrosion, resilience to ground pressures, and strength against site abuse.

Differences in the manufacturing processes of GRP and polyethylene chambers also bring variations in product lead-times, repeatability and cost. GRP chambers are a manual and labourintensive process with greater potential for human error, compared to the more automated process of polyethylene chamber construction that guarantees reliability through consistent manufacturing standards. Evidence of design integrity and certification by a recognised test house, such as British Board of Agrément (BBA), can help in the search for high-quality pumping station providers. Finite Element Analysis (FEA) is also an important factor when choosing a manufacturer, providing evidence of a product's ability to function over time and withstand a range of forces, such as hydrostatic ground pressures.

There are several factors to be considered when choosing a pumping station in each particular project's case. These include the flow rate of the development being served; the distance the media must be pumped to the nearest sewage system; how high the pump can lift the medium (head lift); the potential loss of power and pressure needed for pump operation ('rising main friction loss'), as well as power requirements and medium storage requirements.

Selecting a pumping station with maximum efficiency and operational life is a job for professionals who have experience in optimising the decision process. Take the time to select a company that offers a selection service that you can rely upon, providing support from concept to commission and beyond, with after sales and monitoring systems for longterm reliability. Package pumping stations are single, complete, preformed units that consist of the chamber, pumps, pipework, valves, control panel and level controls



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PUMPING SOLUTIONS



M-AR Offsite joins new trade body



Offsite specialist contractor M-AR has become a member of the UK's modular housing trade body, Make UK Modular, as part of its mission to drive Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) into the mainstream

^{LR.} Shee Cole, Ryan Gaddaed and Date Sheridan and provide continued support for the industry as a whole. M-AR will join industry leaders including, among others, Ilke Homes, Vision Modular Systems, L&G Modular, Top Hat, as members of Make UK Modular. Make UK Modular's mission is to strengthen the modular manufacturing sector to help solve the UK housing crisis by delivering better, greener homes faster.

01482 635081 www.m-ar.co.uk

Waterproofing system protects British Museum



Newton Waterproofing, the UK's leading independent designers and suppliers of waterproofing systems, has delivered a failsafe waterproofing and fireproofing solution to the service tunnels beneath the British Museum, ensuring that the Grade 1 listed building is fully protected. Built between

1907 and 1914, the King Edward VII Galleries, part of the British Museum in London, sits above a series of tunnels and ventilation shafts, which supply air into the gallery. The gallery houses many priceless objects of historical significance and cultural importance,

01732 360 095 www.newtonwaterproofing.co.uk



Historic building turns green with Kemper System

emper System has helped to refurbish the metal roof of an historic London building, manufacturing a uniquely coloured waterproofing system.

Located at 77 Chancery Lane, the property is owned by The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn – an organisation with an 11acre estate in London comprising historic buildings, commercial space, residential properties, a law library and chapel.

Property and construction consultancy, Ingleton Wood, specified Kemperol V210M as part of the wider refurbishment of 77 Chancery Lane, which is being transformed into Grade A office space. To emulate the appearance of the existing copper roof, the cold-applied liquid was specially manufactured in copper green.

The Kemperol V210M was installed by Ridgewell Flat Roofing over an area spanning 350 sqm. As the same liquid already featured on the roof, it was overlaid with the V210M to refresh the copper green colour. The V210M was also used to waterproof new roof areas and where plant had been removed, providing a consistent covering.



To ensure a consistent depth and coverage, the V210M was applied until the fleece was no longer visible which indicated it was fully saturated. Once cured, the liquid resin formed a seamless and elastomeric membrane.

Victoria Ramwell from Kemper System said: "The green colour is the natural shade of the patina that forms on the copper surface of a roof over time. By adjusting our manufacturing process with different pigments, we were able to

TT Pumping Stations®



create the exact RAL 6034 colour code specified for this project. The V210M has provided a new and robust waterproofing solution with a very traditional appearance which will ensure this historic building remains watertight for decades. The ease of application also meant that it could be quickly and effectively installed around the multiple seams of the metal roof."

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No pane no gain – the double versus triple glazing debate

Is triple glazing really worth your client's investment and the extra issues it brings? Ben Brocklesby from Origin considers the relative benefits and drawbacks of both doubleand triple-glazed window and door options

hile in terms of aesthetics it is the frames of doors and windows that make the biggest difference to a project, the glazing also has a pivotal role to play in managing acoustics and thermal efficiency.

On paper, triple glazing has a clear advantage over double glazing, especially when it comes to insulation; better at preventing heat transfer from inside to out as well as stopping cold air from entering a property. This of course means it will assist in keeping homes feeling warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.

For example, a particular window can have a U-value of 1.2 W/m²K in its tripleglazed version, compared to 1.4 W/m²K with a double-glazed equivalent. This added performance will help reduce energy bills, which is a particular concern for many at the moment.

Although triple glazing can achieve lower U-values, it is possible to achieve high levels of thermal efficiency with double glazing. Such levels are achievable thanks to careful design, plus the use of special thermal breaks to limit the transfer of heat.

The additional pane of glass in a tripleglazed window or door can also help reduce external noise pollution as well as improve acoustics, which can be an advantage for properties in urban areas or those located near a main road. However, there are some important considerations to weigh up before recommending triple glazing as standard for your clients' projects.

The cost problem

The price of triple- versus double-glazing is likely to be the biggest deciding factor for homeowners. A triple-glazed unit can cost up to twice as much as a double-glazed alternative, so you should consider whether



the value added to the property through energy savings is enough to outweigh this. If the client plans to stay in their home for the long term, then they are more likely to be concerned with the long-term return on their investment, meaning that the energy savings of triple-glazing might be appealing.

The extra pane also results in the unit's overall weight being much heavier. This means that fewer units can be delivered per van to site, as there will be a likelihood of exceeding the maximum load weight. As the installer will be able to transfer fewer units at once, projects may take longer and incur more costs. Some may also require machinery to lift large expanses of glass, adding further cost. Being much lighter, double-glazed units shouldn't generally present as many issues in terms of transport or installation. The Future Homes Standard presents a problem for those manufacturers already relying on triple glazing to meet the current standards



Sightlines

One of the main benefits of doors with large areas of glazing is uninterrupted views outside. However, the additional weight of triple glazing can impact the maximum panel size possible - depending on the system. This is particularly relevant for products like bi-folding and sliding doors, and means instead of a few, wide panels, doors have to be specified with a higher number of glazed panels to avoid them being too heavy to operate individually. With more panels, comes more frames, meaning that the uninterrupted view people desire, as well as the amount of natural light, will be affected. The frame material will impact this. For example, aluminium's strength allows it to bear more weight, allowing for larger panel sizes.

Looking ahead

As a specifier working on multiple projects per year, it's also worth keeping abreast of the wider context of the triple- versus double-glazing debate. Last year, the Government updated Part L of the Building Regulations, which brought in more stringent thermal efficiency standards. For some manufacturers, this meant they had to switch to triple-glazing as standard to meet the new regulations. However, the Future Homes Standard, which is being introduced in 2025, will take the Regulations even further, presenting a problem for those manufacturers already relying on triple glazing to meet the current standards. When specifying fenestration products, whether it's for a renovation project, self-build, or new build, it's wise to consider whether the suppliers that can deliver now will be able to do so in the future.

Clear conclusions

It's an interesting debate, and while triple glazing wins on the long-term benefits of reducing energy bills and noise pollution, homeowners looking to make a statement with large panes of glass, or who hope for a significant return on the investment in the short-term, won't reap the benefits. This is where consultation with your client is essential to understand what their longterm goals are. If they are building their 'forever' home, then it makes sense to opt for triple glazing, which will eventually pay for itself.

Ben Brocklesby is director at Origin

Yeoman Rainguard launches new Aluminium & Heritage Rainwater Systems brochures



Yeoman Rainguard, renowned throughout the industry for the manufacturer, supply, and installation of quality rainwater products, has launched two new product brochures. The aluminium brochure showcases the highly commended XL and SL range of Aluminium gutters and downpipes and introduces, new to the market, Yeoman Rainguard Aluminium Flush Fit Downpipes and Aluminium Security Downpipes. Another new addition is the Squareline range of Aluminium Fascia Soffits, Copings, and Cills, already proving popular in the commercial market. Yeoman Rainguard's Heritage brochure contains a wide choice of systems and materials that perfectly suit heritage and listed building renovation projects and those that prefer the more traditional feel. A printed version of the new brochures are available on request or can be downloaded from the website, www.rainguard.co.uk. As always Yeoman Rainguard takes great pride in the expertise gained over 40 years in the market and customer services provided, such as free site surveys and samples, help clients make the right choice of rainwater systems for their construction projects.

0113 279 5854 www.rainguard.co.uk



Architects' drawing on ASWS expertise



London-based Associated Steel Window Services (ASWS) has built a solid reputation far beyond the capital for successfully undertaking some of the most challenging fenestration contracts. ASWS worked in close cooperation with the project's lead

The Glasshouse Street project

design consultants; as well as coordinating its operations with the main and other contractors. In fact, the multi-generational expertise ASWS offers extends beyond its management team to many of its long-serving workforce; while the company also retains a vast library of ironmongery and other window and door components.

asws.co.uk

Marley Alutec adds final touch



Marley Alutec has delivered a marine-grade aluminium guttering and fascia solution for an impressive new build property in rural Scotland. In keeping with the property's contemporary exterior design, Alutec

supplied its sleek Aligator Boxer gutters, Flushfit downpipes and Evoke fascia panels, which crucially require little to no maintenance. Bob Gunn, senior architectural technician at Denholm Partnership Architects commented: "Marley Alutec is often our first choice due to the durability and flexibility of its product range."

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Pioneering facades for the future...

ooking back at 2022 Metalline's presence within the Facade industry continued to grow Metalline revealed their latest technological investment; The TruBend Center 7030. It is the benchmark when it comes to flexibility and productivity during panel bending. Due to the success of this investment, Metalline has also taken delivery of the TruBend 5170 press brake.

Incorporating a flexible 6-axis back gauge, the TruBend 5170 enables greater accuracy and speed during production. The scale of this investment is aimed at taking Metalline's expertise in the field of facade fabrication and amplifying it to work with specifiers, architects and designers on more bespoke and detailed projects whilst increasing capacity to service the facade industry.

Metalline has developed their product ranges without compromise and has now has a range of products certified and tested which perfectly align with the reclad market as well as new build.

Metalline's Managing Director, Darron Brough was also honoured with a hat-trick



of awards during 2022, including the National Building Construction Awards for Innovation of the year Intelliclad, The London Construction Awards for Smart Technology of the year Intelliclad, and Facade Awards For 'Outstanding Contribution of the Year' Metalline.



Metalline continues to pave the way within the Facade industry offering customers the latest finishes, fabrication expertise and technical support.

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Authentically effective

James Ormerod of Aliva UK explains how external wall insulation is increasingly being specified with brick slip finishes, offering speed, economy and versatility allied to aesthetics that chime with British contemporary architecture

T's an undoubted fact that the humble brick has proven longevity as a stalwart among British building materials. But the weight of the brick on the frame, the shelf angles and additional supporting structure add to the mass of the building and to associated costs.

EWI and brick slip systems offer a mechanical fixed insulation, base render and mesh coats, forming a perfect platform for fully embedded and bonded slips to be installed onto.

Thousands of different brick slips are available to recreate the look and feel of traditional bricks in any colour, texture and size. This means architects can achieve the aesthetics of conventional brick but in a much more efficient way, following Modern Methods of Construction instead. EWI systems can be installed extremely quickly, making the shell watertight much faster than a traditional brickwork build.

Contemporary slip systems

Contemporary brick slip ranges mean architects can dream big and bold with this solution, with fired clay brick slips and lightweight brick slips. Architects don't have to be bound to any one type of brick, they can have free rein when it comes to both the design and placement – with obtuse and acute angled brick slips also possible to meet a project's specification.

Different colour stains can be added during the firing process or the final slips can be 'distressed' to create different effects, just like traditional bricks. EWI and brick slip ranges can deliver on scale and scope rather than compromised, 'watered down' architectural aspiration.

With 'A-rated' systems available on the market, clay slip or lightweight can be installed without height restriction.

Brick slips also allow more flexibility when it comes to the layout. Whether it's creating the 'herringbone' style or varying the depth of the bricks to create a '3D' design, it is far less time consuming and



costly. And if there is a requirement for a particular clay brick – they can be cut to slips to suit.

Diversity is available on the facade market, which means architects are not bound by a restricted range of slips – thousands of options are now possible beyond clay.

Contemporary ceramic slips for example can be glazed not only to an RAL, NCS, Pantone and colour scan but also used to create bespoke designs from crackled to beaded aesthetics. The only limit is the architect's imagination.

Stone slips are equally available in a vast range of colours and textures, with varying coursing styles and sizes that can be adapted to any design or detail.

A1 accreditation

EWI and clay brick solutions are also available on the market that achieve

Slip solutions are giving the brick aesthetic a renaissance across our skylines in the UK



Hayloft Point is an industry award-winning example of a bespoke EWI and clay brick slip system in cream, brown and red tones with contrasting textures A1 accreditation; fully non-combustible systems have been developed to ensure the highest fire classification has been achieved based on testing to standard EN 13501-1:2019.

Sustainability

Brick slips are an eighth of the depth of a traditional brick, giving up to eight brick faces for the same volume of clay. EWI applied alongside the brick slips, is designed to keep a building cool in the summer and warm in winter, making the entire building more energy efficient.

Hayloft Point – an industry award winning example

Hayloft Point is an industry awardwinning example of a bespoke EWI and clay brick slip system in cream, brown and red tones with contrasting textures. The system provides a signature finish for a new flagship student property in the heart of London.

The L-shaped building has a mix of 24-storey, 16-storey and eight-storey elements. Around 9,000 m² of textured cream, brown and red multi slips in 15 mm and 25 mm thicknesses were used in total to achieve the required finish. The project received an INCA award in 2022 in the New Build EWI and Brick Effect Finish category.

21st century construction

The construction business has changed considerably over the decades, and life on site has evolved to become much more safety-conscious.

EWI and brick slip solutions remove many of the dangers associated with traditional bricklaying. Clay slips and lightweight brick slips – a slimmed down version – offer a solution to applying bricks to taller buildings without compromising stability. It is the perfect solution to the current vogue for building ever-higher towers in space restricted city centre sites, which need to take their place among older traditional brick constructions.

Using brick slips, architects can pay homage to Britain's bricklaying heritage but in a way that fits with 21st century construction.

James Ormerod is managing director at Aliva UK

Dorset County Hospital MSCP, Dorchester



As the main provider of acute hospital services ample parking space is required at all times. It was decided that a multi-storey car park (MSCP) should be built to keep pace with demand. Due to new and stricter public regulations combined with the

desire for aesthetic freedom, the task presented several challenges that required extensive teamwork within our organisation. **RMIG Ltd** succeeded to merge the creative wishes of the architects to give residents a great impression of the Dorset landscapes.

01925 839610 www.city-emotion.com

Raising the temperature for headquarters



A StoTherm Mineral external wall insulation system from Sto was chosen to deliver excellent thermal performance for an office building in Loughborough. The Sto system was installed on the £21 million building on Loughborough University Science & Enterprise Park (LUSEP),

which now accommodates the flagship office of The Access Group. Designed by architectural practice Stephen George + Partners (SGP) the building features extensive use of external glazing. "We wanted to create a distinctive building which would provide a focal point for the Park," explains SGP's Studio Director Kanti Chhapi.

0330 024 2666 www.sto.co.uk

Garador celebrates 75th anniversary



One of the UK's leading garage door manufacturers, **Garador**, is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. With a modern purpose-built factory in Somerset, which utilises cutting-edge production techniques and engineering expertise, the company has come a long way since it was founded in 1948. Garador's Marketing Managet, Paul Eddleston, comments: "Reaching this major milestone is a solid endorsement of Garador and its products. Over the last 75 years we've grown to become one of the UK's most recognised garage door brands and developed our line of products to offer better safety, security and longevity." Today the company manufacturers an impressive range of over 60 garage door models, including up and over, roller, sectional and side-hinged garage doors, as well as automatic operators and accessories. It supplies garage doors across the length and breadth of Great Britain, from Land's End to John O'Groats, with a distributor base that extends nationwide, many of which have worked in partnership with Garador for decades. Find out more about the current Garador range by visiting the website.

01935 443722 www.garador.co.uk



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Perforated panels combine safety, functionality and aesthetics

verlooking the Manchester City Canal, a total of 500 apartments are being built in Manchester Waters. The location, quality and facilities are unique, and the selection ranges from studios to 3-bedroom apartments. The first blocks are finished and stand as a symbol of the new Manchester.

Premium waterfront living on this level must offer all amenities, including the ability to park near the residence. Therefore, car park facilities have been established on the lower level. In this connection, RMIG Solutions has supplied facade panels for covering the car park.

Challenges and wins

The facade panels presented several challenges. Aesthetically, the panels should be decorative and match the architecture. Functionally, they should have an extraordinarily large open area, as the rest of the basement is surrounded by solid walls.



Finally, the panels should appear in a raw finish, directly from the mill.

The task was solved thanks to a close and trusting collaboration with the architect. Aesthetically, the choice fell on a botanical pattern with a closed surface at the top that hides the concrete deck.

An open area of 50% is difficult to achieve in this thickness (3 mm), particularly in an



aesthetic finish, but with precision tools, our sales and development departments at RMIG Solutions managed to increase this. The architect proposed displacing some of the panels to provide extra ventilation, and this ultimately resulted in an open area of approximately 75%.

01925 839610 www.rmig.com/en

ROCKWOOL® launches recladding guide



Stone wool insulation manufacturer, **ROCKWOOL**[®], has added to its suite of industry support resources with the launch of the Recladding with ROCKWOOL guide for specifiers. Following the ban on combustible materials in relevant new buildings over 18 metres (ADB updated for England June 2022), many building owners are recladding existing buildings with non-combustible materials that comply with the updated regulations. In addition to addressing combustibility regulations, recladding brings many benefits to existing buildings, including improved thermal and acoustic performance, enhanced aesthetic qualities and the replacement of flat roof systems that have reached the end of their effective operation. The Recladding with ROCKWOOL guide includes ROCKWOOL stone wool products, such as NyRock[®] Rainscreen 032 and NyRock[®] Frame Slab 032, which are purpose-designed for ventilated rainscreen cladding. They are also independently classified as either A1, or A2-s1, d0 and therefore non-combustible, meaning that they are suitable for use on buildings that are affected by the ban on combustible materials.

01656 862 621 rockwool.com/uk/reclad-guide

(Lunch and) Learn how to optimise healthy, flexible workspace



AET Flexible Space – a global leader in underfloor air conditioning (UfAC) – is responding by introducing a knowledge feast programme for specifiers. The scheme – lasting just an hour – will cover the key considerations and Regulations affecting indoor air quality for today's sustainable, flexible, healthy office environments, and how UfAC plays a role in delivery on those criteria. Explains Karl Strauss, Head of Sales at AET Flexible Space: "Time is precious, but in these changing times, we need to take the time to keep abreast of technologies that can help deliver. In return for your time and your ears, we will feed your stomach and your brain. We will open your eyes to freedom of design that feeds the soul of everyone involved in the office space you are designing- the developer, the contractor, the workers." AET Flexible Space is a global leader in, and undisputed authority on, UfAC, being the first company to take the system to market worldwide some 30 years ago. Widely used across sub-tropical countries, the concept is gaining traction in the UK with its ability to deliver compliant, flexible, energy-efficient air conditioning.

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Euroform's Versaroc[®] MPA1 panel is part of Europe's largest living wall

H uroform Product's Versaroc[®] MPA1 sheathing board has been used in the construction of Europe's largest living wall at Eden, Salford, which is set to be one of the UK's most sustainable office buildings.

Eden is a £36 million, 115,000 ft², 12-storey office building at New Bailey in Salford, being developed by The English Cities Fund (ECF) – a strategic joint venture between nationwide placemaker, Muse, Legal & General and Homes England. The main contractor is Bowmer + Kirkland.

The jewel in Eden's crown will be a living facade, which at $43,000 \text{ ft}^2$ will be the second largest in the world and the biggest in Europe. The facade is designed to remove air pollutants including carbon, reduce urban temperatures offering thermal benefits to occupiers, and deliver a 174% net gain in the biodiversity of the area, while providing a high-quality green space.

Euroform's Versaroc® MPA1 is part of the living wall structure, which involves



a steel frame. A fibre cement board comprising ordinary Portland cement with inorganic reinforcing fibres, Versaroc[®] MPA1 is intended for exterior sheathing of SFS frames due to its high durability and non-combustibility.

Versaroc[®] MPA1 achieves EuroClass A1 Reaction to Fire according to EN 13501-1:2018 and has third party Agrément from Kiwa BDA for steel frame sheathing application – certificate number BAW-20-154-P-A-UK. Versaroc[®] MPA1 is also highly moisture tolerant and has achieved category A performance to EN 12467:2012 + A2:2018. As indicated, category A is the highest level of performance that fibre cement sheets can achieve in terms of resistance to the destructive effects of varying climatic conditions including severe frost, a critical consideration for the requirements of the board used within the Eden facade.

A wide range of systems may be applied over Versaroc[®] MPA1 such as approved ETICS systems, terracotta cladding systems, high performance cladding systems and traditional brick coursework.

Ordered and installed by Lester Cladding, Euroform has supplied nearly 50,000 ft² of Versaroc[®] MPA1 to site.

www.euroform.co.uk www.musedevelopments.com



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Innovative subframe solutions by CLAD-LINE

LAD-LINE has positioned itself at the forefront of innovative design, to become one of the UK's leading manufacturers of extruded aluminium noncombustible subframe systems, developing a complete set of facade framing solutions for the cladding market.

CLAD-LINE aim to simplify the design process, reduce installation time, and provide products which make everybody's life that little bit easier. What better way is there to do this than to work in conjunction with our valued customers and draw upon their first-hand industry knowledge to develop a structurally efficient and fully compliant subframe offering.

Servicing the new build and reclad/refurb markets, the key ethos of CLAD-LINE is innovation. Their team of qualified Design Engineers help to develop innovative solutions to overcome any challenges presented by the most complicated construction projects.

With the aid of CLAD-LINE's state-of-theart and free to use Facade Engine specification software, CLAD-LINE can help any customer overcome project-specific challenges and provide a comprehensive static calculation for their project requirements. A full Finite Element Analysis is also available to verify the performance of the more bespoke systems and ensure that framing designs are fully optimised.

From the most simplistic but effective rail and bracket system to the unique Floor 2 Floor framing technology, the CLAD-LINE range offers framing solutions for all design requirements and can accommodate a diverse range of cladding materials.

CLAD-LINE proudly supported the 2022 RCI Facade Awards as a category sponsor for 'Best rainscreen system using aluminium'. The awards celebrate the achievements of facade contractors, manufacturers and suppliers who demonstrate an outstanding level of technical ability, excellent quality of work, and showcase the superstars of the industry who have gone unnoticed.

Last year's event also saw Clad-Line's own Managing Director, Darron Brough being presented with the prestigious 'Outstanding Contribution of the year' award. His awardwinning achievements within the industry



include the invention of a wireless fire detection and alert system that is integrated within the external facade of high-risk buildings where combustible materials are present, known as Intelliclad, pioneering a new level of building safety.

To find out more about Clad-Line please visit the website or contact the team to discuss your requirements.

01543 222500 www.clad-line.com



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If you want to learn more about our Glass Roof PR60 and LAMILUX's new innovations, visit us at ARCHITECT@WORK.

This year ARCHITECT@WORK will take place again in London on 22nd & 23rd March 2023 - where numerous international exhibitors will present the latest trends and innovations. As a platform for architects and interior designers, ARCHITECT@WORK enables the exchange of knowledge and experience of our rooflights, roof access hatches, smoke vents and glass roofs designed for durability. At stand 49 you can experience our diverse product portfolio up close.

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Domus Ventilation at Specifi events



Domus Ventilation will be exhibiting at Specifi Mechanical Services events throughout the UK and Ireland in 2023, working with specifiers to identify effective ventilation solutions for their projects. Russell Beardsworth, Domus Ventilation's specification sales manager who will be attending the Specifi shows, comments: "We take a different

approach to specification, working closely with specifiers on the ventilation system as a whole, not just selling product. We examine the project and recommend a ventilation system solution. Ultimately, it's about right product, right environment."

www.domusventilation.co.uk

The Infinity 780FL from Charlton & Jenrick



The Infinity 780FL from **Charlton & Jenrick** makes a luxurious addition to any room with its contemporary mixed log set, regardless of whether you choose the Herringbone Brick or Black Glass Liners. Packing a mighty punch, this fire produces 7.8 kW of heat and 82% efficiency keeping you

warm whatever the weather. The new Micro Marble surround is the star of the show and is a must have for anyone looking for the ultimate in modern fireplaces. From $\pounds 2,324.00$ Inc VAT.

01952 200 444 www.charltonandjenrick.co.uk

VORTICE air purifiers installed in classrooms



In light of Covid 19 and other winter illnesses circulating, Head Teacher Ruth Burton at Packington Church of England Primary School felt that installing air purifiers in each classroom could make an enormous difference to the health of both children and teachers, particularly in the

winter months. Ventilation manufacturer **VORTICE** was delighted to donate and demonstrate the difference the DePuro Pro 300 air purifier could make. It offers double air filtration with two Absolute HEPA H14 filters and a molecular filter that reduces the number of particles in the air such as viruses, micro-organisms and bacteria.

01283 492949 www.vortice.ltd.uk

Ideal Heating & ACV exhibit at Specifi events



Ideal Heating – Commercial Products is pleased to announce it is once again exhibiting at Specifi Mechanical Services events throughout 2023, alongside hot water generation and heating company ACV UK, as part of their Experts Together campaign; both companies

are part of Groupe Atlantic. Aimed at specifiers in the construction sector, the Specifi events provide a more relaxed, informal alternative to major exhibitions. Ideal Heating is exhibiting at eight Specifi Mechanical Services events, which are being held in Birmingham, Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, London and Manchester.

www.idealcommercialheating.co.uk www.acv.com/gb

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Designed-in air quality

The new Part F raises the bar for domestic ventilation, given the need to ensure air quality in more efficient house constructions. Lee Caulfield from Titon explains further

Pentilation plays vital role for ensuring occupants' health within a home, and getting the right system in place at the design stage is essential. There are many forms of ventilation available currently for the residential market, but a number of factors influence the selection process.

Approved Document F of the Building Regulations states that an "adequate means of ventilation," must be provided, but since the update to these Regulations in June 2022, there are now three types of ventilation identified (it was previously four, but passive stack ventilation was removed).

The ventilation types identified in the new Part L are as follows:

- Less airtight dwellings: natural ventilation with background ventilators and intermittent extract fans
- Highly airtight dwellings: continuous mechanical extract ventilation (MEV) and mechanical ventilation with heat recovery (MVHR).

A highly airtight dwelling is defined as that with a 'designed' air permeability lower than 5 m³/ (h·m²) at 50 Pa, and an as-built air permeability lower than 3 m³/(h·m²) at 50 Pa; and dwellings are assumed to have an infiltration rate of 0 air changes per hour.

For less airtight dwellings, there is an element of mechanical ventilation within the 'natural ventilation' option, which can make things a little bit misleading. However, a less airtight dwelling is defined as: a design air permeability higher than 5 m³/($h\cdot$ m²) at 50 Pa; an as-built air permeability higher than 3 m³/($h\cdot$ m²) at 50 Pa; dwellings are assumed to have an infiltration rate of 0.15 air changes per hour.

The changes in classification indicate the Government's intention to make sure that in future, homes are provided with adequate ventilation and have increased ventilation rates. With the Future Homes Standard being implemented in 2025, the need to build homes with more efficient energy consumption, and therefore more



airtightness, poses a question for designers about what mechanical ventilation system to put in place.

MVHR: an energy-efficient solution

The most efficient use of energy and utilising heat recovery to achieve air quality is mechanical ventilation with heat recovery (MVHR), which is suitable for houses, flats, or apartments. MVHR works by combining supply and extract air, extracting moisture-laden, stale air from wet areas, such as kitchens and bathrooms. The heat from the extract air is recovered by the heat exchanger in the unit, and is recycled into the supply air entering a dwelling.

A MVHR unit can be located in a number of areas, such as the ceiling void, loft, cupboard, or garage. Designed to recycle up to 92% heat and utilising low powered electronically commutated (EC) centrifugal motors, it is a system that ticks all the boxes for futureproofing homes. Ideal for lowering Dwelling Emission Rate ratings, the performance of MVHR If a MVHR system is added to a design early, it is easier for the aesthetics of the building to absorb the system's layout



units will be confirmed in SAP (the Standard Assessment Procedure) for their performance and energy consumption.

Specify early

If a MVHR system is added into a design at an early stage, it is easier for the building's aesthetic aspects to absorb the system's design and layout. Becoming an integral part of the home, it also allows the occupant to be provided with healthy replacement air, with the added protection of filters as per standard ISO16890 – which will absorb particles that would normally enter a dwelling.

Going forward, MVHR will become more standard within ventilation designs due to how they comply with legislation changes and developments. Not only are they ideal to fight against common issues with mould and condensation as a direct result from poor ventilation in a home, MVHR units also ensure that air is continually passed through a home to remove contaminants, and keep the air circulating.

Lee Caulfield is ventilation system sales director at Titon



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Explore our online interactive and see how our ventilation products can be used individually or together, to improve indoor air quality in all homes.

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Robust insulation remedies

Paul Barrett from ROCKWOOL UK outlines the importance of robust installation methods when specifying insulation, and why a more holistic approach is needed

Until very recently, the UK's net zero strategy has been dominated by discussions on how we can roll out energy-saving technologies effectively, and our transition to renewable energy – leaving the fabric of our buildings somewhat overlooked.

While ECO+ may signal greater recognition of the role of the building fabric and specifically insulation in the fight against climate change – full details of the scheme are yet to emerge – it's largely been forgotten that the cheapest, cleanest, safest energy is the energy we don't use.

To cut greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Paris Agreement, help households reduce their energy bills, and bring about a greener and more sustainable environment, we must address building performance – fabric first – and place more emphasis on how buildings perform not just when built but beyond.

Changes to Approved Document L in England, introduced in 2021, place greater scrutiny on closing the gap between design and as-built performance, which is undoubtedly a step in the right direction. Yet performance gaps often occur in areas that can't be seen. As such, we need more stringent monitoring of the build quality; in particular, ensuring properly installed, durable insulation is used to achieve the required performance once built and occupied.

The importance of fit

The first step in achieving this designed performance is to be certain that insulation is fitted contiguously and without gaps. Stone wool insulation makes this process easier as it is highly pliable so can be closely friction fitted, without the need for impractical levels of precision cutting. This simplicity minimises the margin for error, supporting reliable and effective thermal performance that reduces thermal bridging.

This process also applies to abutments between insulation boards, another area



that can be prone to thermal leakage. The composition of stone wool insulation allows individual slabs to knit together to create a seamless fit and the workable nature of stone wool insulation supports the delivery of designed U-values.

For continuing performance, dimensional stability is key. Building materials naturally expand and contract over time which can lead to the formation of gaps and voids. Stone wool maintains its shape and properties over time across a wide range of temperatures, and has the resilience to accommodate building movement when fitted under compression. It has a proven ability to provide consistent performance – even up to 55 years – without a drop in its thermal properties. And because of its high-density semi-rigid composition, it will not slump in the cavity.

The role of innovation

The UK's drive to net zero must also be supported by building product manufacturers, leading a charge with innovation that delivers on thermal The first step in achieving this designed performance is to be certain that insulation is fitted contiguously and without gaps



By reducing the gap between design, build and ongoing performance, we can make strong inroads towards net zero performance in reality as well as the commercial factors that can sometimes be barriers to specification.

With this in mind, last year we introduced products featuring thermally efficient stone wool insulation with solutions for cavities and ventilated cladding systems.

From a cavity perspective, this next generation of product provides a 13% improvement in thermal performance over the existing/standard stone wool cavity slab, plus delivers space-saving benefits. For example, to achieve 0.18 W/m²K, only a 150 mm thickness is now needed versus 175 mm of standard stone wool cavity insulation within the same build-up.

Likewise, with ventilated cladding systems and sealed structures, specifiers can typically save around 15 mm on the wall thickness compared to traditional stone wool products. Applying that saving over a 22 metre x 22 metre building of nine storeys, for example, can yield an extra 99 ft² of usable or profitable floor space.

Beyond the thermal

Climate change and the need to reduce energy consumption have necessitated a focus on thermal efficiency as the primary driver for insulation choice; yet thermal performance should not be seen in isolation or focused on in detriment to other critical factors that affect the long-term safety and comfort of buildings.

As stone wool insulation is manufactured from naturally occurring volcanic rock, it has a natural, innate non-combustibility, meaning that many stone wool solutions achieve a European Reaction to Fire Classification of A1 – the highest possible rating. What's more, the dense, non-directional fibre orientation of stone wool and its open porous structure, traps sound waves and reduces sound energy for acoustic performance.

Given that heating buildings equates to nearly a quarter of UK emissions, by reducing the gap between design, build and ongoing performance, we can make strong inroads towards net zero – as well as ultimately deliver better buildings for generations to come.

Paul Barrett is head of product management at ROCKWOOL UK



Bath Archway

In the centre of the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the city of Bath, The Roman Baths and Pump Room is a site of international historical and archaeological significance and attracts over one million visitors each year.

As part of an impressive refurbishment, Bath & North East Somerset Council appointed architects Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios for the new Archway Project comprising a new World Heritage Centre and Roman Baths Learning Centre. The Learning Centre features three state-of-theart learning rooms, break out space and a hands-on Investigation Zone set among real Roman remains.

For a learning space – created from the shell of a former warehouse – with its historic roof structure newly revealed, the architects specified Troldtekt's acoustic wood wool panelling in a natural finish to complement the surrounding wood, minimise the sound reverberation and dampen the noise from large groups of excited school children. Troldtekt is a perfect choice for this kind of application



where its sustainable characteristics coupled with superior acoustic qualities provide a comfortable interior environment.

Founded on the Cradle-to-Cradle design concept and certified to Gold level, Troldtekt'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 various sizes and in four grades, from extreme fine to coarse, the panels can be left untreated or painted in virtually any RAL colour. Troldtekt[®] panels with FUTURECEM[™] absorb more CO₂ than they emit during production

Samples, case studies and technical guidance are available from Troldtekt.

01978 664255 Troldtekt.co.uk

Optimal comfort from Gilberts



An intelligent decision in utilising an intelligent spring could help improve occupant health and performance alongside savings in energy and manufacturing time. The "super spring" is a core component of **Gilberts**' latest GSJ adjustable thermal swirl diffusers. Utilising an advanced thermally reactive spring as a core component of Gilberts' latest GSJ adjustable thermal swirl, the diffuser now has a reaction time – and therefore temperature adjustment – occurring within seconds, verses other thermally actuated diffusers, which use wax technology, which can take up to 60 minutes. Triggered by the temperature of the incoming air (usually when it varies by 2°C from pre-set boundaries) the intelligent spring instantly adjusts the omni-rotational diffuser vanes, delivering warm air vertically and cooler air horizontally. This process ensures rapid initial warm up, and avoidance of uncomfortable draughts. Quickly controlling the airflow direction to maintain a comfortable environment in the internal space below, it only takes seconds to restore the equilibrium – whether through exposed ductwork, ceiling grids, clip-in ceilings or perforated ceilings.

01253 766911 info@gilbertsblackpool.com

Help the environment today and tomorrow



National Ventilation, a leading ventilation manufacturer and supplier, is working hard to make its ventilation more sustainable to help the environment today and tomorrow. This is great news for customers, making it easier for developers, installers and wholesalers

to make more sustainable choices while still benefitting from the quality and performance National Ventilation is known for. For architects, developers and builders, with developments of 100 plots or less, keen on making sustainable choices and benefit from a free ventilation design service, National Ventilation is a great option.

01823 690 290 www.nationalventilation.co.uk/sustainable

New Tessera Accord



Forbo Flooring Systems has expanded its range of readily available and affordable carpet tiles, with the introduction of Tessera Accord. Featuring a softly striated, contemporary design, the colourways within the collection have been designed to tonally match each other, as well as other ranges from within

the practical Tessera portfolio, allowing specifiers and flooring contractors to create beautifully integrated flooring schemes. Made and stocked in the UK, Tessera Accord joins Tessera Infused as a complementing solution within Forbo's new Union Collection.

01773 744 121 www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/infused

Reveal the texture of light with IVC Commercial's new carpet tile



Light Art is the affordable new carpet tile from IVC Commercial, with designs that express the interplay between natural light and woven textiles. The changing hues and balances of cast daylight bring new meaning to the woven organic textiles that inspire Light Art, the new carpet tile from IVC Commercial that's available in two mix and match designs. In Flare, flashes of bright highlight give structure to its woven effect. Striated highs express light's influence broken by shadows that bring depth to a floor design with dynamic texture. Reflect is a design where light casts organic flows across its woven-like texture, expressing light's ability to expose and conceal, for a sense of natural movement. Flare and Reflect are available in eight mix and match colourways, so you can design layouts which respond to the needs of today's agile office interiors in a carpet tile that's affordable. With grey, blue, green and natural tones, Light Art's colours are highly functional and adaptable to most design schemes. Made from solution-dyed nylon, Light Art is colourfast and lightfast, as well as stain-resistant.

01332 851 500 www.ivc-commercial.com/en-gb

Parkside achieves the dream at Youles Honda Manchester



Kirn floor tiles from **Parkside** are giving an attractive and durable finish at Youles Honda Manchester. Youles Honda Manchester is the latest home to a range of scooters and motorcycles from the Japanese manufacturer. With a showroom split over two levels, reception area and service desk; it is one of the first UK showrooms as part of the European roll out of Honda's Dream Dealer concept. Across showroom, reception and service desk floors, Parkside's Kirn porcelain tile in graphite has been installed. With 36+ PTV, this slip-resistant tile brings a smart and sophisticated concrete look. Durable and easy to maintain, it ensures that showroom has a floor that stay looking smart under heavy use. In a 60 cm x 60 cm format, Kirn has been installed over 320 m² of floor space. The Dream Dealer concept is delivered through retail design specialist Brand Twenty Two's (www.brandtwentytwo.com) Honda motorcycle design packs. These include a map for creating a consistent customer experience across different sites and different countries, and include furniture and finishes specified by Honda, setting-out plans, interior sections and 3D visuals.

0116 276 2532 www.parkside.co.uk



Perfect colour palettes for SEND school



Paint expert **Dulux Trade** has supported the design of two new multi-sensory classrooms at Firwood High School, Woodbridge Academy in Bolton. To ensure a comfortable and inclusive learning environment for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities,

Dulux Trade drew upon its colour expertise to create bespoke palettes that instil feelings of calm and aid productivity. Dulux Trade also wanted to ensure a long-lasting, easy to maintain finish that could withstand the high foot traffic of the school environment. As such, the Dulux Trade Scuffshield range was recommended.

youtu.be/kVVDRrshSXQ www.duluxtradepaintexpert.co.uk

Welcoming family zone with SterlingOSB Zero



When architect Daniele Sini bought Ravensbourne House with his partner, he was unimpressed with the poorly constructed rear extension. The challenge for the family was that they had very little left in the budget for remodelling the kitchen. Daniele used West

Fraser's SterlingOSB Zero to provide a durable finish that would also add natural colour to the kitchen walls. The boards are 18 mm thick, making it easy to neatly mitre the corner junctions. "I liked the texture of OSB and its warm colour variation; this is emphasised by the morning sun to give the space a warm glow," says Daniele.

uk.westfraser.com/resources/architect-support

World leader in floors for the performing arts

Architects trust Harlequin

Established as the industry choice for architects, theatre consultants and the world's most prestigious dance and performing arts companies, Harlequin's reputation is founded on the design, manufacture and supply of a range of high quality floors and studio equipment for the performing arts.

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ULTRA – The "4-Way" Flush Door System

R ocket Door Frames have launched an innovative flush door system that has distinct advantages over it's predecessor, advantages for the architect, developer and contractor.

The evolution of the Flush Door design has been prolific throughout Europe over recent years. The design concept of a door without architraves that blends into any interior design has been appreciated by Interior designers everywhere. Initially the design emanated from Italy but has since become the biggest growth sector in the door market.

Rocket door frames have been at the forefront of this evolution with a product similar to other suppliers in the market which meant having to specify either Push or Pull and either Left or Right opening, that's four different products, each one specific without any flexibility to change.

The new UTRA Flush Door system combines all these four possibilities into one simple product, Push or Pull, Left or Right opening. This translates into easy specifying, ease of supply (you always get the right product), ease of installation and last but



certainly not least, the ability to change your mind about Push/Pull, Left/Right!

The Rocket ULTRA Flush door system is made from high quality aluminium using the very best component suppliers.

Here are just some of the advantages of the Rocket Flush Door system:

1. All doors are 44 mm flush and have been approved in the Rocket system for FD30 fire rating.

- 2. A top quality AGB MAGNETIC lock and latch with strike plate and 3M long lasting bumper seals.
- 3. The European manufactured three way adjustable invisible hinges ensure perfect alignment of the door to the frame and so have a perfect flush finish.
- 4. You can use the Rocket system with standard metal stud, timber stud and masonry walls.
- 5. Sturdy OSB spacers are supplied with each frame meaning the perfect door alignment is assured when installing.
- 6. To protect against oxidisation the frame is supplied fully protected and primed ready for painting.
- 7. The risk of plaster cracking on the edges over time has been virtually eliminated with the 'hooked' aluminium profile that holds the plaster firm.

Specify Rocket ULTRA Flush to wall doors and frames you wont be disappointed!

03309 980617 Rocketdoorframes.co.uk

Fire Rated Pocket Doors

R ocket Pocket Doors have been a huge success in the UK over the last three years leading the way for 100% steel pocket door systems that meet high quality standards at very competitive prices.

Just recently they introduced new ranges that match the pocket thickness to the various stud work sizes so eliminating the time wasting and costly process of adjusting the stud to the pocket size – installation is therefore easier and quicker.

For 2023 Rocket Pocket Doors have been fire tested by Warrington Fire and obtained a full 30 minute rating and can be used with



doors supplied by Rocket or use with your own doors. The 30 minute approval does not tell all though, the Rocket system when tested with a flaxboard core door (probably the most onerous of all the fire door cores) actually achieved a full 48 minutes for the test which is 60% more than was needed for full approval. So you can be sure that when you specify Rocket Pocket Fire Doors you are getting one of the very highest quality systems on the market today.

The Rocket fire door Jamb lining system is made from European oak giving you a strong and stable quality finish. An interesting advantage from Rocket is that their Jamb system does not have flat architraves integrated into the system, which generally means your design options are severely limited. The quality of the Rocket jamb system means that it easily passed the test without the need for architraves as for the rest of the development and are not constrained by the jamb design.

Supply chain problems don't exist for the Rocket FD30 Pocket Door System, all the



main standard UK sizes are stocked items and can be delivered in a matter of days to anywhere in the UK.

Fully technically trained and friendly customer service advice is available by phone or email for any advice before during or after purchase.

Site visits a pleasure too!

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APPROVED **ULTRA** FLUSH DOORS

- One kit fits four ways
- Supplied with a magnetic latch
- Supplied with a 44mm Door
- Site visits available

LIFE



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FD30



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info@rocketdoorframes.co.uk www.rocketdoorframes.co.uk 0330 9980 617

Yeoman Shield highlighting dementia-friendly wards

All & Door Protection Specialists, Yeoman Shield recently collaborated with a Yorkshire hospital to provide Door Protection for a ward refurbishment that would be in line with the dementia-friendly environment brief.



The work required the doors along the ward corridor to be protected using different coloured Yeoman Shield Protection Panels which had to be compatible with a pre-accepted pallete of shades found to be conducive to wayfinding benefits for people with dementia.

Yeoman Shield was able to meet the colour brief drawing from their wide range of 58+ colours available in the protection panel range.

The Door Protection panels were installed, along with matching door frame protection, by Yeoman Shield's directly employed fixing operatives, in Royal Blue, Aubergine, Raspberry Red, Tangerine, Lilac, Yellow, and Pastel Green shades, providing an attractive, protective, and hygienic surface finish.

With the ward experiencing constant, heavy footfall, the door protection panels will play an important role in guarding against detrimental impact damage caused by the movement of beds, trolleys, people,



and equipment. This can help to reduce the amount of time and money spent on the repair and redecoration of doors.

For more information on how the use of Yeoman Shield wall & door protection products not only protects from impact damage but can assist in wayfinding and decoration go to the website.

0113 279 5854 www.yeomanshield.com

Tatami Tiles



Inspired by ancient Japanese floor mats, Tatami is the 3D cork wall tile from **Granorte**. Available in Midnight, Natural and Light, Tatami is a 3D wall tile made from 90% recycled natural cork. Created by familyowned Portuguese cork innovator, Granorte, the wall tile brings a unique texture that's close to nature. Ideal for creating a cosy and comfortable feeling that has a connection to a Japanese aesthetic, the wall tile is suitable for commercial environments such as hotels and offices. The cork used for Tatami is sourced from the post-industrial waste of wine stopper production. Originally harvested from the bark of cork trees within protected forests, the material is natural and renewable. Ground up and turned into Tatami tiles, it's a material with unique properties. Thermally efficient with good acoustics, as well as resilient, cork is an excellent choice for interiors looking towards sustainability as a key criterion. Each Tatami tile is finished with CORKGUARD®, Granorte's water-based finish that adds a protective layer for easy cleaning, and which features Microban® to inhibit the growth of bacteria.

01952 443555 www.granorte.co.uk

Marmox Multiboards line new Morpeth Leisure Centre



The construction of a stylish and sensitively designed riverside leisure centre in Northumberland is making full use of high performance tilebacker boards from the range of **Marmox Ltd.** throughout all of its wet areas: selected as a lining to blockwork walls in place of traditional render. A total area of 2,600 m² of Multiboards are being installed using 10,000 of the special Marmox dowels and Marmox waterproofing tape, ready for the installation of mainly white ceramic tiles to complete a fully waterproof lining to the poolside walls and other wet areas. Marmox Multiboards are manufactured from extruded polystyrene (XPS) covered in a layer of polymer concrete which offers an ideal surface across which to fix tiles, while they can be combined with the manufacturer's special tapes and multipurpose sealant to create fully waterproof wetroom installations. This includes Multiboards use across the floor and upstand areas to create a tanked interior which also offers excellent loadbearing capacity, and whose thermal performance is even recognised by The Energy Saving Trust.

01634 835290 www.marmox.co.uk

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New compact range from VitrA – ArchiPlan

WitrA Bathrooms, a global bathroom brand, has launched a striking range that provides plenty of options for designers and specifiers, particularly those working with small spaces. Designed by Design Studio VitrA, the new ArchiPlan collection is also perfect for bathrooms in the hospitality and commercial sectors.

ArchiPlan is modern and minimalist. The range offers a variety of sizes, including narrow cabinet widths and reduced projections (from just 28 cm). Storage options include shelves in two sizes (45 and 60 cm) and open shelving in the mirrors and mid-units. The contemporary design also has black metal framing detailing. Elegant cutout holes instead of door handles keep the design simple and add to the feeling of space.



The furniture is made from plywood, an eco-friendly material option. As well as requiring little energy to produce and being highly recyclable, plywood is incredibly hard-wearing and durable. The finish is water and moisture-resistant, offering a solid solution without compromising aesthetics or functionality.

With contemporary, clean lines, the furniture is available in a choice of neutral and timeless matt colours – white, black, and taupe. Wall-hung furniture units with washbasins are available in 45 cm, 60 cm and 90 cm. A 52 cm wide mid-unit provides valuable storage and open shelving.

ArchiPlan basins can be wall-mounted (with the option of chrome legs on 38 cm x 90 cm basins) or mounted in cabinetry. Each is available in 45 cm, 60 cm, 9 0cm and 120 cm formats and is ideal for tight spaces in both 28 and 38 cm projections.

01235 750990 www.vitra.co.uk



ArchiPlan 60cm mid-height wall unit in matt black showing the plywood edge complemented by practical and stylish display shelves, and mirror shelf combination unit, all in black metal framing. Countertop basin shown projects just 28cm to make maximum use of space.







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Platinum lighting at the Great Mosque of Mecca



During recent enhancements to the Great Mosque, Luceco supplied 3,000 energy saving, cost effective Surface Platinum luminaires with gloss reflectors. The Platinum family has become a flagship product range. The recessed Platinum is a high performance 220 mm diameter downlight with an efficacy up to 130 Llm/cW, featuring a unique swing tab design ensuring installation is quick and easy. The Surface Mount format of this luminaire, as installed at the Great Mosque of Mecca, provides an opportunity for creative lighting design using a high specification luminaire where a recessed ceiling void is not available. Platinum Surface Mount can be used as a pendant with suspension wires, or BESA fixed directly onto a solid surface. Luceco has recently launched the Platinum V4, offering an update to this popular product. Platinum V4 retains a similar appearance but has a further optimised heatsink and a reduction in bezel thickness from 6 mm to 2.5 mm on a standard IP44 bezel as well as being magnetic. There is also an IP65 Anti-Tamper bezel option, improved reflectors and extended swing tabs to suit larger cut outs.

01952 238 100 luceco.com/uk

Make more of surfaces with UNILIN Panels Master Oak



Through technological leaps in the way it makes decorative panels, **UNILIN Panels** has added definition and detail and textures that go deeper than ever before to make Master Oak a true interpretation of nature. Master Oak compromises nothing for its authentic look. It remains just as easy to look after and just as durable as any other UNILIN HPL or melamine surface. Compared to real oak, Master Oak is three times as scratch-resistant, more colourfast and more stain proof. It can be used on everything from desktops to shelves, doors, hotel furniture, storage, cupboards, partitions and more. Thanks to its excellent performance characteristics, the finish is also easy to clean and needs no specialist or ongoing maintenance. At the heart of Master Oak's authentic look and touch lies UNILIN Timber Touch Technology. Regular HPL and melaminefaced panels only have around three or four depth levels which limits how much texture can be applied the surface. UNILIN Timber Touch Technology allows for 64 different depth levels for 20 times more texture than regular surfaces. Order samples of Master Oak at the website.

info.panels@unilin.com www.unilinpanels.com





Marano Integrated from F.H. Brundle

Marano Integrated is the latest addition to F.H. Brundle's stylish aluminium fencing range. This versatile system consists of boards, screens, posts and inserts that can provide either total privacy, or boards with 25 mm gaps between them. Multiple spacers can also be used to create larger spaces between boards. In common with the broader Marano range, Marano Integrated is long-lasting, requires extremely little maintenance, and is therefore highly cost-effective. The system's posts have been specially designed for Marano Integrated, measuring 80 x 80 mm, with a narrow 20.6 mm slot on two sides, and an extra wide slot on the third side. The post can be used as an intermediate, corner, end and T-post by adding or removing extrusions. The Marano Integrated infill range consists of four hollow sections - one 55 mm section (Half Round system), a 50 mm rectangular section (Parallel 50 system), a 100 mm rectangular section (Parallel 100 system), and one that features a tongue and groove (Connect 150 system). But perhaps the range's most notable feature is its decorative screens, made of lasered aluminium sheeting.

01708 398048 www.fhbrundle.co.uk


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- Available as the Glide Bollard 30 and Glide Bollard 40, whose footings measure just 210mm and 240mm deep respectively
- Manually operated and incorporating removable and lockable panels designed to blend into the street or road surface
- Manufactured in the heart of the UK from high quality materials and lowered in place as a complete cassette



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0800 1777 052 nobutts.co.uk

Top marks for Resiblock at Imperial College



As part of the South Kensington Masterplan, the new Dangoor Plaza and Queen's Lawn area will include new landscaping and space for a new piece of iconic sculptural art, created by Andrew Gormley. Concerns were raised that the natural weathering of the steel structure would lead to staining and rusting of the pavers that would surround the artwork. Furthermore, the possibility of joint destabilisation

caused by high volumes of footfall traffic were also raised. Following consultations, **Resiblock** Resiecco was specified to provide both joint stabilisation and long-term stain resistance against rust.

www.resiblock.co.uk

Advanced Protects Alnmouth Friary with Intelligent Fire Panels



Fire protection solutions manufacturer, Advanced, has provided intelligent fire panels to protect Alnmouth Friary, a Franciscan monastery overlooking the Alnmouth coastline in Northumberland. An Advanced MxPro 5 analogue addressable fire panel was installed in the Friary to provide industry-leading protection that is high-performance and fault tolerant. Alnmouth Friary was originally built as a private dwelling in the early 20th Century and today the main ministry offers hospitality to visitors and is also the house where new men are welcomed to try their vocation with the Society of Saint Francis. Fire and security service providers, Safe Services, installed an Advanced MxPro 5 four loop analogue addressable fire panel in the Friary. Safe Services was involved in the project from the design stage though to installation and commissioning. The Advanced MxPro panel is integrated with Apollo Discovery fire detectors for a complete fire system. Graeme Millar, fire systems technical and sales engineer at Safe Systems said: "The Advanced MxPro 5 is our panel of choice since it is reliable, fault-tolerant, high performance and great to install."

0345 894 7000 uk.advancedco.com





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