

# adf

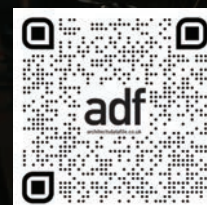
architectsdatafile.co.uk

05.24

## CAMDEN MARKET CANOPY, LONDON

vPPR Architects' steel pergola above a Victorian brick 'horse hospital' attracts Camden shoppers to a new bar, with the help of playful forms referencing its former occupants

Update your registration here:



# Wernick<sup>®</sup>

## BUILDINGS

1934 **90 Years** 2024

# Specialising in modular construction for 90 years



WERNICK MODULAR BUILDINGS DELIVER...



MINIMUM  
ON-SITE TIME



50+YEARS  
DESIGN LIFE



SUSTAINABLE  
CONSTRUCTION



FLEXIBLE  
RELOCATABLE



FULL PROJECT  
MANAGEMENT

CONTACT US TODAY

0800 18 18 22 | [www.wernick.co.uk](http://www.wernick.co.uk)  
[buildings@wernick.co.uk](mailto:buildings@wernick.co.uk)

Find out more  
Scan the QR code



# CONTENTS

## NEWS, VIEWS & INSIGHTS

- 04 Industry News
- 10 Practice Profile: RX Architects
- 16 Round Table Review: Following the Golden Thread to Safety
- 24 International Focus
- 26 CPD Focus
- 41 Clerkenwell Design Week Review
- 44 Appointments & Company News

## PRODUCTS

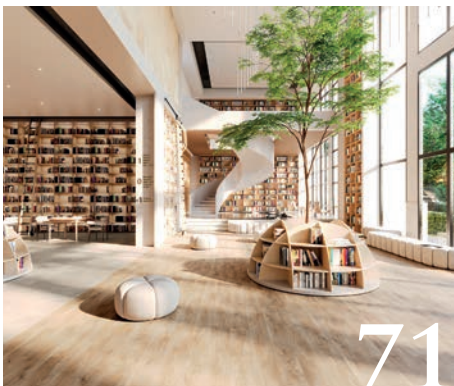
- 49 Groundworks & Drainage
- 53 Structural Elements
- 54 Building Fabric
- 55 External Envelope
- 61 Insulation
- 61 Heating, Ventilation & Services
- 67 Interiors
- 73 Landscaping & External Works
- 76 Modern Methods of Construction
- 81 Safety & Security



06



30



71

## PROJECT REPORT

### 30 UP FOR A NIGHT OUT

London's Camden Market has its share of characterful bars, so to attract visitors to a new terrace bar atop a historic structure, playfully nostalgic design moves by architects vPPR within a contrasting structure were in order. James Parker reports

## FEATURES

### 53 STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS: BRICKS & BLOCKS TRENDS IN HANDMADE BRICKS

Jason Hughes of Imperial Bricks looks at how architects are embracing the opportunities offered by the latest ranges in brick products, blends and finishes

### 63 HEATING, VENTILATION & SERVICES INTEGRATED DESIGN FOR BETTER CLIMATE CONTROL

Jason Bennett of indoor climate solutions provider Zehnder Group UK explores how heating and ventilation systems are evolving and how their consideration at design stages will lead to the most effective results

### 71 INTERIORS: FLOORING AESTHETIC FLOORS

Flooring in education is becoming a question of aesthetics, with schools and colleges focused on its role in creating inspiring learning environments, says Jake Parks of IVC Commercial, explaining how great looks can combine with practicality

### 73 LANDSCAPING & EXTERNAL WORKS: PLAYGROUNDS READY, STEADY, PLAY

Andrew Wood of ESP Play discusses the importance for the physical and mental health of children in planning inclusive and high quality playgrounds

### 77 MODERN METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION PREPARING FOR SCOTTISH PASSIVHAUS

The planned introduction of the Scottish Passivhaus Standard brings opportunities to minimise energy demand and eliminate the performance gap. Jonathan Ducke of Kingspan Insulation discusses the expected requirements

adf  
architectsdatafile.co.uk

incorporating Building Projects magazine,  
architectsdatafile.co.uk and @architectsDF

**Managing Editor**James Parker  
jparker@netmagmedia.co.uk**Publisher**Anthony Parker  
aparker@netmagmedia.co.uk**Content & Research  
Coordinator**

Shelley Collyer

**Editorial Contributor**

Roseanne Field

**Events Coordinator &  
Data Analysis**

Amy Madigan

**Studio Manager**

Mikey Pooley

**Production Assistants**Georgia Musson  
Kim Musson**Account Manager**

Steve Smith

**Digital Marketing & PR****Account Manager**  
Suzanne Easter**Publishing Assistant**

Kim Neville

**Managing Director**

Simon Reed

**Advertising &  
Administration**t 01435 863500  
info@netmagmedia.co.uk  
www.architectsdatafile.co.uk**Press Releases**

editorial@netmagmedia.co.uk

**Registration &  
Circulation Enquiries**

info@netmagmedia.co.uk

netMAGmedia Ltd  
Cointronic House  
Station Road, Heathfield  
East Sussex, TN21 8DF

Annual subscription costs just £48 for 12 issues, including post and packing. Phone 01435 863500 for details. Individual copies of the publication are available at £5 each inc p & p. All rights reserved

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, including photocopying, recording or stored in any information retrieval system without the express prior written consent of the publisher. Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of material published in Architects Datafile, the publisher can accept no responsibility for the claims or opinions made by contributors, manufacturers or advertisers. Editorial contributors to this journal may have made a payment towards the reproduction costs of material used to illustrate their products. The manufacturer of the paper used within our publication is a Chain-of-Custody certified supplier operating within environmental systems certified to both ISO 14001 and EMAS in order to ensure sustainable production. Printed in England



This magazine may be recycled

# FROM THE EDITOR



This October, we will know the name of the new RIBA president. We could be forgiven for having only recently become familiar with the name of the incumbent, Mace architect Muyiwa Oki, the first black person to hold that role – and at 32 when appointed, its youngest. The fast turnaround the RIBA favours means a two-year term that feels even shorter, with the president elect a visible presence for the final few months. Will this hamper the organisation's ability to mine the real benefits of communicating inclusion, diversity and broadening design to the wider community as well as it could have done during Oki's tenure?

Back in 2018, Mark Middleton of Grimshaw (Oki's previous firm), called for a doubling of the president's tenure, to something more like a Prime Minister's administration; although even that duration seems often too short to ensure full accountability and engagement with decisions.

Will the next president have a strong mandate to push such strident ideas to the top of the UK design agenda, if the voter apathy which has been seen in recent elections is demonstrated again this year? A bigger number than the one in five RIBA members voting in 2018 needs to be seen for the president to feel there is a strong breeze behind the agenda they are hoping to drive forward.

A recent name that has put their hat in the ring might be a surprise, namely closed-loop pioneer architect Duncan Baker-Brown, of Waste House fame, who manages to combine running a practice with teaching at the University of Brighton. A surprise because he's clearly a champion of reuse and "adapt and retrofit rather than pull down," in place of overly-flamboyant new architectural statements.

Maybe his timing is very good, given the huge focus on retrofit and reuse that is needed if we are to hit our climate targets. And his laid back yet enthusiastic style, in tandem with his focus on students as the future pipeline of designers, might be further factors that see him get a head of steam in the presidential race. One of his many promises in his pitch for the role is to see a subsidised national retrofit industry, and to hassle Government until that happens.

In the absence of a national policy on retrofit, collaborative industry endeavours are the way forward, but are architects being included in retrofit at scale? One of Oki's aims was for architects to be 'agents of change,' but they need to be at the table for that to happen.

RIBA currently represents 52,000 members; many are crying out for strong leadership, as design continues to fight for its place in the difficult conversations to come on sustainability, both economic and environmental.

## James Parker, Editor

Looking to update or cancel your ADF registration? Scan the QR code to visit our registration page. From here you can also register for our Digital Issues and Newsletters. Alternatively, please visit [architectsdatafile.co.uk/subscribe](http://architectsdatafile.co.uk/subscribe)



### ON THE COVER...

Camden Market Canopy is a contrastingly light crown for a piece of Victorian brick heritage in north London, to create a characterful bar  
Cover image © vPPR Architects  
For the full report on this project, go to page 30

# Building Systems UK

A Tata Steel enterprise



## Fully independent 3rd Party LPCB and FM approvals across our range of guaranteed roof and wall panels

**LPCB and FM Approvals are internationally recognised fully independent 3rd party fire and mechanical resistance testing and certification schemes. They include full scale testing programmes to ensure compliance and performance.**

Construction products and materials that come from a traceable, reputable and consistent supply chains offer much greater certainty in terms of their performance. Come and talk to us to learn more about our 3rd party approvals and the multi decade guarantees we offer across our range, including our portfolio of low CO<sub>2</sub> product offerings.



**Telephone:** 01244 892 199

**Email:** [technical.envelopeproducts@tatasteelurope.com](mailto:technical.envelopeproducts@tatasteelurope.com)

Shaping the future of **sustainable buildings**



## RESTORATION

# SPPARC townhouse restoration includes hexagonal lightwell

London-based architecture firm SPPARC has completed its restoration and conversion of a Grade II listed Georgian townhouse near Fitzrovia's Charlotte Street Conservation Area. Creating four floors of vibrant, modern workspace for a family office, the project has "remediated the impact of previous restoration works that damaged the building's historic charm," said the practice.

The project's architectural focal point is a hexagonal light well, formed from hand-crafted oak beams reminiscent of a honeycomb in its design. A key feature since the early stages of the concept design, this permeable form allows plentiful natural light into a dedicated social hub in the building's modern addition, "and promotes visual and physical connectivity between floors," said SPPARC.

The oak installation is structural and supports both the hexagonal glass roof above and a new first-floor roof terrace. Individual elements that form the webbed structure were manually elevated into position over several weeks, with the feature held together by restraint nodes and tension rods concealed in each of the timber lengths.

While the lightwell is a focal point, the building enjoys a changing aesthetic throughout with each of the spaces and rooms enjoying a unique appearance, while



reflecting SPPARC's attention to detail. This includes warm, rich oak finishes that create a soft, natural feel. The selective use of glazed screens throughout the building opens up the space, promoting "connected views" into rooms and natural light throughout the "inherently cellular configuration of a Georgian townhouse."

Located above the structural timber roof is a new external courtyard garden, accessed from the original main stone cantilevered staircase. Crafted from warm-toned timber beams, oak planks organically twist and turn to create an integrated balustrade and seating area, providing views through the hexagonal glass into the interior below.

The honeycomb motif is carried over to the cut-outs on a bespoke corten planter screen around the roof terrace's perimeter that houses bee-friendly planting. This encourages pollination from working bees in an enclosure on the building's main historic roof form.

SPPARC's project remediates a series of previous renovation works to the building which significantly altered the second and third floors. Drawing on its expertise in successfully striking the balance between restoring and re-imagining heritage buildings, SPPARC produced a fresh design response that echoes that of the original Georgian plan form. This was informed by an extensive process studying the building's original layout using historical documents

to create a "coherent yet eclectic mix of old and new features," said the architects.

SPPARC carefully selected new materials that harmonised with existing decorative features. This included the restoration of historic features like the wall panelling and plaster mouldings, while incorporating new contemporary furniture, bespoke joinery, lighting and wall colours. On the first floor, a stone floor to the hallway was reinstated to complement the original stone cantilevered staircase. Other stand-out features include terrazzo formed basins and intricate detailing on the stairs and floor finishes.

The lower ground level will house a charity dedicated to ending poverty and inequality in the London Borough of Camden. The family office's own charitable arm occupies the second floor, while other floors are dedicated to family office use.

Trevor Morriss, principal at SPPARC, said: "Our Fitzrovia project is the product of six years spent carefully crafting and curating a modern, best-in-class workspace that celebrates the Grade II listed building's heritage, remediating the 1990s-era works that stripped it of its Georgian charm. The structural timber hexagonal lightwell located in the building's social heart is a focal point, visible throughout the remodelled property, and is echoed by a warm material palette that creates a place of calm and reflection for the special family enterprise occupying the space."



# A turnkey solution for performance spaces

Harlequin offers a turnkey solution for all performance spaces, from initial design to expert installation, offering advice and guidance every step of the way.

With an extensive range of sprung floors, vinyl floors, dance mirrors, ballet barres and dance studio equipment, Harlequin can provide everything a performance space requires.

For more information call our technical team today.



Gloria Kaufman



**HARLEQUIN**  
www.harlequinfloors.com

[enquiries@harlequinfloors.com](mailto:enquiries@harlequinfloors.com) +44 (0) 1892 514 888

## ADAPTIVE REUSE

# Work starts on historic Southwark railway arches by SGP

Stephen George + Partners (SGP) and developer The Arch Company have commenced work on the transformation of four dilapidated railway arches on America Street, Southwark, into spaces for restaurants, cafes, bars, and other leisure facilities. Design architect for the scheme, SGP has drawn on both its technical expertise and strong history working with historic buildings to create contemporary spaces, which nod to the industrial heritage of the arches.

The arches, located under a 19th century railway viaduct between Southwark Bridge Road and Great Guildford Street, will now undergo extensive renovation and revitalisation works that will include the re-lining of all arch spaces, new insulated floor slabs suitable for restaurant use, and glazed front infills. In restoring these arches, a key priority has been to meet relevant energy efficiency standards, with all four arches intended to achieve an EPC 'B' rating.

SGP said its proposals for the alteration of the arches have been "carefully considered in a site-specific response, providing contemporary and adaptable arch spaces for prospective tenants." The specification of high-quality facade materials will restore a "superior



appearance to the elevations; while the design and style of the infills will create an on-brand aesthetic that will enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area and contribute to the Low Line regeneration initiative, which should be attractive to potential occupiers in the current marketplace."

SGP Studio Director Alan Soper said: "At Stephen George + Partners we believe that the adaptive re-use of former industrial buildings can play a significant role in the revitalisation of our urban centres, and the redevelopment of these railway arches on

America Street is a prime example of the transformative potential of these important assets."

He added: "Located in an area undergoing significant renewal and encompassing the Low Line urban regeneration initiative, the scheme will transform previously unloved arches into contemporary spaces for new leisure, food and drink and retail businesses. Their prime location and Arch Company's investment will help to create a vibrant destination for the neighbourhood, while also supporting local businesses and the wider community."

## CERTIFICATION

## PRP awarded BCorp certification

Architecture firm PRP has announced that it has been awarded BCorporation certification, joining a list of companies in the built environment to achieve this sustainability milestone.

Certified B Corporations are businesses that are meeting high standards of performance, accountability and transparency on a variety of factors and are rewarded by B Lab with the BCorp Certification.

PRP "is known for having designed and delivered high quality buildings and places that enrich the lives of users and their communities since 1963," said the firm. From regenerating inner-city estates and masterplanning new neighbourhoods to designing commercial and industrial buildings or homes for older people, "our ethos is always the same," commented PRP – "intelligent, responsive and sustainable solutions, delivered with

professionalism and total integrity." By achieving BCorp certification PRP has demonstrated a high level of social, environmental and legal commitments, benchmarking their progress against other companies in the sector and identifying growth opportunities for the future. PRP was evaluated in five key areas: governance, workers, customers, environment, community.

Scoring highest in the 'workers' and 'customers' categories, PRP continues to show its "commitment to creating a positive and ethical work environment and going above and beyond when serving clients."





## GLIDE BOLLARDS

Flexible, ingenious and totally secure, Securiscape's Glide Bollard HVM system is ideal for protecting busy premises where access needs to be controlled – and yet it couldn't be simpler. The system uses industry-leading shallow fixings and moveable bollards that can be moved side-to-side to create an opening and pushed back into position to prevent unwanted vehicles gaining access.

- Crash-tested and capable of withstanding the impact with a 7.2 tonne lorry travelling at 40mph - without significant bending or buckling
- **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



All Securiscape Products have been tested to **PAS68** or **Iwa** and have **full certification**

Securiscape Limited +44 (0) 1335 370979  
info@securiscape.co.uk www.securiscape.com

FOLLOW US ON:



**securiSCAPE**<sup>®</sup>  
protecting people in public places<sup>®</sup>



## PRACTICE PROFILE

# RX Architects

After working on projects in London and the south east for several years, Rob Pollard and Derek Rankin decided their true calling was to found a resi-focused practice in historic Rye. Roseanne Field reports on their successful partnership, and varied challenges

The medieval town of Rye in East Sussex is situated two miles from the south coast, with a rich history, and proximity to other notable towns in the region. Having worked previously on projects in London, Rob Pollard (pictured above right) and co-founder Derek Rankin were inspired to build their practice closer to home in Rye.

In 2016 they founded RX Architects (RXA) – with a goal to work on interesting projects in the place they both loved. “We could see a lot of exciting opportunities on our doorstep,” explains Pollard. “We have a fantastic coastline, historically important towns and villages, and incredible expansive rural landscapes to work within.”

The name RX comes from the coastal boat code for Rye, Hastings & Dungeness, embedding the local and seashore-oriented focus into the brand. “We were founded on a sense of place,” says Pollard. “Our unique landscape throws up many design challenges but it’s a great place to live and work.” They say that among the inevitable challenges of setting up a practice, the biggest was simply taking a step into the unknown, says Pollard. However this was assuaged by “having the faith that if you provide the service you know you can, more work will continue to flow.”

Fortunately that faith has been borne out, though there’s still uncertainty around knowing when the right time to take on new work or expand is. “It’s always a balancing act to make sure we can work efficiently and do all our projects justice,” says Pollard. The practice has grown steadily, with Amelia Finch joining them within the first month as the first of a team of 13 architects now working from their Rye studio.

RXA works mainly in the high end private residential sector; Pollard reckons it accounts for around 70% of their work. In particular they like to design properties sitting on the coast itself, although they have also completed several bespoke-designed country houses, which Pollard says are “always very interesting.” The remaining 30% spans individually-designed hotels, restaurants, wineries, and commercial projects.

### On location

Vindicating the initial choice to found the practice in Rye, the



### WINCHELSEA BEACH

Druim is a residential scheme which sits in Rye Nature Reserve SSRI, and was a remodelling of an existing, unfinished house

locality has been the core of their work pipeline and supply chain. “We’ve built a great community of fellow consultants, contractors and craftspeople who regularly feed into our work,” says Pollard.

The importance of location is imbued in every project, with the practice focusing on tailoring each design to be site specific – and site sensitive – while delivering on the needs and wants of the clients. This is an ethos they’ve carried since day one, no matter what the project may be. “We thoroughly enjoy how mixed the job can be,” says Pollard, “designing a small very bespoke detailed extension to a listed building in one project, then looking to develop a mixed-use masterplan on the next.”

“The designs are extremely varied, but we have regular press and client enquiries about a lot of these projects,” he says. “We try to take a fresh approach to each one, but learn from the previous.” The Lookout, a project they recently designed, maximises on the sea views the residence gets from its location

Plug and play secondary heating solutions  
Introducing our iRange slim fires.



# Charlton & Jenrick<sup>LTD</sup>

Scan, click or call to find out more



✉ [marketing@charltonandjenrick.co.uk](mailto:marketing@charltonandjenrick.co.uk)

🌐 [charltonandjenrick.co.uk](http://charltonandjenrick.co.uk)

☎ 01952 200 444



high up on a valley. Located in the seaside village of Pett Level, the home has views facing the opposite direction, stretching across the countryside and the High Weald AONB.

The practice uses hand crafted models alongside sketches in the initial design stages of each project. Following scoping of the site aligned with the clients' requirements, they usually work up a sketch of the scheme, explains Pollard, "sometimes with various options, but more often than not there is a clear design direction." "We find simple drawings are a great way to get instant client feedback and explore design," he says. The architects often build simple card models as "a simple way for a client to better understand a design from early on."

With sites being so varied in nature, Pollard says there is no "single answer or response" when it comes to ensuring designs celebrate their context. "Often on historic buildings we create contemporary extensions to contrast the existing," but when designing contemporary buildings for sensitive settings, they tend to "reference traditional materials but used in a more unusual way," he explains. "Understanding the site and the opportunities it has is key."

As well as an open minded design process, RXA professes a similar approach to working with clients. While some like to be heavily involved and have regular design reviews, others "want to put complete faith in us and would prefer us to push the design, with less input from them," explains Pollard. While the practice co-founder says this adds interest for the architects, he maintains the "fundamentals to both approaches are similar – thoroughly understanding and assessing a site's possibilities and opportunities."

The practice ensures any potential hurdles – be it legal constraints or planning issues – are identified and ironed out as early as possible, without letting those issues deter them. A recent project, Roundhouse, saw them design a Paragraph 84 (a planning exception that enables designs in certain locations but requiring higher design standards) house that needed to meet the high levels of security and overcome difficult planning obstacles. "The scheme developed as a curved single-storey house wrapping around the remains of a former windmill," Pollard explains.

## Sustainability

Since setting up the practice, sustainability and environmental impact has always been a priority for Pollard and Rankin. "They are always very high on our agenda when assessing new projects," says Pollard. "We are currently in the process of BCorp assessment, which assesses both our projects and our working practices in and outside the office; it is a great benchmark."

The practice also does its part for the environment by volunteering for local beach clean-ups they find via local adverts and Facebook posts. "When the opportunity comes up it's good to be involved with these; it is very much on our doorstep as a problem we are familiar with," explains Pollard. RXA has also partnered with Trees For Life which enables it to offset all its annual carbon emissions.

## The right people

When describing the attributes the practice looks for in its design team, Pollard says "You need to be up for the less glamorous side of things, and relatively resilient. We are big believers in what you put in, you get out, so we are heavily involved in every project and speak to every client regularly."



### SUNKEN HOUSE

A new house on exposed rural Sussex site required an "organic design bedding down into the existing landscape," including a wildflower-covered roof

As well as within their own team, the practice sees the benefit in collaborating with other parties to seed interest in design in the next generations. It works with Rye School on career fairs and student careers interview days to offer an insight into the industry, and has collaborated with the University of Kent, UCA and Brighton University as part of the RIBA mentoring scheme, which sees students spending time in the office gaining important experience.

RXA also runs a two day 'beach school' for local children in the summer, offering a variety of activities such as model making, painting, sketching and sandcastle building. "It's great fun, and hopefully gives a little inspiration to the children that may help them later down the line," says Pollard.

The practice isn't afraid to collaborate with other architects and in fact relishes the chance to explore design with others. "We never take the approach that design is a closed book," says Pollard. "When the opportunity comes up it can be great fun to bring in new ideas."

RXA has built a multitude of strong industry relationships over the years, whether that be with other designers, contractors, clients, suppliers, craftspeople or consultants. "I think this is vital in order to be successful, and we are all continually learning from one another," explains Pollard.

Pollard says recent statutory changes over the last 18 months have added complexity, in particular when it comes to planning and Building Control, which will be a major challenge. "The viability of projects gets much more scrutiny now, and with significantly higher material and labour costs as well as land prices, projects can be much more volatile."

With constant change and challenges to overcome, having the right people is essential, he says, adding that RXA's "great" team is "just as important as the projects themselves." Looking to what the future holds, he points to some "very interesting" upcoming collaborations, as well as "a lot of very exciting projects and a wide mix of project types."

Despite working in a mix of contexts and project types, Pollard believes the practice's biggest accomplishment is sticking to the "design and sustainability principles in growing the practice," he says. "We haven't veered away from the original intention, some projects may have become larger and more complicated, but the focus is the same." ■



# MULTI AWARD-WINNING GLAZING SOLUTIONS


PART F, PART L, PART O & PART Q COMPLIANT



**Project:** Acacia Way, Kent

**Architect:** Coleman Anderson Architects

**Image:** Mikey Reid Photography

 find out more

[idsystems.co.uk/architects](https://idsystems.co.uk/architects)

t 01603 408804 e [info@idsystems.co.uk](mailto:info@idsystems.co.uk)

  
**IDSystems**  
innovative glazing

sliding doors · bifold doors · slide & turn doors · aluminium windows · glass roofs · front doors · balustrades

# Infinite Full Height cubicles combine style, quality and privacy in equal measure.

The ultimate in classic modernity, Infinite Full Height cubicles are perfect for the most stylish and luxurious washroom environments. Floating pilasters, our most secure emergency release indicator bolt to date and strong ceiling and floor fixing blocks create a floor-to-ceiling, flush-fronted, endless cubicle finish.

---

## Discover Infinite Full Height.

01474 353333

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

[marketing@venesta.co.uk](mailto:marketing@venesta.co.uk)



### Scan the codes for quick access.

View our Infinite cubicle range.

Request contact from the team.



We know washrooms.

# Venesta







# Building Insights LIVE: Following the Golden Thread to safety

It took the 2017 Grenfell Tower fire to shake the industry into a fundamental change of approach to designing and building 'higher-risk' residential buildings, to a more robust framework with accountability for all decisions impacting safety at its core. The 2018 Government-commissioned report, 'Building a Safer Future' by Dame Judith Hackitt, contains the building blocks of a new way forward.

The recommendations are enshrined in the Building Safety Act (BSA), with decision-making assigned to competent construction industry professionals – a Principal Contractor, and Principal Designer on all projects (not just those over 18 metres). One key task of the Principal Designer (which can be an individual, such as an architect, or a firm) is to oversee what Dame Judith Hackitt labelled a 'Golden Thread' – a digital record of all safety-related information on the project, from initial stages through any design changes, to the construction itself, and occupation.

## ROUND TABLE ATTENDEES

- **Richard Harrison**, Association of Consultant Architects
- **Lucy Craig**, Mace Group
- **Hannah Pinsent**, Tate + Co Architects
- **Peter Sutcliffe**, AECOM
- **Stephen Hamil**, NBS
- **Ben Wallbank**, Trimble EMEA
- **Chris Lees**, Data Clan

## SPONSORS' ATTENDEES

- **Chris Hall**, external affairs director, Siderise
- **Glyn Hauser**, R&D senior group manager, JELD-WEN
- **Paul French**, head of digital construction, Saint-Gobain Interior Solutions



## A SAFE PLACE TO BUILD CONSENSUS

The round table was chaired by ADF's James Parker and saw architects, data experts, product suppliers and developers share best practice for complying with the new regime. All images © Tom Boddy





# Best practice makes perfect.



A psi-value is the measure of how much heat is expected to be lost through a particular junction, for example where a wall and floor meet.

Achieving better psi-values at building junctions can help to raise building energy performance and support compliance with the Building Regulations and Standards. Our standard construction detail guides provide clear process sequences and calculated psi-values when installing our products at major junctions. Each detail has been carefully created to ensure a workable process sequence for site workers whilst also improving on the default psi-values given.

Access our construction details and calculated psi-values here – [www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk/constructiondetails](http://www.kingspaninsulation.co.uk/constructiondetails)



Visit our website to download our indicative psi-values.

[kingspaninsulation.co.uk](http://kingspaninsulation.co.uk)  
Pembridge, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 9LA.

\* Kingspan, Kooltherm and the Lion Device are Registered Trademarks of the Kingspan Group plc in the UK and other countries. All rights reserved.



This openly accessible record has the potential to protect specifications like never before, with ‘specification-switching’ to inferior products (based on spurious ‘value engineering’) having been an endemic problem in the industry for decades, and one present on Grenfell Tower’s refurbishment. A new approval regime (implemented on 6 April 2024) for 18 metre-plus buildings is overseen by the HSE’s new Building Safety Regulator, which will approve designs at key ‘Gateways’ through the process, effectively operating as Building Control for the buildings covered.

With architects potentially poised to take a much bigger role in ‘higher-risk’ projects, we decided to hold our third sponsored Building Insights LIVE construction round table on the subject of how the Golden Thread is working in practice. The multi-disciplinary meeting shared experience from projects, and designers, developers and product manufacturers were able to learn valuable lessons from experts in the field. Held at the Building Centre in London shortly before the new regime came into force, the meeting was another example of how as a publisher we are creating platforms to bring professionals together and support the growth of best practice.

The broad mix of professionals enabled a practical, nuts-and-bolts look at navigating the complexities of the Golden Thread in real projects. This included looking at what standards were being applied currently, and where standardisation could benefit professionals as they battle to comply with the BSA. We also asked our attendees to help shape the agenda, submitting questions to be included in the discussion, and also to provide recommendations for industry – these are captured at the end of this report.

### Session 1: Unravelling the Golden Thread

The first session of the round table looked at the features of the Golden Thread itself and the new procurement regime. In practice. The nature of this digital audit trail; what it covers, and how it is gathered, stored, shared and handed over to the client (‘Accountable Person’) at the end of construction, is being left to the industry to work out. At the same time, as architect Richard Harrison pointed out, “the client will be put in the hot seat, they have to drive the project right from the start – decide who is going to be involved, and whether they are the right people.”

Principal Designers and Principal Contractors now embarking on Golden Thread projects are still figuring out the data management competencies needed (and legal implications) of taking these roles. However, round table chair, Architects Datafile’s managing editor James Parker, kicked off the discussion by asking the delegates whether they thought the BSA had created a framework that was fit to support accountability and rigorous information management, thereby ensuring robust specifications.

#### Accountability

Lucy Craig, an architect working for major developer Mace, said that identifying who is responsible for which decision was not straightforward in complex higher-risk schemes: “Saying who the accountable people are is quite a difficult task in multiple areas.” Craig added that she was not convinced that the RIBA Plan of Work was yet being used effectively to move design decisions to the front of such projects, as is the aim for the Golden Thread: “We are still getting to a point where Stage 4 is done, but there’s still a large portion of design that needs to be done by trade contractors and specialists.”



## “The Principal Designer role makes last minute value engineering and change far less likely”

Ben Wallbank, Trimble EMEA

AECOM’s Peter Sutcliffe, who specialises in MEP aspects of major projects, said there were challenges to bring subcontractors and suppliers in early enough, and that “a number of things in financial and contractual models need to change; it is potentially going to extend programmes, and expectations have to be managed.”

BIM is seen as the key method for ensuring the collaboration and information sharing which the Golden Thread is predicated on, but Craig warned that key issues on accountability remained to be addressed, which were more related to contractual issues than BIM itself: “The procurement strategies aren’t quite right, and that’s inter-related to the contract. I don’t hear those in the discussion a lot; actually modelling isn’t a contractual mechanism, it’s a co-ordination tool.” She added however that “gaps in capabilities” around BIM design were “impacting what developers can make contractual.”

Ben Wallbank, a BIM advocate, welcomed the BSA and the Building Safety Regulator’s role in vetting projects: “This is a degree of independence that frankly, no Building Control officer in the private sector will offer.” He also said that taking on the ‘Responsible Person’ role was no small undertaking: “Someone is going to get prosecuted, hard,” but qualified this later by saying added that whether we are the ‘Responsible Party’ or not, we all have a responsibility to collect and keep the relevant data.”

#### Evolving standards

The round table looked at how the industry was apportioning responsibility for co-ordinating the reams of building safety data required in large residential projects. Delegates discussed emerging best practice on storing and sharing data in a Common Data

# What if... your fire-rated glazing only gave you half the protection?



Are you aware that many fire rated glazing systems only offer 'E' integrity protection, rather than 'EI' integrity and insulation? With Promat SYSTEMGLAS<sup>®</sup>, there is no need to compromise.

Available in four different framing materials, this fully tested glazing system is ideal for use in energy-efficient, naturally lit buildings, offering a durable, long-term solution with fire protection of between EI30 and EI120. All backed with Promat's 360° Wheel of Assurance for additional peace of mind.

**Promat SYSTEMGLAS<sup>®</sup> Specified for a Reason**

Promat UK Ltd | 0800 588 4444 | [promatglass@etexgroup.com](mailto:promatglass@etexgroup.com)





### GATEWAY CHALLENGES

Peter Sutcliffe of AECOM told the group that the Gateway 2 approval stage would be “the big issue” for design teams, in terms of the detail required in the design

Environment (CDE); Ben Wallbank commenting that automation was not a panacea: “You can automate all of the processes, but you still have to tell it what you want to record and capture, how things cross the contract line.”

Peter Sutcliffe said that avoiding the “noise,” and cutting through to the critical data needed was key: “What we really need is the information on the consumables, the things that can change, sustainability elements like PVs,” he said. Stephen Hamil from NBS strongly advocated using the RIBA Design Responsibility Matrix, with Lead Designer and Principal Designer following ISO 19650 and CPE standards, and “in there as early as possible, saying who is going to be responsible for each aspect.” He explained that “if something goes wrong four years later, and the Principal Designer/Principal Contractor or client haven’t done their jobs properly, then major, notifiable changes will have been recorded and assessed properly.”

Chris Lees of Data Clan was sceptical about whether the Building Safety Regulator was the “right vehicle” to ensure safety in designs, and although he supported the Act itself, he said the imperative was to “get past the mass of information” and focus on the realities of end clients.

### Gateways

The critical threshold for design teams in the new process is

“Gateway 2” – where a prescribed list of project information has to be submitted to the Building Safety Regulator, who then has 12 weeks to respond and approve the project. But how complete should this design be, for example; should it include prescriptive specifications by subcontractors?

AECOM’s Peter Sutcliffe admitted that the design detail required “wasn’t totally clear,” and that this gateway “is going to become the big issue.” Chris Hall, from round table sponsor Siderise interjected, saying that it was important to remember the Regulator “won’t be telling you what to do and how to do it – it’s back on the industry.” Sutcliffe said that various M&E elements needed to be fixed at this stage, and also gave the example of insulation, saying it “needed to be locked down so people can see there’s an integrated design around that.”

Sutcliffe believed the Regulator “will be looking at those leading questions around how do the products, the materials and the design all impact on each other,” a marked change from the traditional approach of managed packages from each subcontractor. On product test information needed at Gateway 2, Sutcliffe said “we are going to have to make sure those are robust enough.” He said that although “different suppliers have different test regimes, the industry needed to come together to make the information available.”

Lucy Craig said that adding in certain elements (such as



#### CHANGE CONTROL

Lucy Craig of Mace welcomed the focus on change control in the new regime, as adding “certain elements later than Stage 4 causes horrendous issues”

smoke control systems) later than Stage 4 “causes horrendous change and spatial fit issues.” However she suggested that including relevant product information earlier in projects came with its own set of issues, and was “a bit of a dark art, you have to go to some suppliers’ offices to get access to their Declarations of Performance.”

Glyn Hauser, of round table sponsor JELD-WEN, said the firm is promoting third party performance certification, which isn’t required in Building Regulations; and with so many potential combinations of products possible, he believed “independent expertise” was essential to achieve credibility. Chris Hall agreed that there were major challenges around testing, and it could be a matter of “interpretation;” he added that with engineers reluctant to take responsibility for a specification, manufacturers “find themselves doing design. But we shouldn’t be able to recommend a product if we have concerns about how it works.” Richard Harrison offered the view that because of the amount of detail required, “manufacturers are designers, anyone that makes a decision is a designer.”

On the potential of standardising elements, Lucy Craig said “we live in a bit of a bespoke world, and some of those questions aren’t asked until later on in projects,” but a standardised “suite of products” would probably be a better alternative, “but you might not satisfy the brief.” She added that such packages would need

to be “collaboratively recognised.” Peter Sutcliffe said that in the interest of circumventing the vast volumes of info in the Golden Thread, specifying “standard assemblies” could work, if done pre-Gateway 2, “to get everybody comfortable.”

Stephen Hamil of NBS posed the key question as to whether more prescriptive specifications would be seen, as we moved from ‘tender specs’ to ‘record specs’ in the new regime. He also asked how revisions to specifications would be managed and approved, and whether product substitution happen less.

Sutcliffe said that early specification of ‘assemblies’ could see the end of ‘specification-switching’ to inferior (and often negligibly cheaper) solutions, justified on ‘value engineering’ grounds. He said: “If I could consign the good old ‘equal or approved’ clause to the dustbin, I’d be really pleased.” Under the Golden Thread, it would be a case of: “If you want to change something, fine, but we’re not taking responsibility for it, and that would send everybody to the hills.” He asserted: “It is easy to write that into a contract.”

He admitted that the openness of data required would challenge the whole supply chain, but asserted: “We all need to share the information, about the product assemblies and testing and everything else; it needs to be openly available, so that we all understand what we are putting into the design, and what we’re pricing.”



## “We need to have the mindset that there will be no physical or digital documents in future, there will only be data in systems”

Chris Lees, Data Clan

### The devil is in the details

Chris Lees of Data Clan changed the focus to look at practical needs of end-clients in the housing sector in particular, and what the data should look like them for them to manage buildings effectively. He said the Safety Regulator was requiring them to produce documents “that they couldn’t possibly understand.” He added that AI and machine learning “will help, but it won’t solve the problem.”

Lees said that in the Common Data Environment itself, project data needed to be “machine-led” as opposed to “people-led,” but had concerns that “at the moment we have all these systems which are people-first, which means nothing can happen without a person – there aren’t enough people for the amount of information we have.” Lees added that the standardisation that MMC enabled would support the machine-driven data aspects he was advocating, but also that there is a “middle ground” between prefabrication and bespoke, ie the “mass customisation” found in the world of PC design.

He bemoaned current best practice in this area as “very disappointing,” advocating ‘Connected Data Environments,’ rather than the “repository of data” approach currently being seen.

### Session 2: Addressing Attendees’ Questions

The second session was focused around explorations of the questions submitted by our panel, and delved further into some of the issues already discussed more generally in the first session. These ranged from whether there could be a ‘single source of truth’ as called for by the Hackitt Report (Ben Wallbank), to whether architects would indeed be emerging as Principal Designers as well

as Lead Designers in projects (Richard Harrison). Other questions included how smaller architectural firms should resource how they address these data challenges (Hannah Pinsent), and what specific competencies were required of project stakeholders in the operational phase.

Lucy Craig from Mace said that the “biggest challenge the industry faces is how do we ensure that the products and systems are compatible and safe. This requires a collaborative approach by all and recognition that more is required by all to get to a descriptive state, but how do we see this process working going forward, and who is the best competent discipline to lead such a complex approach?

We also looked at the manufacturer’s role, and where it overlaps with that of designers (and their liabilities). Subjects raised included the new CCPI product certification within the Golden Thread; will it ensure products are performing as intended, and how can the digital world help product designers ensure compliance?

Richard Harrison added that new Principal Designer role carried the risk that it “would just be another role and increase the complexity, which was causing some of the problems – the lack of communication, misunderstandings, and so-called value engineering going on behind closed doors.” Lucy Craig agreed that architects taking the role of Principal Designer raised issues, as they will work “based on integrity,” and they “will have to be strong to maintain the integrity of the project all the way through.”

Peter Sutcliffe commented: “I think we will see architects taking on more of that role, but not on their own.” Ben Wallbank said that he wasn’t convinced the Principal Designer role would strengthen architects due to the nature of Design & Build Contracts, but that

it would “give real power to whoever is taking that role, because they can say ‘this detail is approved, and if you change this now, the least you get will be a 12 week delay.’”

Hannah Pinsent of Tate & Co Architects said that for smaller practices, it was about “honest and open conversations with clients; we’re following the standards and using them as guidelines, we’re just not signed up to the same platforms.” Pinsent said that while most clients are “quite open to it and happy to pay the extra fees,” there are “some that push back.”

Richard Harrison warned against roles and responsibilities being too separate: “If you silo all of the roles, you’re going to end up in failure, and it’s not in the interest of the client. Clients have to realise their interests served by actually planning and managing projects properly right from the start, and getting on board.” Stephen Hamil asked whether there was potential of bringing Principal Designer and Principal Contractor together as a combined entity, “with some kind of firewall between them?”

In terms of information on products, there was some consensus that the Building Safety Act’s new Code for Construction Product Information (CCPI) brought welcome clarity to rating product testing data from manufacturers, as Paul French of Saint-Gobain Interior Solutions confirmed: “It gives the confidence around the governance that sits within those organisations, the competence of people who provide the information, and the avoidance of ambiguity in terms of claims made for application and performance.” He warned however that he was “concerned about the lack of traction in the industry so far.”

Chris Hall of Siderise concluded that a cynicism towards high-risk early investment from the cost-cutting of the past was beginning to change, however admitting that value engineering had impacted manufacturers’ “willingness to invest in early design, when they get nothing out of it at the end.” He said: “The dial is moving back towards ‘let’s do it right, and let’s do it early.’”

## Conclusion

The round table saw general agreement on the need for the Golden Thread to bring rigour to future projects; but challenging questions such as how much of the approach and its responsibilities can and should be enshrined in contracts. Architects may be returning to the hot seat as guarantors of quality, but short-term whether they are prepared to take responsibility for other peoples’ design decisions may be hard to see currently. In time, there’s a chance we will see architects back as the arbiters of quality in projects, but what will this do to contractors’ interest in high-risk schemes?

The Golden Thread wraps up so many benefits; rigour, supply chain control, and robustness of specification, which could revolutionise how buildings are procured and made. But as the magnifying glass is held up to every aspect of projects in this new environment, will the clarity be too much for some parties in the chain to bear, when it reveals the real costs of doing things properly?

The full report, with more detail on the second half of the discussion, can be downloaded for free as a white paper, at <https://insights.netmagmedia.co.uk/round-tables>

We would like to thank our sponsors Siderise, JELD-WEN and Saint-Gobain Interior Solutions for their participation in Building Insights LIVE.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ROUND TABLE

- **Lucy Craig, Mace Group:** We need to look at the fee structure around design – you pay for what you get, and we need detailed, prescriptive design
- **Peter Sutcliffe, AECOM:** We have a duty to make the Golden Thread accessible, and to consider how it’s going to be used by the client, FM and future occupants
- **Chris Hall, Siderise:** If you design as early as possible, the knots or breaks in the Golden Thread should be fewer, and the whole process should be a lot easier
- **Richard Harrison, Association of Consultant Architects:**
  - A framework alliance contract could bind all of the bodies together and dedicate them to work collaboratively
- **Glyn Hauser, JELD-WEN:** Simplicity and consistency of data, and third-party certification of products to dispel some of the uncertainty
- **Stephen Hamil, NBS:** Take the Principal Designer role seriously, they need to get the design responsibility matrix correct, particularly around specification; also manufacturers need to follow the CCPI principles
- **Hannah Pinsent, Tate + Co Architects:** Use the formal guidelines but set up your own procedures. Admit you’re not always the expert, and have honest conversations with everybody at the early stages to make sure you’re getting the right information
- **Ben Wallbank, Trimble EMEA:** The BIM standard IS19650 will help, and I would try and standardise around good practice
- **Chris Lees, Data Clan:** Stop looking at everything associated with the Building Safety Act as an ‘additive’ – look at the big picture, and learn what good looks like for data management
- **Paul French, Saint-Gobain Interior Solutions:** CCPI should help identify supply chain partners operating in a responsible way



# INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

Showcasing the latest projects from around the world – visit [www.architectsdatafile.co.uk](http://www.architectsdatafile.co.uk) for full information



© Foster + Partners

## CHANGFENG MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT, SHANGHAI FOSTER + PARTNERS

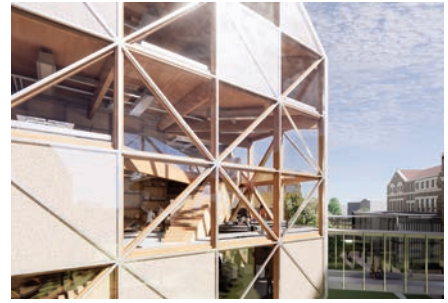
Foster + Partners has revealed designs for the Changfeng mixed-use development, which will form an integral part of the Shanghai Science and Technology Finance cluster in the city's Putuo District. Part of the wider Shanghai 2035 Masterplan, the scheme "sets a new benchmark for developments across the city, stitching into an existing network of public green spaces to enhance wellbeing," said Fosters.

Centring on the 'LWP' model, the designs provide "new high-quality spaces for living, working and playing." The development brings together a "rich mix" of retail, offices, affordable housing, public facilities including an arts centre, and recreational areas.

A central green axis runs directly through the development connecting its two main access nodes. Smaller secondary streets intercept with the central axis to create a highly permeable and accessible scheme. The streets are designed at human scale and buildings step back for natural ventilation, creating "characterful and healthy spaces for the community to enjoy."

At the heart of the scheme, a flexible arts centre known as 'Jia Art', features 5000 m<sup>2</sup> of exhibition, event, and educational spaces. Inspired by the spring flower that is native to the park, the petal-like structure embraces a central plaza that sits at the intersection of two primary axes. The interior space follows the same petal-like form and is topped by a glass roof, which brings natural light into the central atrium. The building's upper facades are made from tubular glass with stainless steel back panelling, which can be lit up to animate the development at night.

Offices are located to the north of the central axis. The towers offer views of the city and Changfeng Park, and include a range of amenity spaces. Multi-level terraces are combined with flexible floorplates to cater for a variety of tenants. Double-height "sky atriums" and roof terraces form a "vertical green landscape and enhance natural ventilation within the towers." The office buildings' metal facades feature horizontal canopies and vertical fins, which are positioned to optimise energy efficiency, while windows at the podium level nod to the site's industrial past.



## MAKERS' KUBE, KANSAS BIG

BIG, together with architect BNIM and the University of Kansas School of Architecture & Design, has unveiled a new mass timber building for learning and collaboration – the Makers' KUBE. Designed in response to the needs of the school, BIG's vision for the University of Kansas School of Architecture & Design consolidates all architecture and design programmes into three interconnected buildings, tying together the existing 1908 Marvin Hall, 1978 Chalmers Hall and the new six-story Makers' KUBE.

The Makers' KUBE is a 50,000 ft<sup>2</sup> mass timber cube structure. The KUBE's distinct timber diagrid frame is optimised to reduce material and curtail carbon-intensive concrete. Inspired by traditional Japanese joinery techniques, the building's structure uses "tight-fit dowels" and notched glulam timber to create an all-wood structure with columns and beams that run diagonally, without steel plates or fasteners, commented the architects.

The "stripped back" facade, a timber structure enclosed in glass, foregoes cladding and finishing, exposing the MEP systems and "further proving the building's ability to remain minimal and efficient, only using what is necessary," commented BIG. "The mix of transparent and opaque insulated glass on the exterior showcases the school's creativity to the entire University of Kansas campus while creating moments of privacy and reducing glare," said the architects.

The building's enclosure includes natural fibre thermal insulation in the form of biodegradable hemp wool, which is exposed within the facade's shadow boxes for improved thermal performance.



Introducing...

# FirePro<sup>®</sup> SP FireStop EN

A cavity fire stopping solution suitable for vertical and horizontal installation.



Tested for use with steel frame substrate, composite panel and masonry applications



120 minutes integrity and insulation in cavities up to 600mm\*



Tested to BS EN 1366-4:2021

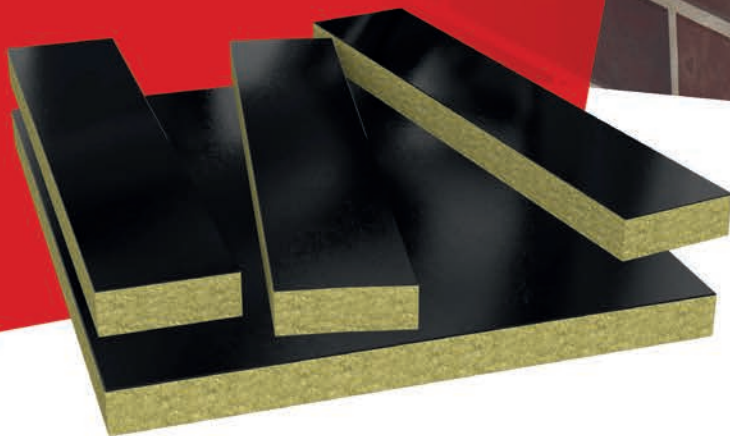


Tested to curtain wall standard  
BS EN 1364-4:2014



Suitable for 'installation from below'

\*Subject to the application



Find out more:



[rockwool.com/uk/  
sp-firestop-en](https://rockwool.com/uk/sp-firestop-en)

# CPD FOCUS

## FREE RIBA APPROVED CPD FOR ARCHITECTS, PLANNERS & DEVELOPERS



The Police Crime Prevention Academy are running free RIBA Approved CPD sessions on Secured by Design in May and June. The sessions, delivered via Microsoft Teams, will run between 12.30pm and 1.30pm.

These sessions will take place on Friday 31st May and Friday 28th June. To book a place on any of these sessions, please contact [info@crimepreventionacademy.com](mailto:info@crimepreventionacademy.com)

This CPD will explore the Police Secured by Design initiative, which operates across a wide range of building sectors including residential, education, health, transport, commercial, retail, sport and leisure, as well as promotes security standards for a wide range of applications and products. These principles have been proven to reduce crime risk by up to 87%, by combining standards of physical security and principles of crime prevention through environmental design.

Topics covered include how the scheme is implemented and successes in previous development projects, terminology and how to find secured products that have achieved police preferred specification. By the end of the CPD you should have a greater understanding of:

- Secured by Design as a proven police scheme which reduces crime and creates safer communities
- Relevant legislation, policy & guidance
- Secured by Design as more current than ADQ and other documents referencing security and safer communities
- An overview of property crime trends
- An evaluation of why crime occurs
- How the Secured by Design scheme is implemented
- How an open, welcoming and safe environment can be achieved by incorporating crime prevention design into the layout and landscaping of the immediate surroundings in subtle ways that will be barely noticeable to residents
- Successes in previous development projects & how developments that meet the Secured by Design award are more sustainable
- How SBD keeps parallel with current crime trends and methods

[www.crimepreventionacademy.com](http://www.crimepreventionacademy.com)  
[www.securedbydesign.com/services/cpd](http://www.securedbydesign.com/services/cpd)

## Maintaining and improving professional competence, skills, abilities and knowledge

### SPECIFYING ROOFLIGHTS AND GLASS ROOFS FOR YOUR PROJECTS



The LAMILUX CPD 'Specifying compliant, sustainable and energy-efficient rooflights and glass roofs' provides a clear overview of considerations when specifying rooflights for your projects covering insights including safety measures, codes of practice, benefits of introducing natural daylight and much more. Book online to take advantage of LAMILUX's knowledge and experience as a "free" partner in your design & development team. Whether you prefer an in-person CPD at your offices, or an online live CPD seminar, we will deliver our seminar to suit your practice.

01284 749051 [www.lamiluxskylights.co.uk/architects-cpd](http://www.lamiluxskylights.co.uk/architects-cpd)

### CONVENIENT AND PAPER-FREE



Enjoy reading ADF but find it's not always convenient to have the printed magazine? Or has your workplace turned paper-free? The Digital Issue offers you the same content, delivered straight to your inbox and accessible via smartphone, tablet and desktop computers. Be among the first to read all the latest features, comment, interviews, and more, before the print issue has even been delivered! What's more, the Digital Issue includes interactive links to featured companies. Subscribe for free now.

[www.architectsdatafile.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.architectsdatafile.co.uk/subscribe)

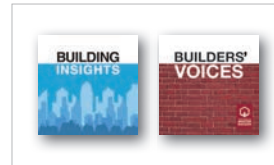
### LATEST NEWS, VIEWS AND MORE



If you like to be kept informed of all the latest news, views, and promotions for the architectural community, the ADF email newsletters can offer you regular updates straight to your inbox. The weekly Editor's Choice newsletter includes top news stories curated by the ADF editorial team, while the monthly CPD Focus and fortnightly ADF Newsletter offer updates on products, services, events, and learning opportunities available from a wide variety of manufacturers and suppliers.

[www.architectsdatafile.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.architectsdatafile.co.uk/subscribe)

### OUR COLLECTION OF PODCASTS



In a constantly changing environment in which content is consumed in so many different ways, our collection of podcasts enable adf readers to stay informed and keep up-to-date with changing trends and topical issues. Published via netMAGmedia's Building Insights brand, our collection of podcasts are available through [architectsdatafile.co.uk](http://architectsdatafile.co.uk) and through most podcast hosting platforms.

[insights.netmagmedia.co.uk/podcasts/](http://insights.netmagmedia.co.uk/podcasts/)

Visit [www.architectsdatafile.co.uk](http://www.architectsdatafile.co.uk) to subscribe to the CPD Focus newsletter – featuring the latest CPD courses, seminars and documents for architects

Emerald Ward



**SUNRAY**  
TIMBER FIRE DOORS  
An ASSA ABLOY Group Company

**Manufactured,  
Tested, Specified,  
Certified**

Sunray is the specifiers choice for **Timber Fire Doors** and **passive Fire Protection**. Our comprehensive Timber Door Range provides Fire Integrity from **FD30** to **FD120** and Security Rating of **SR1** & **SR2** with Fire Secure.

All Doors are bespoke enabling specialist hardware, vision panels, overpanels and of course colours and finishes.

We operate in numerous sectors and provide performance specifications to meet project requirement.

We are the  
specifier's choice for:



COMMERCIAL



HOTEL / LEISURE



SOCIAL HOUSING



HEALTHCARE

For more details, call our specialised team to discuss your particular project on

**01233 639039**

[sales@sunraytimberdoordivision.co.uk](mailto:sales@sunraytimberdoordivision.co.uk)  
[www.sunraytimberdoors.co.uk](http://www.sunraytimberdoors.co.uk)



Fire Door Manufacture

BMTRADA

UKAS

LPCB

FDAS

LPCB

LPCB

LPCB

BS EN ISO 9001  
Cert. No. 1006

LPS1271 Approved  
Fire Door Installer  
Cert. No. 100091

LPS1271 Approved  
Fire Door Installer  
Cert. No. 100091

LPS1271 Approved  
Fire Door Installer  
Cert. No. 100091

LPS1271 Approved  
Fire Door Installer  
Cert. No. 100091

LPS1271 Approved  
Fire Door Installer  
Cert. No. 100091

LPS1271 Approved  
Fire Door Installer  
Cert. No. 100091

LPS1271 Approved  
Fire Door Installer  
Cert. No. 100091

# 13 reasons to recommend Cedral for your facade and roofing projects

**K**nown and trusted in the industry for decades, Cedral continuously drives innovation to generate new product options for facades and roofs, elevating aesthetics and creating building solutions that are both practical and stylish.

## Why should you recommend Cedral facades?

### Long life expectancy

Fibre cement is a strong, durable, versatile material, which means that Cedral facades have a minimum life expectancy of 50 years.

### Easy installation

Cedral's all-in-one cladding solutions include easy-cut planks, colour-matched trims and bespoke accessories.

### Stylish contemporary designs

Cedral Lap facades are specially designed so the planks are overlapped when installed to create a traditional clapboard aesthetic while Cedral Click is a tongue and groove material which creates a modern, flush fitting facade.

### Cedral Colour Collections

The Cedral Colour Collections are designed to offer customers even more choice, with 21 on-trend shades curated into four unique collections. Each collection – Design, Expressive, Natural and Classic – is created for contemporary living, to resonate with homeowners' personalities and lifestyles. Explore the Cedral Collections

### Mix and match options

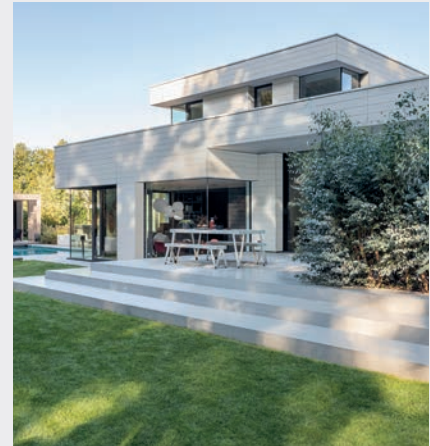
Cedral facades combine harmoniously with other materials such as wood, brick or plaster; play with colour and light and dark shades to create stunning installation patterns.

### Accessories to complete the job

Cedral colour matched trims include corners and edges, as well as Cedral Click clips and colour matched screws to ensure facades can be assembled quickly and correctly, creating a refined, premium finish.

### Professional installation

Cedral Select Professionals are expert facade installers who have been carefully vetted by Cedral and receive ongoing training



and technical support on the latest product innovations. By working with one of our installers, customers can be confident their Cedral products are fitted according to our recommendations and come with 10-year product and workmanship guarantees.

## What are the benefits of working with Cedral slates?

### Long life expectancy

Cedral fibre cement slates are the among strongest in the market, with a minimum life expectancy of 50 years.

### Easy installation

Cedral slates are lightweight and easy to work with and can be placed on lighter roof structures without the need to strengthen them, making them an ideal option for renovations. A dry fitting process eliminates the need for mortar.

### Essential accessories

Cedral's portfolio of roofing products includes a range of fittings and accessories for pitched roof ventilation, verges, ridges and hips and general fixings.

### Style choices

lates come in four eye-catching designs – Rivendale, Birkdale, Thrutone Textured and Thrutone Smooth– offering a range of slates that are perfect as both a roofing material and a unique option to create a full envelope with the facade.

## Both facades and slates offer

### Low maintenance

Manufactured to withstand nature's harshest conditions, fibre cement doesn't rot, rust, warp or crack and is fire, insect, bacteria and algae resistant.

### Excellent fire performance classification

Cedral has a long-standing commitment to ensuring materials comprehensively meet the fire performance classification A2-s1,d0 to EN 13501-1:2018.

### Sustainability

At Cedral we want to build a more durable world and bring sustainability to life. We focus our business towards building a more sustainable world for those around us.

## Customer satisfaction: get more from Cedral

At Cedral, we help homeowners achieve their dreams, whether that's a new build or renovation project. Browse our case studies to hear from our satisfied customers about their cladding and roofing projects and read our customer testimonials.



01283 501 555 [www.cedral.world/en-gb](http://www.cedral.world/en-gb)

PLATINUM GREY

FACADES



# INSPIRING FACADES TO BRING YOUR VISION TO LIFE

Introducing the Cedral Collections. Four unique collections designed to help bring your vision to life. Based on research into the latest colour trends, they offer a suite of stunning contemporary options, that can be viewed in situ with our Cedral Visualiser app.

EXPLORE THE COLLECTIONS AT  
[WWW.CEDRAL.WORLD](http://WWW.CEDRAL.WORLD)

INTRODUCING THE  
**CEDRAL**  
COLLECTIONS





**CAMDEN MARKET CANOPY  
NORTH LONDON**

# Up for a night out

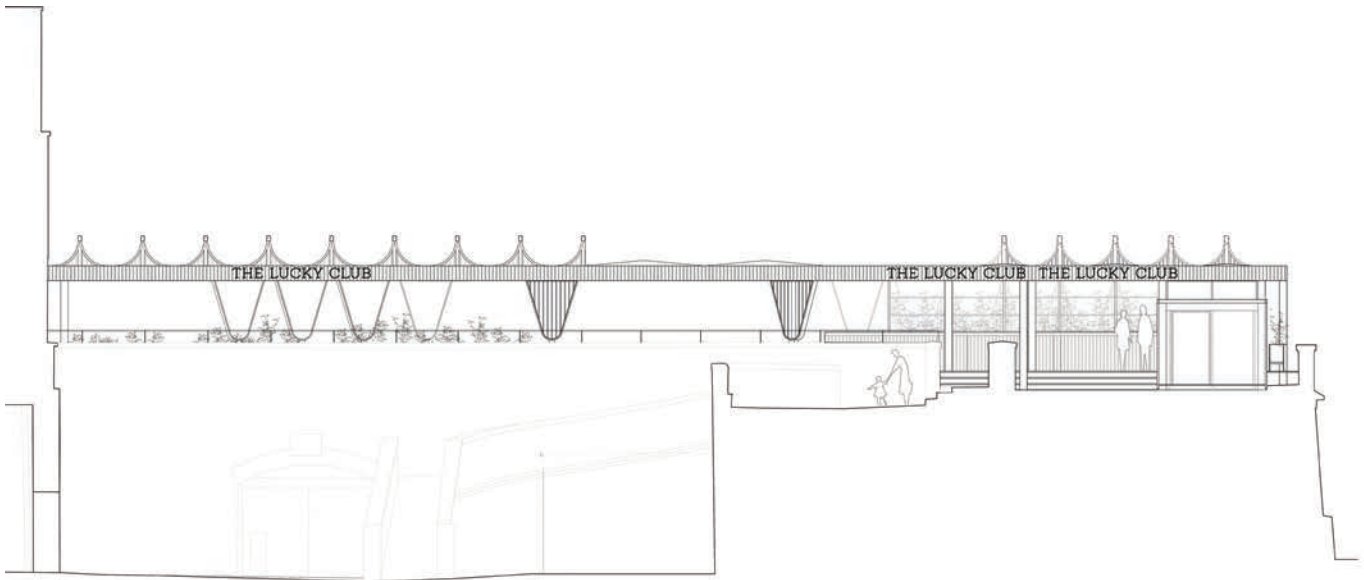
London's Camden Market has its share of characterful drinking establishments, so to attract visitors to a new terrace bar crowning a historic building, playfully nostalgic design moves within a contrasting light structure were in order. James Parker reports



Camden in north west London remains one of the capital's liveliest areas for nightlife, and also street markets. The long-established Stables Market near Chalk Farm station forms a key part of the area's enduring, unvarnished Victorian brick identity, including 'Makers' Alley,' a line of small retail units along Chalk Farm Road. Created as an independent market for traders, the market features an array of stalls and shops selling clothes, furniture and household goods. A new rooftop bar and restaurant designed by local practice vPPR in a prime position overlooking the market, is already part of the landscape.

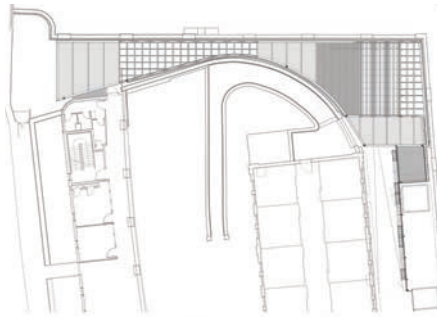
Sitting at the north-west of the Regent's Canal Conservation Area, the market is located in brick structures including capacious viaduct arches, and a total of four listed buildings. With the area's construction being chiefly erected to serve the burgeoning railway transport of the 19th century, and associated horse-drawn vehicles, they include the former stables of long-established distribution firm Pickfords; the Grade II\* listed 'Horse Hospital.' This monolithic structure, on the corner of two busy roads (and forming one side of 'Makers' Alley) was built for horses who pulled not only carts, but also barges along the adjacent canal.

The new Lucky Club cocktail bar has



#### HORSES FOR COURSES

The new bar/restaurant in the former 'Horse Hospital' has a steel framed structure supported on V-shaped columns which resemble horses' heads



been created along the top of an imposing, externally rectilinear and internally curved wall adjacent to the historic building and railway line, adding both a contrastingly light form and a vibrant complement to the area's F&B offerings.

The majority of structures surrounding the Stables Market were built as part of Camden Goods Yard at the end of the 19th century. The market itself has seen some recent redevelopment, setting the scene for the new, dark steel canopy; In 2006 a large indoor market hall was built in a yard between the Stables and Camden Lock Markets, and the following year the rear of Stables Market was redeveloped with two new four-storey buildings housing shops, food outlets, offices, workshops and storage facilities, as well as an exhibition space and a new pedestrian route exposing 25 of the existing railway arches. These pedestrian walkways, echoing the robustness of the Horse Hospital, make the area much more walkable for shoppers and other visitors.

One of the key features of the new lightweight steel and glass addition created on top of the overwhelmingly solid brick edifice (its 2 metre-thick walls necessitated by the need to cope with train movements from the adjacent railway), is a further continuation of the permeability realised up by the redevelopment of Stables Market. The bar, plus its terrace, provides a new 'high line' destination at the end of the quirkily attractive original cobbled slope, which was previously used to move horses

between the two levels.

The new structure, facing onto the street on one side, and into the 'North Yard' of the Stables on the other, was constructed by DFL and Helm X for client The Camden Market Management Company, and developer LabTech. The knowledge of the area possessed by vPPR Architects was key to answering the brief for this locally important site; they have a "very strong connection to Camden, and care deeply about the neighbourhood."

#### Brief

The project was deceptively straightforward; namely adding a lightweight, partly exposed curving steel canopy to the top of a historic brick building. However in order to meet the client's goal of attracting visitors to the market up to the higher level, and create a contrasting and yet sympathetic enclosure for a welcoming new F&B destination, a meticulous and highly distinctive approach to the structure was the order of the day.

Jessica Reynolds, director at vPPR Architects, explains that the brief was for a light canopy that "responds to the rich contextual heritage of the site, and becomes a strong visual marker for this prominent urban site." The new structure draws on the location's heritage, with an undulating, sculptural steel pattern that subtly references its former use, and announces a new North London "hotspot."





Heritage was the priority and the guiding factor, and this bar design – perhaps more than most – would be “drawn from its context,” says Teresa Erskine of vPPR. The architects worked closely with Nadina Reusmann, Labtech’s heritage director on the project, “who was basically a history book on the area,” says Erskine, as well as dealing with Historic England. “It was a very collaborative process, all consultants were appointed at RIBA Stage 1.”

The site was complex, as is typical in London’s Victorian-built urban blocks. It is long, narrow and irregularly shaped, “without a single straight line or level surface.” Therefore, although this helped enable a creative design approach, it also meant that a pragmatic structural solution was needed to ensure buildability. The new steel framework would need to be offset from the historic structure below,

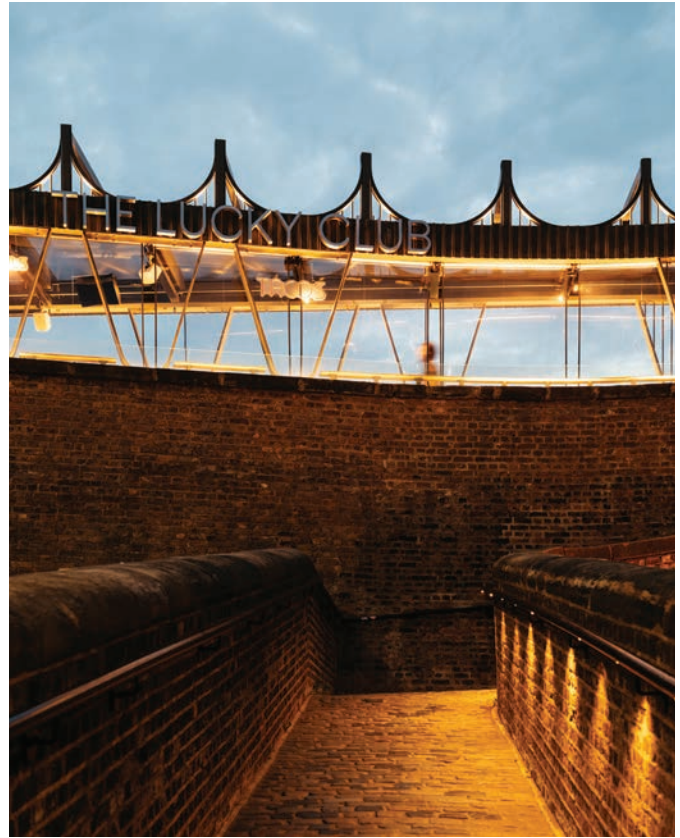
partly because of uncertainty on the load implications of the canopy on this historic brick, with it having been slightly reduced in 1990 with a garage addition on Chalk Farm Road.

### Design

The architects went through two pre-application stages before the full planning and listed building consent was applied for, which meant that many of the design issues were ironed out at an early stage. “The design communication with the various parties was “quite fluid,” and therefore effective, says Erskine. “We were well prepared,” she adds.

Erskine describes the overall impression created by the resulting combination of a massive heritage brick wall and transparent, steel ‘crown’ as a “series of urban rhythms reflecting a busy street,” when viewed

**Heritage was the priority and the guiding factor, and this bar design more than most would be “drawn from its context,” says Teresa Erskine of vPPR**



### CROWNING GLORY

The steel 'crown' creates an inviting new presence on the street corner, glowing yellow from LEDs at the base of a glass balustrade which makes the structure 'float'

from a distance. However once you're closer to the canopy, "abstracted horse heads" are revealed in bespoke-designed V-shaped steel columns along both sides of the bridge-like canopy that reference the dimensions of apertures which horses look out of in modern stable buildings. They are capped with 'ear-like' semi-circular steel roof profiles to create an overall impression which is a playful echo of the past as well as current facilities for horses; they meet each other creating 'points' which give the feel of a crown on the whole building. Crucially, the steel forms achieve a distinctive finish to the structure which will help visitors on the street below pick it out in a crowded urban context.

The new columns are arranged to align with the existing wall piers – "adopting the rhythm, while the roof rhythm responds to the massing of buildings behind," explain the architects. The roof "flattens out" over the Horse Hospital, to signal its presence, and the four horse 'heads' on the street elevation point users to the entrance below. A further reference from the historic stables building opposite is given in the "ribbed" roofline created by the canopy, aligned with the existing building's eaves to "play on the

Victorian ornamental exterior dentils."

The new building also visually communicates with another key nearby building, the Roundhouse music venue, with one of the V-shaped columns framing its iconic circular form. Erskine says that one of the reasons vPPR was approached for the project, in addition to the practice's familiarity with the area and with Camden planners, was that they "love working with historic context and researching a site, and responding to that history with contemporary interventions." Also, one of the "key geometry links" is where the diameter of the open pergola at the centre of the bar aligns with the rose window of the Horse Hospital. Finally, the vertical 'slats' within the V-shaped sections are designed to echo the apertures of the horses' stables themselves, and help give the structure resilience against the wind loads that it might be exposed to.

In order to mitigate noise from the bar for local residents, a discrete acoustic glazed screen is inset on one edge facing the street, and "defining a small quiet exterior terrace that activates the corner," says vPPR's Jessica Reynolds. With the canopy following the building's curved facade, its



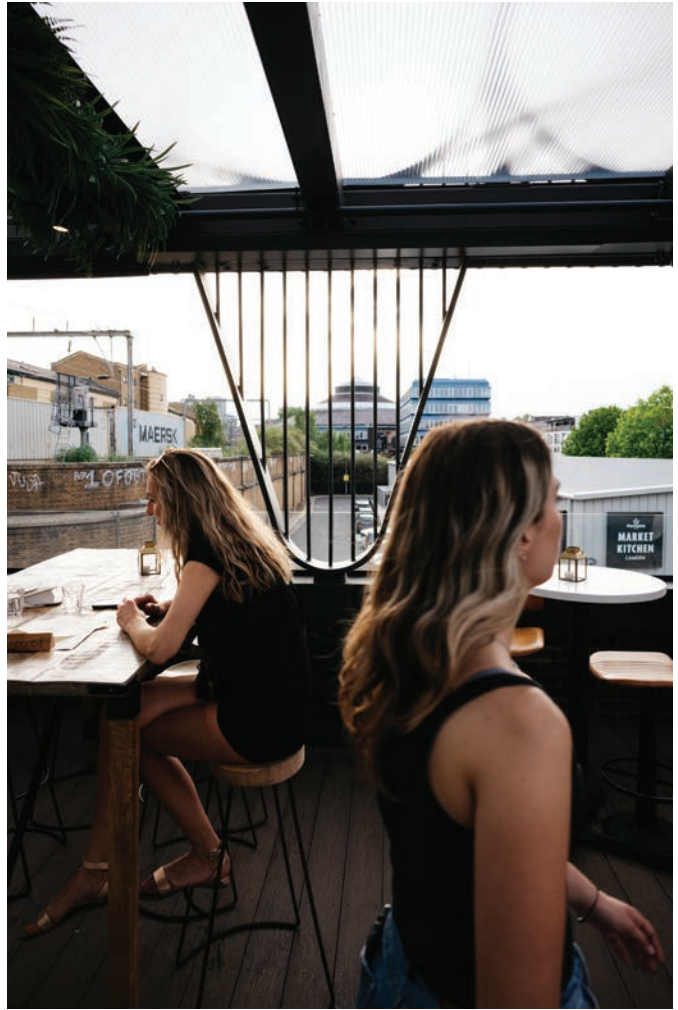
THE LUCKY CLUB

TACOS

COCKTAIL

THE LUCKY CLUB

THE LUCKY CLUB



**The terrace is intended to be accessible to the general public, so the new canopy not only offers shelter to bar customers, but also a strong visual landmark for visitors**

footprint is of an irregular shape, creating a variety of spaces for the bar, but narrowing dramatically at the central portion to around a couple of metres. It's only fully covered at the two 'deeper' sections; the second of which leads to the larger, second 'open' section of terrace, on the corner beside the railway.

As part of the pragmatic, buildability focus of the design, the metal structure was designed in collaboration with structural engineer Meinhardt to be fabricated offsite and bolted together in sections onsite. This was also part of ensuring that a "high level of sustainability was at the forefront," says Sanjay Patel, operations director at structural engineer Meinhardt, adding that Design for Manufacture and Assembly concepts underpinned the whole scheme. The structure itself can be disassembled and assembled elsewhere in the future if required, and the bar's composite decking material is made from

90% recycled materials.

The efficiency of the construction was particularly beneficial given the range of certifications and permission windows required from Network Rail which the construction programme had to work around, due to the adjacent rail line.

While not relying on the existing building for its structural integrity, the canopy also sits as a "legible new layer of history," say the architects, rather than aping the existing structure in what could be a pastiche move. Instead, the blackened patina of the steel subtly references the dark steel and wrought iron historical features that exist throughout the market, tying into the industrial heritage of the site. It provides a slight colour contrast with the multi-coloured stock brick which was used for the pre-existing listed wall whilst connecting to the dark tones in the pier stone copings.

The V-shaped columns are also key contributors to the lean, elegant structure,



transferring the load from the roof to the ground, and tying the roof sections down. Architect Teresa Erskine says the structural engineer was “delighted with the V-shape,” as they enabled the creation of a bespoke column due to its structural benefits. She adds: “It was great to settle on a result where the form equaled the function.”

Rather than add rainwater pipes, dark circular structural columns function as rainwater pipes – transferring the rainwater from the roof to below the decking. Another neat solution is how the facade uplighting has been included at the bottom of the otherwise frameless glass balustrade; other lighting and mechanical and electrical systems are exposed yet concealed within or behind the secondary decorative steel elements. The automated lighting (specified by Light Bureau) bestows the V-shaped columns a warm yellow hue, making them more of an attraction at street level. The datum line of the balustrade’s base aligns

with top of the existing wall, “giving the illusion that the terrace is floating above the structure,” says Teresa Erskine, enhancing the lightness which is inherent to the structural design.

The unusually shaped site was both “long and tight,” says Erskine, so the bar space needed to integrate the services and spaces as much as possible to maximise floor area. But despite dealing with a range of structural challenges and the constraints of the site itself, the result has not compromised the aesthetic goals of a light structure.

### Structural challenges

The systematic approach to designing a building ‘inside out’ has led to “intelligent solutions that have evolved out from the site constraints,” commented the architects. The “biggest constraint,” says Teresa Erskine, was the level change across the historic site, exacerbated by the 1990

### OPEN

The unusually-shaped curved footprint led to a series of interesting subdivided spaces, narrowing towards the central open ‘pergola’ section





Images © vPPR Architects

removal of part of the wall on Chalk Farm Road, and amounting to a difference of around a metre. For accessibility and functionality reasons it had to be made level for the new scheme to succeed.

The steel frame is formed from hollow box sections in both galvanised and hot dipped finishes, and some areas of the canopy are braced by solid steel infill plates or cross bracing. The canopy is supported on a series of bespoke columns which transfer vertical and lateral loads to the foundations. The specialist bespoke columns consist of a top curved plate supported on a square hollow vertical stem, and all columns that meet the ground go into the foundations rather than being attached to the granite sets which cover the original upper level of the building.

### Conclusion

The terrace is intended to be accessible to the general public, so the new canopy by vPPR offers shelter to bar customers, but more importantly perhaps, a strong visual landmark for visitors. The space has reportedly been well received by both developer LabTech and locals so far, partly due to the care with which its acoustics

have been considered as well as the overall subtlety of the design.

The architects have succeeded in creating a landmark ‘pavilion’ to uplift this northern edge of a rejuvenated part of Camden, in the form of a bar which provides a great experience of the city for users, and enhances rather than overshadows the historic form it crowns. At the same time, despite being a modular offsite steel solution, its structure doesn’t communicate a sense of repetitive or formulaic design, and feels bespoke and crafted, and therefore in harmony with the area’s relaxed artistic character. The meticulous overall design approach is matched by the careful choice of materials throughout, and planting, to achieve a contemporary yet sympathetic result.

Teresa Erskine sums up what the result of this structurally light-touch – but characterful and fittingly robust addition brings: “We’ve taken the story of the site, and we’ve tried to explain it in a different way.” Bringing some playful echoes of the past, and a commitment to vibrant F&B design that helps support this historic structure going forward, the project is a sign of Camden’s continued confidence. ■

**vPPR have succeeded in creating a landmark ‘pavilion’ to uplift this northern edge of a rejuvenated part of Camden**

### PROJECT FACTFILE

**Architect:** vPPR Architects  
**Developer:** LabTech  
**Structural engineer:** Meinhardt  
**MEP engineer:** MJ Associates  
**Lighting designer:** Light Bureau  
**Quality surveyor:** RLB  
**Steelwork contractor:** HelmX  
**Main contractor:** DFL  
**Acoustic engineer:** Big Sky Acoustics  
**Landscape consultants:** Light Water Plants  
**Principal designer:** Cameron & Payne

## BJELIN at Clerkenwell Design Week Stand: PC9

Visitors to the Bjelin stand at Clerkenwell Design Week will have the opportunity to see at first hand the latest innovations in hardened wood flooring.

As with all products from Bjelin, these include the latest technical developments from industry leading innovators and sister company Välinge Innovation, which developed the world's first mechanical locking system for wood and laminate flooring.

The company will be showing a new range for the UK market, joining the existing Woodura® hardened wood flooring portfolio, as well as previewing other products for later release in 2024. The new Contrast Collection comprises a palette of five different colourways – Desert, Vapor, Silver, Ivory and Granite. These leverage the existing hues and tones within the wood to create stunning contrasts, while blending with the existing hardened wood 3.0 range. The new range is now available in the XL size, 206mm

x 2200mm, in Spacva oak. This type of oak, which is sustainably sourced from Croatia with FSC certification, is renowned for its stunning beauty and distinctive grain.

The company's ground-breaking Woodura® surface technology brings hardened wood floors to life, making them three times stronger than traditional engineered wood options, giving enhanced resistance to water and dents. When it is combined with the leakproof 5G Dry® floor locking system, the Contrast Collection ensures lasting durability and boasts a superior class 33 pro matt lacquer – Bjelin's toughest to date.

Meanwhile the company will also be showcasing a brand new product offer, rigid core flooring. This type of floor is not only high-performing, it also has a great sustainability positioning, on account of the incorporated Liteback technology. This reduces the weight of the panels by 20%, creating a reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through reduced material consumption and



transport efficiency, whilst also improving sound absorbency by up to 44%.

Liteback directly limits the transmission of sound, limiting noise between floors of multi-level buildings. The floor panels are also equipped with a pre-attached underlayment foam, and this quality IXPE underlay absorbs noise better than traditional solutions.

Bjelin's extended collections – both hardened wood flooring and rigid core – provide the most innovative and aesthetically pleasing flooring solutions for both commercial and residential applications.

[uk-sales@bjelin.com](mailto:uk-sales@bjelin.com) [www.bjelin.com](http://www.bjelin.com)

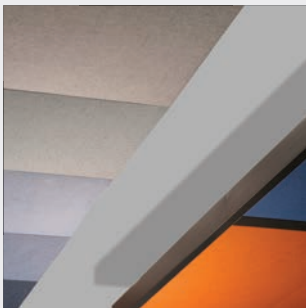
## Gilberts helps create the right ambience at the Metquarter



Whether wanting American chicken and burgers to the delicacy of Asian cuisine, visitors to Liverpool's newest and biggest food hall – GPO at Liverpool's Metquarter – will be assured of a great atmosphere, thanks to the local air movement specialist with an international reputation, Gilberts. Double deflection grilles from the Blackpool-based ventilation manufacturer have been fixed into the distinctive oval ducting running the length of the main food hall in the Metquarter. The grilles ensure a consistent flow of fresh air without draughts nor transfer of aromas from one zone to another from the 12 independent kitchens in the converted former General Post Office. The strategy has been designed and installed by JD Engineering M&E contractor to the brief from development management company Queensberry and restaurateurs The Milestone Group. Explained a spokesperson for JD Engineering: "Gilberts' grilles matched the requirements in terms of the requisite throw and air distribution we needed, and provided the quality and appearance requirements." Founded 55 years ago, Gilberts is a leading independent air movement specialist, and is unique in its ability to develop components.

01253 766911 [info@gilbertsblackpool.com](mailto:info@gilbertsblackpool.com)

## An unexpected encounter



SAS International's first fabric-covered metal ceiling tiles optimise the unique properties of two very different materials. In collaboration with Camira and using their famous Blazer wool, SAS Textiles combine natural, renewable fabric with low embodied carbon steel in a simple design aimed at acoustic comfort, creativity and, most importantly, reuse. At SAS International, the design and production process reflects its commitment to circularity and sustainability. Textiles are durable, ensuring long-term performance, yet suitable for creative reuse or adaptation at any time. They offer excellent sound absorption and a warm, elegant look, elevating the sensory experience and aesthetic appeal of any space. Textiles are modular, easy to install, and available in acoustic lay-in, hook-on, and raft configurations. The flexibility of this range provides creative freedom to experiment with lighting, trims, visible grid, and many other SAS ceiling finishes including mesh and A-Maze. Visit SAS International in the Camira showroom during Clerkenwell Design Week to find out more.

[sasint.co.uk](http://sasint.co.uk)



Various Venues,  
East London

clerkenwell 21-23  
design week may

# Clerkenwell Design Week expands its offer for 2024

Clerkenwell Design Week made a triumphant return to London between 21-23 May, marking its 15th year as a global design festival.

Building upon its 2023 edition, which drew over 37,000 visitors, CDW elevated the experience with new venues, expanded exhibition spaces, thought-provoking installations and a stronger-than-ever line-up of both British and international brands. More than 600 curated events throughout the EC1 neighbourhood were complemented by a network of over 160 local design showrooms and 300 exhibitors in over 12 venues opening their doors.

Marlon Cera-Marle, design division director of Media 10, organiser of the annual design festival said: "It remains one of the most attended specification events in the calendar, and serves as an important platform to discover new talent and ideas."

He added: "We were excited to showcase an unprecedented number of participating brands, reflecting strong demand from both home and overseas. We expanded our exhibition and installation spaces, including a revamped, pedestrian-friendly Clerkenwell Green. There was a lot of excitement from the mix of diverse brands, showrooms, partners, features and special events."

The 2024 festival welcomed three new exhibition venues, including Contract and Work on Clerkenwell Green, a pop-up space at The Goldsmiths' Centre, both showcasing the latest designs for commercial and workplace interiors, and The Edit in Bourne and Hollingsworth, featuring some of the world's leading contemporary design brands.

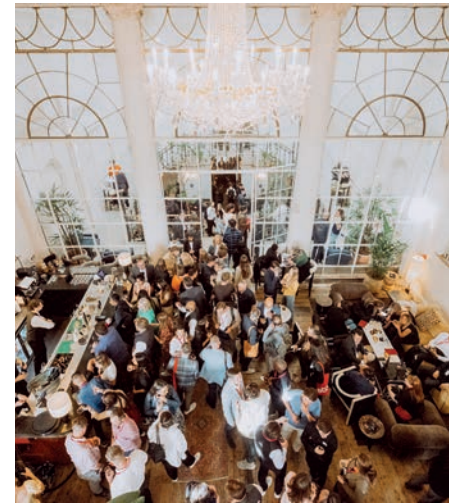
This year also saw the British Collection double its size, taking over the entire crypt of St James's Church, including the Tom Dixon-furnished vestry, which hosted the

popular ICON Talks series. Meanwhile, other returning venues housing an array of product-focused exhibitions were:

- Design Fields: Home to contemporary furniture with an international focus, including over 35 Italian furniture and decorative brands;
- Light: Home to global lighting companies and installations with more brands participating this year, as well as Darc's curated talks;
- Project: Home to contract furniture and surface design;
- Elements: Home to architectural hardware and finishes;
- Detail: Home to luxury interiors;
- Platform: Home to emerging design talent and brands;
- Ceramics of Italy: Home to Italian ceramic and porcelain tile brands; and
- Old Sessions House: An atmospheric home to brand activations and presentations, as well as the festival hub which offered CDW visitors free access throughout the event.

Together, these unique exhibition venues presented over 300 design brands and new talent, covering furniture, lighting, textiles, surfaces, home accessories and product design. Participants included SCP, Benchmark, Ercol, Another Country, Fora Form, Umage, Lamhults, Blå Station, Ethimo, Origin, Ultrafabrics, Romo, Granite and Smoke, Schotten and Hansen, Very Good and Proper, Dare Studio, Pooky Lighting and Lladró.

Local showroom partners (over 160 established names), hosted product launches, talks and workshops; including Fritz Hansen, Mater, Modus, Norr11, Flokk, Arper, Allermuir, Lintex, Cosentino, Ideal Standard, Vitra Bathrooms, Modulys,



The visitor experience was elevated with new venues, expanded exhibition spaces, thought-provoking installations and a stronger than ever line-up of UK and international brands



Camira Fabrics, Tarkett, Iris Ceramica, Domus Tiles and Parkside.

CDW included unique destinations across Clerkenwell – including Paxton Locher House (hosting a selection of Danish design brands), Brewhouse Yard, Cowcross Yards (presenting Ukrainian design), and Marx Memorial Library. The spaces were transformed by a selection of international brands and trade institutions. Local architecture studio Groupwork was again home to the latest presentation from British furniture brand, Case Furniture.

There were specially commissioned, site-specific installations throughout Clerkenwell, plus ‘activations’ in Clerkenwell Green from brands including Dyson, Geberit, Albion Stone, Hutton Stone, Stone Federation, Texaa, Material Bank, Universal Fibers, Silen, and Bert Frank.

Conversations at Clerkenwell, a schedule of daily talks exploring industry topics, returned for 2024, curated by brand consultant Katie Richardson. The talks were hosted in a purpose-built theatre in Spa Fields, featuring expert speakers from the design, architecture and business sectors.

Meanwhile, hosted in a temporary

structure next to Design Fields, Design Meets featured representatives and speakers from trade bodies and associations, in a series of intimate, industry-led talks.

Last but not least, over the three days of CDW, various design studios invited visitors to take part in host of creative workshops as part of the Fringe programme. Architects and interior designers took the opportunity to join guided specialist tours at the 2024 event, focused on everything from ceramics to materials, and enriching their experience throughout the festival.



**There were site-specific installations throughout Clerkenwell, plus ‘activations’ from brands including Geberit, Albion Stone, Texaa, Material Bank and Bert Frank**

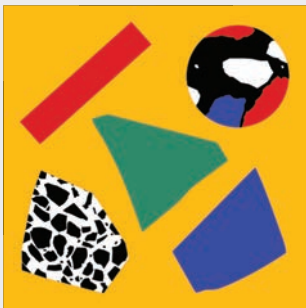
## Mapei embraces creativity in Clerkenwell Design Week 2024 programme



Design and creativity will take centre stage throughout Mapei’s Clerkenwell Design Week programme next month. During the three-day event – from Tuesday 21 to Thursday 23 May – Mapei will host a variety of hands-on activities and experiences at the Mapei World London City Specification Centre, in Great Sutton Street, supported by product displays and demonstrations. Mapei’s range includes 23 product lines covering every field of building application, including ceramic, stone, resilient and wood installation; protective coatings; floor finishes, thermal-sound insulation systems; structural reinforcement; structural waterproofing systems and many more. In a variety of presentations and creative activities, Mapei will be showcasing products including design-led grouts and sealants, Ultratop Loft and resin floor finishes, waterproofing, decorative coatings and Profilpas accessories. Activities running throughout will include the Profilpas Maze Runner – putting co-ordination skills to the test - and Hook-a-Mapei-duck, utilising Mapei waterproofing products. Visitors can also embrace nature with ceramic pot painting and seed sowing sessions and a Botanical creations workshop.

info@mapei.co.uk [www.mapei.co.uk](http://www.mapei.co.uk)

## Coco Lom x Parkside collab for Clerkenwell Design Week



The launch of an exclusive terrazzo tile collection with Hackney-based abstract pattern artist, Coco Lom, is just one of the highlights for Parkside Architectural Tiles at this year’s Clerkenwell Design Week. Made from 100% British terrazzo, Coco Lom x Parkside is a capsule tile collection from the Hackney-based artist that’s launching at Clerkenwell Design Week. To celebrate the launch, the artist will be in residence at Parkside’s studio throughout CDW creating a series of one-off murals that you can be in with a chance of winning. You can also pick up the Coco Lom x Parkside limited-edition tote bag. This collection of terrazzo tiles in Coco Lom’s signature abstract patterns will bring a unique look to any commercial interior and is made in Manchester. Throughout the week, Parkside will also be holding terrazzo making workshops, so you can join Coco Lom and Ethical Stone, makers of the collection, and try out vibrant colours and shapes to create a unique coaster for your desk. Jonathan Wiles, director of commercial sales at Parkside said: “It’s set to be a hugely exciting three-days and we’re looking forward to welcoming the community in to find out more.”

0116 276 2532 [www.parkside.co.uk/clerkenwell-design-week](http://www.parkside.co.uk/clerkenwell-design-week)



# Textiles

An unexpected encounter



**camira**

[info.sasintgroup.com/textiles](http://info.sasintgroup.com/textiles)  
Find out more at Clerkenwell Design Week  
8 & 10 Brewhouse Yard, London

# Burmatex® builds on success to launch major new range at Clerkenwell Design Week

Following a very successful participation in CDW in 2023, and a year of exciting growth for the brand in the UK and international carpet tile sector, Burmatex® is delighted to be back once again this year.

Based in Yorkshire, Burmatex® puts sustainability at the top of its agenda. Its eco-friendly product portfolio focuses on the design and creation of innovative products to meet the needs of architects, specifiers and contractors, with a continuously expanding range of carpet tiles and plans to suit the commercial office, education and residential sectors.

The company's big launch at CDW this year is the balance collection®. Featuring three compatible designs: grid®, ratio® and scale®. Offering high performance at an accessible price point, the designs work seamlessly together across a spectrum of cohesive colours. Enabling a multitude of flooring layouts, the classic and contemporary nature of the balance collection® allows a harmonious

pairing with current interior finishes. Inspired by the need for a connection to nature, in bustling metropolitan environments. The designs in the balance collection are taken from flowing water, crisp air, green spaces; the balance of your work/life rhythm.

balance grid® is inspired by the strong lines seen in high rise skyscrapers, man-made elements of a modern city. It is a classic design which can work alone or paired with the other two designs in the balance collection®.

balance ratio® provides a soft and organic effect. Its pattern is almost opposite to grid®, and they complement one another throughout a scheme.

balance scale® offers structure and tactile markings. Allowing breathing room in your space, it is grounding and pure.

With 48 options it takes you from core greys and neutrals, through to warm browns and tans. Invigorated by pops of bright primary colour and softer pastel hues, it is a rainbow collection that can suit any flooring



brief. The balance collection® designs are 620g, manufactured with Universal Fibers' ground-breaking Thrive matter yarn which is C2C Certified Material Health Certificate™ Silver, the world's first carbon negative yarn. This, combined with our unique BioBase recycled backing – make the balance collection carbon neutral.

01924 262 525 [www.burmatex.co.uk](http://www.burmatex.co.uk)

## New Group MD appointed as Style celebrates 25 years in business

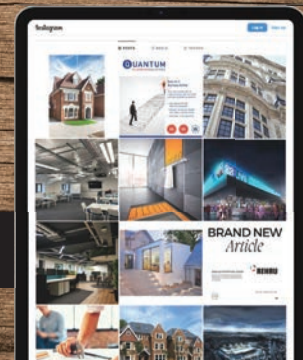


At Style's 25th-year celebration party, co-founder Julian Sargent passed the baton to Michael Porter, new Group MD, who will lead the business forward, while Julian transitions to chairman. Partnering with global moveable wall manufacturer, Dorma Huppe, and bringing the vertical-rising, Skyfold partition to the UK market, Style quickly became known for its extensive portfolio of moveable, folding and sliding walls. As it became top choice for flexible space in boardrooms of global brands, university lecture theatres and hotels, Style also installed folding walls in village halls and primary schools, offering solutions for all requirements and budgets. "Michael has unbelievable experience of the moveable wall sector," said Julian Sargent. "Since joining us in 2018, as part of a long-term succession plan, he confirmed himself to be the natural choice to lead the business into the future". Over the last 25 years, Style has repeatedly demonstrated why it is a market leader, winning 18 coveted FIS Contractors awards, 13 gold and 5 silver. Not just relying on outstanding products, the company continuously invested in its people, technology, and processes.

[sales@style-partitions.co.uk](mailto:sales@style-partitions.co.uk)

# adf is on Instagram!

FOLLOW US AT @ARCHITECTSDATAFILE

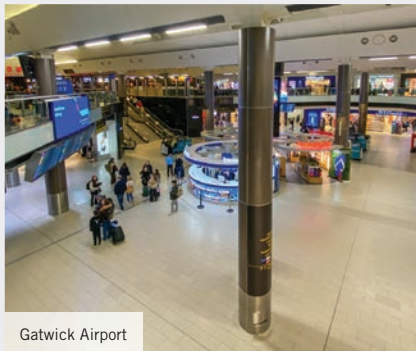


# In transit.

Whether it's an airport, train station or bus terminus, travellers usually have little time or interest to notice their design, let alone the decorative solutions that conceal structural steelwork and protect interior walls.

Transport hubs need to process large numbers of people through foyers, waiting areas and embarkation, whether that's 150,000 per year for a regional bus terminus, or more than 35 million for Gatwick Airport's south terminal in 2023.

Footfall of this kind has a significant impact, sometimes literally, on building interiors, so they need to resist damage, as well as contributing to the building's aesthetics. However, as casing specifications can differ considerably, depending on their location and end use, a practical way of illustrating this diversity is to focus on some selected transport projects where Encasement's bespoke casings have been installed.



Gatwick Airport

## Gatwick Airport South Terminal – West Sussex

London Gatwick Airport's South Terminal departure lounge and retail area is using 27 Circa column casings from Encasement's Verta range to conceal structural steelwork while integrating with the interior design and providing a damage resistant finish.

Constructed from durable and tough 12mm thick pre-formed plywood, the 800mm diameter casings are located throughout the departure lounge area and range in height from 3,300mm to 7,500mm. The upper section of each column casing is finished in Formica® FR grade real wood laminate, while the lower 1,200mm uses brushed stainless steel, which also incorporates flush fitting aluminium feature joints.

Originally installed in 2014 as part of the £40 million refurbishment and upgrading of



Vecta wall linings – Oakham

the airport's departure lounge and retail area, the casings have stood the test of time in the airport's high traffic environment.

## Oakham Transport Interchange – Rutland

Vecta wall linings are being used in the waiting room to provide a highly durable and low maintenance solution. The 2,400mm high Vecta panels are finished in 'Stone beige' to help create a comfortable and light interior for passengers.

Each wall panel is manufactured from 8mm thick compact laminate and are fixed to an aluminium and timber supporting framework, which allows precise positioning of the panels and allows them to be effectively secured while maintaining the contrasting shadow-gap design when installed.

## Coventry Train Station

As part of the £82 million transformation of Coventry train station, which was opened in March this year, the main concourse train information display gantry is using Forma metal column casings to conceal its steel supports, standing 3,800mm high.

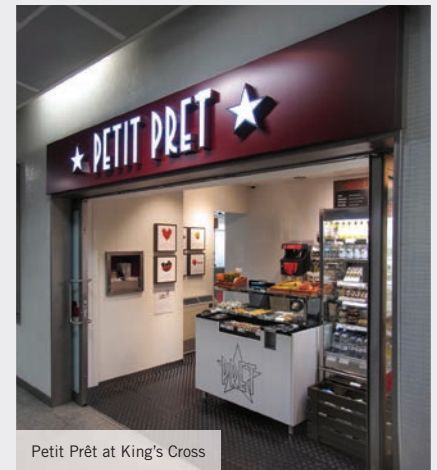
Manufactured from 2mm thick aluminium, the two 350mm diameter column casings are coated with a white RAL 9010 PPC finish, each of which also incorporate two red colour contrasting stripes around the circumference and aluminium skirting collars at the base.



Coventry Train Station

## King's Cross Underground Station – Petit Prêt

To comply with London Underground fire and safety regulations, the refurbishment of the Petit Prêt store at King's Cross underground station called for the use of non-combustible interior wall linings, which was addressed using Encasement's Vecta wall linings.



Petit Prêt at King's Cross

Within the store, Vecta aluminium panels were used to fully line the interior from floor to ceiling, which also included the installation of the system's fixing rails, plus edge and door trims, together with a 100mm high mirror polished aluminium skirting. To help keep the shop bright in its underground location, the Vecta panels were finished with a white RAL 9010 PPC coating.

01733 266 889 [www.encasement.co.uk](http://www.encasement.co.uk)



Vecta



Verta

# Create without compromise – great products, huge choice, and fast deliveries from F.H.Brundle

As architects, you know better than anyone that structural components are vital – no structure, no building.

But you also know that it's the non-structural elements – the balustrades, handrails, fencing, decking and more – that make the space stylish, comfortable, and somewhere people want to be.

At F.H.Brundle, we've been supplying quality products and exceptional service for over 135 years. We understand the challenges you face in sourcing reliable, high-quality non-structural systems for your commercial projects.

That's why we offer a comprehensive range of products that don't compromise on style, function, or add weeks to your project times – regardless of size and volume.

## Vast choice of balustrades and handrailing

Balustrades have boomed in popularity in recent years. At F.H.Brundle, we've responded by offering the UK's biggest selection of metal and glass balustrade systems, letting us cater to virtually any vision.

Products like our sleek and minimalistic Pro-Railing® range, available in stainless steel and marine-grade Duplex 2205, offer a wide variety of components for quick and easy installation.

Architects can choose from glass panels, round tubes, perforated metal, or wire mesh infill solutions to create balustrades that are both functional and aesthetically pleasing.



What's more, we're one of the UK's biggest distributors of handrail solutions, meaning that no matter the setting, we'll have a product that will excel on your next project.

## Security with style

Perimeter security is a crucial aspect of many commercial projects. We provide robust, highly secure products that don't make you compromise on aesthetics.

Our stylish made-to-measure steel gates come with a rapid turnaround, meaning no frustrating hold-ups, helping your project finish on schedule.

## Versatile decking

For gardens, walkways, balconies, or rooftop terraces, our aluminium decking systems are the perfect choice. Exceeding the highest European safety standards (EN 13823, EN 13501, and EN ISO 1716), they deliver exceptional strength and durability.

Additionally, the Synergised system achieves Euroclass Classifications of A1 and A2fl-s1, making them ideal for high-traffic areas and compliant for installation in high-rise buildings.

## Expert support

However, products are only the start of what makes F.H.Brundle an outstanding supplier.

What truly sets us apart is our unwavering commitment to expert support.

Our team of specialists is here to assist you throughout the entire process, from product selection to technical guidance, and even providing readily-available CAD files for all our systems. This eliminates the need for time-consuming technical drawings, and ensures our products fit in seamlessly with your plans.

## Next-day delivery

In construction, time is money – and that's why our products have been meticulously selected for low maintenance and quick, simple installation.

What's more, we offer free delivery across the UK, eliminating logistical headaches and further streamlining the process.

Over the years, we've built up a network of



depots, which means we can quickly dispatch products and have them with you in no time.

We have branches in East London, Ilkeston, Southampton, Newton, Birmingham, Glasgow and Cardiff – plus, in Burton, our state-of-the-art 270,000 ft<sup>2</sup> distribution centre.

Our huge stockholding means we can get you the products you need, when you need them.

## An extension of your team

At F.H.Brundle, we see ourselves as an extension of your team. We provide the tools and expertise you need to bring your architectural vision to life.

With our extensive product range, dedicated customer support, and focus on time-saving solutions, we give you what you need to create outstanding commercial and domestic spaces.

Interested in learning more? Don't hesitate to get in touch today.

0808 134 20 86 [www.fhbrundle.co.uk](http://www.fhbrundle.co.uk)

Family metal merchants since 1889



# Putting our customers front and centre.

## It runs in our family.

F.H.Brundle has been operated as an independent family business since 1889.

Family means a great deal to us, which is why the F.H.Brundle brand has been built on traditional family values. With over 100,000 customers, we consider them part of the Brundle family. Our family means the world to us. And, like a family, we're here whenever you need us. Your metal needs taken care of.

Like our family, our ever-growing product range is vast, stocking over 10,000 products.

Steel Sections | Welded Mesh | Handrailing | Glass Balustrade |  
Steel Fencing & Gates | Crash Barrier | Aluminium Decking |  
Glass Panels | Steel Flooring and *much, much more!*

[fhbrundle.co.uk](http://fhbrundle.co.uk) | 0808 134 20 86

Rated Excellent by our family

4.8 ★★★★★

★ Trustpilot



# GEZE UK – a Living Wage company



**G**EZE UK is delighted to announce that the company has been accredited as a Living Wage Employer.

The real Living Wage is the only UK wage rate based on the cost of living. It is voluntarily paid by over 14,000 UK businesses who believe their staff deserve a wage which meets everyday needs.

To achieve the accreditation GEZE UK had to confirm that the company pays the real Living Wage to all directly employed staff and have a plan in place to pay all contractors a Living wage – both of which the company has done.

Paying the real Living Wage is not only a benefit to staff but to the company too – it improves the employer brand and boosts staff productivity and motivation at work. It also helps employers to remain competitive, retain existing staff and attract new staff.

Rachel Boxall, finance director of GEZE UK, said: “We decided to go for the Living Wage accreditation as we think it

is an excellent way to demonstrate our commitment to being a responsible employer. By paying the real Living Wage (as opposed to the national living wage set by Government) we are voluntarily taking a stand to ensure employees can earn a wage which is enough to live on.”

“There is also growing evidence of the business benefits of becoming a Living Wage employer. This is demonstrated by the number of well-known and diverse companies already accredited such as Liverpool FC, Aviva, Oxfam and Ikea.”

Andrew Gordon, programme officer, Living Wage Foundation added: “We are delighted to welcome GEZE UK as an accredited member of the foundation. Basic fairness is at the heart of what the Living Wage campaign is trying to achieve and why great businesses and organisations chose to go further than the government minimum.”

For more information on the Living Wage Foundation go to [www.livingwage.org.uk](http://www.livingwage.org.uk).



[info.uk@geze.com](mailto:info.uk@geze.com)  
[www.geze.co.uk](http://www.geze.co.uk)



Scan the code above to listen or visit [insights.netmagmedia.co.uk/podcasts](http://insights.netmagmedia.co.uk/podcasts)

## BUILDING INSIGHTS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

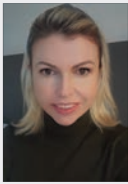


Episode now available:

*‘VMZINC from Napoleon to the Stirling Prize’*



## Karolina Maunder, National Sales Manager



Domus Ventilation, manufacturer of market-leading ventilation systems, is pleased to announce the appointment of Karolina Maunder as its new national sales manager. Karolina has enjoyed a rich and varied career in customer-relationship management, covering logistics, construction, pest control and the HVAC industry, with sales being her true calling. Karolina said: "I have learnt valuable lessons throughout my career so far, which I believe will bring a new knowledge and understanding in my role at Domus Ventilation that will enable my team to move on to even greater successes."

vent.info@domusventilation.co.uk www.domusventilation.co.uk

## EnviroVent celebrates double award win



Ventilation manufacturer EnviroVent is celebrating winning two prestigious regional business awards: The Yorkshire Post Excellence in Business – and the Insider Media Made in Yorkshire awards. For both awards, EnviroVent won the prestigious 'Manufacturer of the Year' category, demonstrating its commitment to excellence in design, innovation and manufacture. Judges praised EnviroVent for the company's dynamic approach to increasing manufacturing capacity, after the business recognised demand in the social housing and new build sector and moved to its own purpose-built expanded factory in Harrogate.

01423 810 810 www.envirovent.com

## The opinions of the architectural community



As part of netMAGmedia's research offering, *adf* has been increasingly harnessing the knowledge and views of its focused readership to produce 'Industry Viewfinder' white papers based on reader surveys. These are documents which contain unique insights and data on a wide range of topics that are currently fuelling debate in the industry,

from Passivhaus to Part L. This audience research, providing real-world experience, provides us with the opportunity to better understand the needs of our readers and tailor our content accordingly.

insights.netmagmedia.co.uk/whitepapers

## Celebrate 20 years of cleaner air



Panasonic Heating & Cooling Solutions is marking two decades of revolutionising indoor spaces with nanoe™ technology, offering solutions to continue to improve indoor environments. From its inception in 1997 to the present day, nanoe™ has evolved into a game-changing innovation, transforming the air people breathe for a cleaner and more enjoyable indoor environment. Fast forward to 2016, and Panasonic unveiled nanoe™ X, a more advanced and powerful version. In 2022, Panasonic took nanoe™ a step further with the launch of air-e, their first stand-alone, ceiling-mounted nanoe™ X generator.

0808 2082115 www.aircon.panasonic.eu

# Introducing the cutting-edge One2Clean treatment plant range

## Setting the standard

### ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

The go to treatment plant for **Nutrient Neutrality. Unrivalled effluent quality.**  
**Treatment levels** - Phosphate – 1.6mg/l, Nitrate – 7.9mg/l, Ammonia – 0.5mg/l

### PRODUCT QUALITY

German engineering.



### SUSTAINABILITY

**Low power consumption** - Daily energy usage of your One2clean treatment plant – from 0.59kWh.  
**Quiet operation** - High quality diaphragm compressors.

### CUSTOMER SERVICE

**Lifetime support** - Customer support on your project from start to finish.  
**GRAFTER network** - Graf accredited service provider network for all service and maintenance needs.



Graf UK will arrange **FREE** commissioning of your system by a Graf accredited service provider who will register your system to activate your warranty. For more information go to <https://bit.ly/GRAFFreeCommission> or scan the QR code.



For general enquiries go to <https://bit.ly/grafuksts> or scan the QR code.



For assistance with your project please contact us on T: 01608 661500 | E: info@grafuk.co.uk | www.grafuk.co.uk

# Delta case study: Type A and Type C Waterproofing

The scope of the project was to facilitate a combined waterproofing solution. For any structure below ground, either fully or partially, waterproofing is essential for protecting and preserving integrity.

BS 8102:2022 defines the three main methods of waterproofing protection as Type A (Barrier), Type B (Structurally Integral) and Type C (Drained).

When choosing and installing waterproofing protection, consider the structure, ground conditions, and intended use. It's advisable to use two types of waterproofing, known as combination protection, for habitable spaces. These systems should have different performance traits to reduce failure risks. Ensuring consistent protection and assessing the compatibility of different systems is crucial to lower risk and avoid later adjustments.

## Methodology

The structure required a new concrete slab which enabled the specification of Delta Amphibia, a Type A System and Delta Cavity Drainage Membranes, a Type C System.

## Phase 1

Before the concrete slab was poured, Delta Amphibia, a primary waterproofing solution, was applied in a Type A waterproofing application.

Delta Amphibia, a pre-applied, fully, and permanently bonded waterproofing membrane (active core liner), has unique features – it's four active layers: a Waterproof Barrier, a Reactive Core for self-sealing and healing, an Active Barrier that resists water movement, and a strong Bonding Layer which will form a permanent mechanical bond with fresh concrete.

Pre-applied bonded membranes are used to waterproof concrete in basements and below ground structures on the positive



side (outside). They are installed before the reinforcement underneath a base slab and vertically on a soil retention system, or in a formwork.

## Phase 2

Prior to the installation of the Type C System, measures were taken to mitigate the hazard of free lime leaching. This was accomplished through an application of Koster Polysil TG 500.

Continuity is crucial for successful construction and waterproofing. BS 8102:2022 places emphasis on good planning, correct sequencing and that site management processes are in operation.

The Delta Type C System is suitable for new construction and renovations.

It features BBA certified cavity drainage membranes, drainage conduits, chambers, sump pumps, and high-water level alarms and/or control systems.

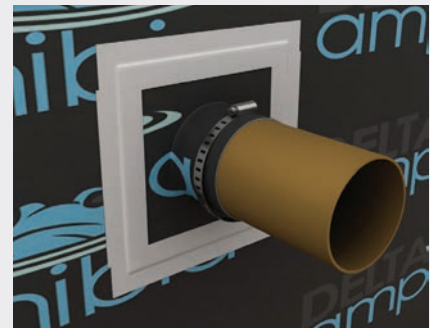
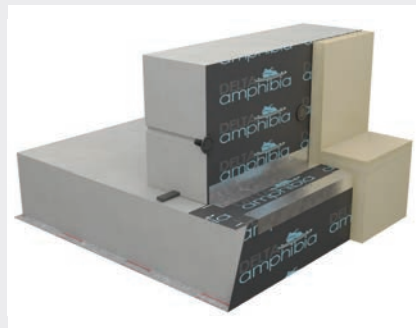
## Results

This reliable, top-quality combined system approach meets the highest industry standards for comprehensive structural waterproofing.

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 it's required. Contact Delta today.

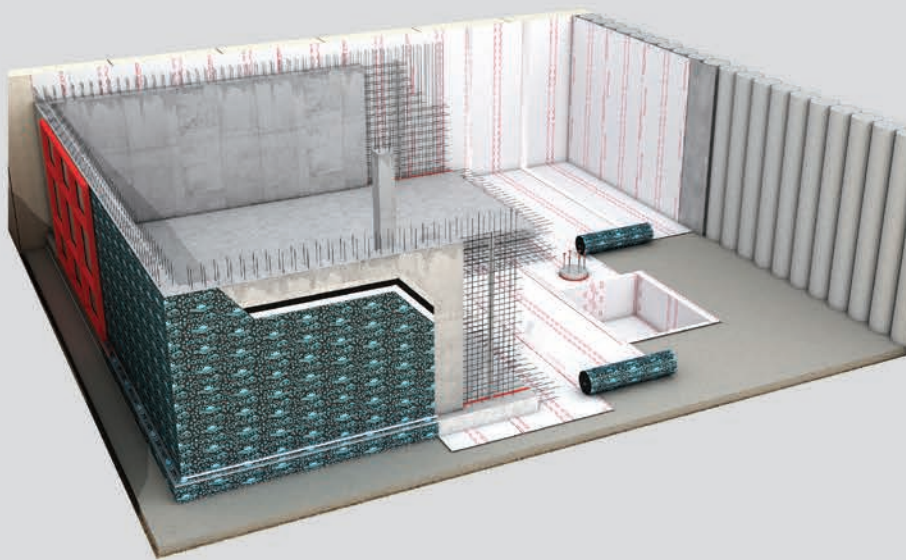
01992 523 523

[info@deltamembranes.com](mailto:info@deltamembranes.com)



# DELTA amphibia

Imagine a world where your waterproofing membrane is not just fully bonded, but also self-healing, self-sealing, and self-repairing.



Discover peace of mind today

01992 523 523 | [info@deltamembranes.com](mailto:info@deltamembranes.com)

Delta House, Merlin Way, North Weald, Epping, Essex, CM16 6HR  
[www.deltamembranes.com](http://www.deltamembranes.com)



Innovation | Manufacturer | Design | Solution

**A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION WITH**

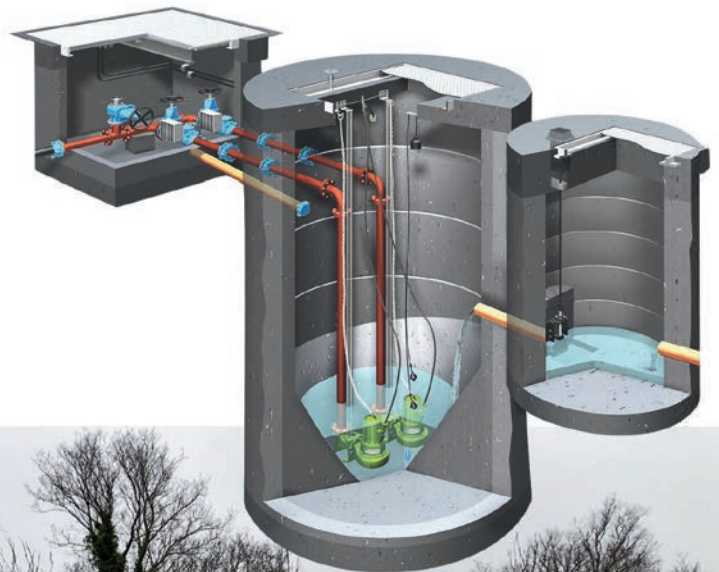
# **T-T ADOPTABLE PUMPING STATIONS**

**We handle the whole process, from the initial enquiry to pre-adoption maintenance, 24/7 365 days a year.**

We don't need to rely on sub-contractors to complete any stage of the work, which means we have 100% control over quality and service.

For our adoptable pumping stations we include and install:

- ✓ S104 design pack via in-house design engineers
- ✓ Manufacture, supply, installation and fitment of all key components
- ✓ Off-loading and crange on-site during the first fix
- ✓ Commissioning by T-T technicians
- ✓ Full NICEIC certification
- ✓ Comprehensive operation and maintenance manuals



**T-T Pumping  
Stations**



# The handmade tale

Jason Hughes of Imperial Bricks looks at how architects are embracing the opportunities offered by the latest ranges in brick products, blends and finishes

Bricks have long been used by architects to add interest to 'basic construction.' Durable and practical, bricks are also remarkably versatile. They can be specified for period renovations and conversions, to ensure a building blends in with surrounding architecture, or to create a cutting-edge contemporary building that'll turn heads. Recently, we've seen even more demand for versatility from bricks, particularly handmade and pressed bricks, with custom blends or even tints or washes to give a more unique character.

Architects are experimenting with different sizes – extra-long linear bricks, for example – finishes (aged, tumbled), and mortar colours, and using brick bonds for visual interest or brick banding to create a focal point.

The range of handmade bricks has grown enormously in the last few years. Traditionally, the variations in colour, size and shape across the UK were considerable – thanks to the local clay. When mass-produced, machine-made bricks took over, the options shrank, and for many years you'd be hard-pressed to find many handmade bricks in the quantities required for major developments. But in the last decade or so the market has changed significantly. Now you can find a traditional brick to match each region of the UK, from London Yellow and Cambridge Buff, to northern reds and blues. And in the appropriate sizes too, in the north should be 3 inches high, slightly larger than handmade bricks typically found in the south at 25/8 inches high.

Tumbling and tinting techniques can replicate years of weathering and pollution (especially for London bricks) and create an authentic 'reclaimed' look. While different firing techniques can be used to replicate time-honoured regional methods eg York 'clamp' bricks have a wild mix of brown, purple and yellow shades due to how they're stacked on top of each other in the kiln.

## Two contrasting conservation case studies

Using traditional bricks to match or complement existing buildings is particularly important for architects working in conservation areas or working on listed projects.

For example, in the RIBA award-winning restoration of the Grade II listed Royal Academy of Arts in London, which was designed by David Chipperfield Architects, a bespoke blend of handmade Yellow Stock and Reclamation Yellow Stock bricks were specified. The bricks were limewashed on site to match the existing brickwork and achieve an historically-appropriate finish.

Meanwhile, for One Silk Street, a modern mixed-use development in the Ancoats conservation area, lead architects Falconer Chester Hall married Manchester's industrial past with a contemporary edge.

A mix of two handmade, kiln-fired bricks in the area's characteristic red/orange shades were chosen over a machine-made, simulated alternative. 'Weathered Red Linear' (supplied for the nearby, RIBA-award-winning Hallé St Peter's extension) and 'Red Multi Linear' were used to create a new blend for a wider tonal range. These bricks were supplied in a custom size and laid in a stretcher bond with dark grey mortar, which was recessed at the horizontal joints and flush perpend to accentuate the lines of the building.

Many brick suppliers will offer advice on brick matching over the phone or email (some also have smartphone apps), but for this kind of job, sample boards, brick panels and onsite visits are essential.

## Slip into style

We're also seeing increasing demand for brick slips, which are cut from full size bricks. These can be used internally on feature walls, for an industrial 'penthouse' look, or externally. Slip and facade systems can be used with blocks or timber framing for fast-track construction, or to 're-skin' an existing property, to match the brickwork



Royal Academy of Arts



One Silk Street © Greg Holmes



A recent Imperial-clad project in Brixton

**Now you can find a traditional brick to match each region of the UK, from London Yellow and Cambridge Buff, to northern reds and blues**

on neighbouring buildings or to cover up unsightly rendering. In urban developments, where space is at a premium, brick slips are easier to use in tighter spaces, when working up to neighbouring walls in infill projects (i.e. between two buildings).

A recent project in Brixton, London, saw a block of eight apartments were built on the site of a dilapidated 1960s building. Once permission was granted, the building was demolished and replaced with a new four-storey property. The top three stories

were clad with an orange wirecut brick slip, above a glass-fronted ground floor, used as a gym. The aged finish on the 73 mm brick ensures the building blends in with the neighbouring architecture. The same slips were used inside the apartments to create 'exposed brickwork' walls, for a premium penthouse look, complete with high ceilings and industrial fittings.

#### Accreditations to look for

Whatever bricks you specify, it's important to check the ethical trading policies, and quality certifications. And, ensure that the bricks you specify are the ones you get!

All new bricks used in the UK should be UKCA/CE marked, and tested to meet EU and UK standards for freeze-thaw, water absorption, compressive strength, soluble salt content and tolerance. Ideally manufacturers and/or suppliers should be Sedex-audited – the benchmark for ethical trading used by Dyson and M&S – and bricks made in factories accredited to ISO 14001 (for Environmental Management) and ISO 9001 (for Quality Management).

*Jason Hughes is managing director of Imperial Bricks*



**NEW**  
**UBIFLEX FINIO**  
LEAD REPLACEMENT

**Holds its shape -  
like lead!**

**THINK SMART**  
BEFORE YOU SPECIFY



Build smart.

#### Ubiflex Finio:

The new watertight flashing solution that looks & performs better!

- Holds its shape on profiled roof surfaces, for a superior finish
- Unique double bonding for high performance and durability.
- Environmentally friendly, non-toxic and recyclable.
- Suitable for new build and refurb projects
- 25 year guarantee

Ubbink UK Ltd • ☎ 01604 433000 • @ sales@ubbink.co.uk • 🌐 www.ubbink.co.uk



**WALK ON GLASS  
FLOORS &  
ROOFLIGHTS**



Manufacturers  
&  
Installers  
of Walk on Glass  
T: 0333 577 7177

[www.structural-glass.com](http://www.structural-glass.com)

# GARADOR

*The Garage Door People*

Precision Engineered  
and Fully Insulated  
Sectional Garage Doors

Choose from the full range of garage doors.  
Visit us online at [www.garador.co.uk](http://www.garador.co.uk)



**CALL  
01935 443722  
TO DISCUSS  
YOUR PROJECT**



- 1** 42mm fully insulated door sections ( $U = 1.30 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ ).
- 2** Rubber seals on sides, floor and fascia of door.
- 3** Full drive-through width and height.

**BE WISE**  
WHEN YOU ADVERTISE

ARCHITECTS DATAFILE  
IS INDEPENDENTLY  
VERIFIED BY ABC

# Proctor Air® provides peace of mind

A significant challenge when working on the roof of any existing, occupied building is protecting the people inside the building without the full roof system in place. That challenge is multiplied when the building in question is large and work has to be carried out in sections over a longer period of time.

At Hatchmeadow apartments in Northumberland, a key performance characteristic of Proctor Air that helped to address these challenges was its water holdout. That, combined with its vapour and air permeability, offered long-term peace of mind for the building owners, as well as apartment residents.

The roof included an area of solar PV panels, so the new roofing system had to be capable of providing weathertightness and condensation control in several different circumstances across the single building – all while residents remained in occupancy during the work.

## Using Proctor Air as part of a 'belt and braces' solution

James Roy, senior quantity surveyor at

Wensley Roofing, describes the replacement roof system as a "belt and braces" approach. "The specification used Proctor Air over the rafters, followed by counter battens, tile battens, and a new pantile finish," he explained. "We even used butyl tape over the nail holes to provide a complete seal against rainwater."

At the time of writing, Wensley Roofing are about halfway through the reroofing work. "Some of the residents were having to use buckets to catch leaking water," said James. "Since installing this new system the leaks have now stopped, and there has been some bad weather."

## How has Proctor Air helped the reroofing process?

The attention to detail required to deliver the thorough specification, coupled with the size of the Hatchmeadow apartments roof, has naturally restricted the pace at which the work can be delivered. As a premium roofing membrane, Proctor Air has helped to alleviate any concerns about leaving the underlay exposed for short periods of time.



"The belt and braces approach has made labour a challenge on this project," said James. "But with the Proctor Air membrane in place, we've been comfortable leaving it exposed for a couple of days if necessary, knowing that residents in the apartments below are still protected."

This reassurance is possible because Proctor Air is rated W1 under EN 13859-1, with over 1m Head of Water, and has hydrophobic additive in all three of its layers. Its water resistance meets the guidance of NFRC's Technical Bulletin 6. Additionally, the membrane can be left exposed to UV for up to three months.

01250 872 261

[proctorgroup.com/products/proctor-air](http://proctorgroup.com/products/proctor-air)





  
doors/distinction  
[www.doorsdistinction.co.uk](http://www.doorsdistinction.co.uk)



Pre-hung doorsets are available in many styles, providing a vast choice of design and quality. To compliment the standard doors there are certified options to meet FD30, FD30S and PAS24 regulations. Doorsets are delivered pre-hung ready to install saving time and money on installation while assuring full compliance with both fire and security if required.

### DON'T RELY ON SELF-ACCREDITED SCHEMES WHEN IT COMES TO SAFETY

Enhanced security doorsets have been tested and proven to perform to the highest standard. Enhanced security performance tested to PAS24:2016, fire tested to EN1634-1 and certified by BM TRADA's Enhanced Security Doorset and Fire Door Manufacturer schemes.

 [doorsdistinction](https://www.facebook.com/doorsdistinction)  
 [doorsdistinctionuk](https://www.instagram.com/doorsdistinctionuk)

Need a helping hand? Contact our friendly team of experts for free impartial advice today:  
01202 872211 [sales@doorsdistinction.co.uk](mailto:sales@doorsdistinction.co.uk) [www.doorsdistinction.co.uk](http://www.doorsdistinction.co.uk)



# klöeber®

Award-winning Bespoke Doors & Windows



We manufacture, supply and install  
Timber, Aluminium & Alu-Clad

- Bifold doors
- Sliding doors
- Entrance doors
- French doors
- Single doors
- Windows
- Shaped glazed screens
- Rooflights



01487 740044    [info@kloeber.co.uk](mailto:info@kloeber.co.uk)    [www.kloeber.co.uk](http://www.kloeber.co.uk)

Showrooms: London, Cambridgeshire, Buckinghamshire, West Sussex & at the NSBRC Swindon

## For refurbishment of steel windows



Steel Window Association members are established, proven experts in the renovation and sympathetic refurbishment of steel windows and doors in both domestic and commercial premises; typically, those in listed buildings or properties in heritage and conservation areas. One of the best qualities is its longevity and this is where refurbishment and servicing are vitally important; this is where SWA members can help. Options range from a very basic ease and adjusting, where the windows and doors remain in-situ and are serviced, to a full in-situ overhaul involving significant paint removal and redecoration, where possible.

[www.steel-window-association.co.uk](http://www.steel-window-association.co.uk)

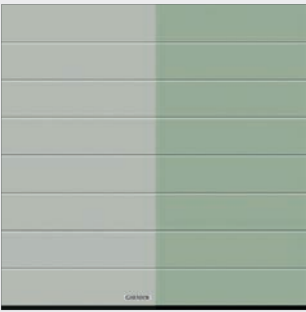
## Our collection of podcasts



In a constantly changing environment in which content is consumed in so many different ways, our collection of podcasts enable *adf* readers to stay informed and keep up-to-date with changing trends and topical issues. Published via netMAGmedia's Building Insights brand, our collection of podcasts are available through [architectsdatafile.co.uk](http://architectsdatafile.co.uk) and through most podcast hosting platforms. We can host a series of three '15-minute Q&A' episodes based around topics subjects pertinent to your business and solutions you provide. These can then be promoted across *adf* magazine, newsletters and social media.

[insights.netmagmedia.co.uk/podcasts](http://insights.netmagmedia.co.uk/podcasts)

## Garador introduces stunning new sectional garage door colours



Garador have just expanded their range of standard colours on their market leading sectional garage doors. Two beautiful new colours, Agate Grey (RAL 7038) and Chartwell Green (BS 14C35), have now been added, providing further choice for homeowners. Agate Grey (pictured left) is a stunningly popular shade with low-key formality that matches well with modern architecture and monotone colour palettes often found in new build properties and renovation projects. Chartwell Green (pictured right) is a lovely tranquil shade of green that is a beautiful addition to any style of home. It's already popular on entrance doors and window frames found on traditional bungalows and country houses, and now this look can be replicated on Garador's sectional garage doors. Garador's sectional garage doors are among the best engineered garage doors on the market offering a number of exclusive features including excellent security and insulation. The addition of these two new on trend shades means there are now 18 standard colours to choose from across their sectional garage door range. Find out more on the Garador website.

01935 443 700 [www.garador.co.uk](http://www.garador.co.uk)



ZENON®

Hambleside Danelaw  
Building Products

# UNDERSTANDING U-VALUE:

**U-value measures the rate at which heat energy passes through a square metre of the material. The lower the U-value, the better the thermal performance.**

It is vital to consider the U-value of an industrial unit as the flow of heat through insulation layers or materials can play an important part in reducing energy costs of the building (whether to heat it up or cool it down).

Scan the QR code to take a look at our performance calculator to see how varying in-plane rooflight configurations effect the performance of the assembly itself:



[www.hambleside-danelaw.co.uk/zenon-rooflights](http://www.hambleside-danelaw.co.uk/zenon-rooflights)



# EJOT Colorfast chosen for Kingspan's highly sustainable new Asian factory

More than 120,000 EJOT Colorfast self-drilling fasteners have helped Kingspan to create a thermally superior, visually-appealing building envelope for its first purpose-built manufacturing plant in South East Asia. The 16,000 sq. m factory at Phu My Town in Ba Ria-Vung Tau Province, Vietnam, will enable Kingspan to grow its presence in the wider Asian region by providing a state-of-the-art plant to manufacture its market-leading Quadcore and mineral fibre insulated panels.

As a 'greenfield manufacturing facility', architects IntES and Kingspan were able to take advantage of a 'blank canvas' to design and build a facility with exceptional eco-credentials.

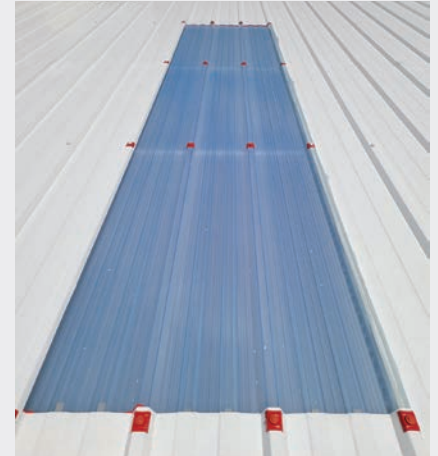
## How Colorfast supports zero carbon goals

Installed by main contractor TUAN LE Construction, the building envelope features a total roof area of 14,500 sq. m, formed using Kingspan Quadcore KS1000RW insulated panels and KS1000DLTR (Day-Lite Trapezoidal Rooflight) polycarbonate rooflights. All of the fasteners used to create the envelope were EJOT products, mainly Colorfast over-moulded fasteners which utilise EJOT's JT3 bi-metallic self-drilling screw. These were coloured in White for the main roof fix and Poppy Red with storm washers for the rooflight detail.

Colorfast was able to make a positive contribution to the long term performance of the building envelope and, hence, the sustainability of the factory as a whole.

As an FM Approved fastener, Colorfast has been independently assessed and its performance verified under a globally-recognised certification scheme. The stringent testing undertaken by FM Approvals considers fasteners within a complete assembly, rather than in isolation, which was extremely important to the architects on this project.

Key to Colorfast's performance is its ability to provide a consistent seal above the sheet, maximising insulation and airtightness as well as reducing the risk of water ingress. The fastener's head is formed by over-moulding a nylon compound which is precisely formulated to offer reliable UV stability for lasting visual aesthetics. The head



can be matched to around 400 colours in line with recognised colour matching system such as RAL, NCS and Pantone, as well as the British Standards (BS) colour palette – the colour system on which Colorfast was first developed.

## Thermal insulation optimised

The JT3 Colorfast fasteners were specified in bi-metallic stainless steel as this material is more suitable for the hot, humid Vietnamese climate than carbon steel fasteners. Stainless steel has the obvious longevity benefit in that it is more resistant to corrosion, but this material choice also offers lower thermal transmission values, meaning heat transfer from the outside to in and vice versa is reduced. Colorfast's nylon moulded head provides further resistance to thermal transmission, which would not have been the case if powder coated or painted screws were used. The small gains achieved at individual fixing locations added up to a significant benefit over the thousands of penetrations across the roof's surface.

The end result was the creation of a building which will benefit from a stable internal environment with the lowest levels of energy consumption. This is not only important to the Vietnamese government, which has pledged to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, but also to Kingspan as it creates the infrastructure and production facilities required to meet its Planet Passionate goals.

In addition to strategies for reducing water consumption, cutting landfill waste and utilising only renewable energy to power its operations, the specification of Kingspan's existing facilities and new buildings will be enhanced. One of the ways this will be achieved is through the use of advanced building materials and components as the new Phu My Town factory demonstrates.

## Supporting the expanding SE Asian market

EJOT Group is one of the European companies responding to serve this growing market, not only in Vietnam but across South East Asia. The Group has already recently invested in opening an office in Singapore and it will shortly be creating a presence in Vietnam to offer local support backed with global technical expertise.

This model has been instrumental in Colorfast's evolution from its initial purpose as a UK market-focused product when it launched over 30 years ago, into a fastener with appeal in construction markets around the world. One of the reasons for this is the increased adoption of European building performance standards, which have traditionally been regarded as the world's most demanding, in other continents, particularly Australasia.

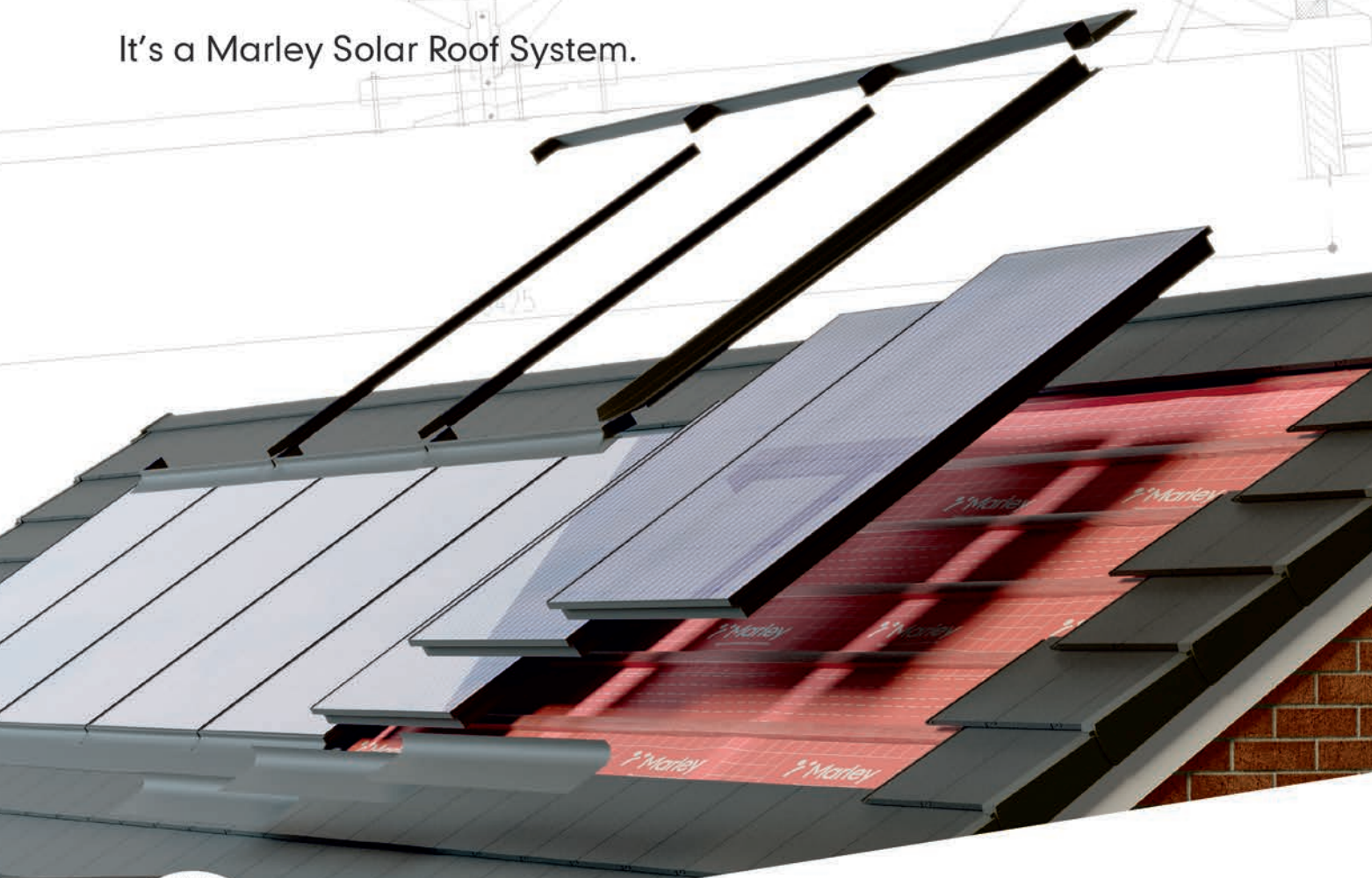
info@ejot.co.uk  
[www.ejot.co.uk/Colorfast\\_Kingspan\\_Vietnam\\_Case\\_Study](http://www.ejot.co.uk/Colorfast_Kingspan_Vietnam_Case_Study)

# It's **more** than a roof



LEARN MORE

It's a Marley Solar Roof System.



 **Marley**

You may just see a roof. But by specifying a complete Marley Solar Roof System, you can be sure of a secure and robust solution, that also delivers more desirable, energy efficient homes.

It's more than a roof, it's building to make a difference.

[marley.co.uk](http://marley.co.uk)



MARLEY ROOF  
SYSTEM WARRANTY

# The science behind good acoustics

The new workspace at AstraZeneca UK's head office in Kings Cross, London has been designed by Ekho Studio and spans over 21,000 ft<sup>2</sup> across two floors. The company wanted to use its new King's Cross HQ to drive collaboration and innovation further with its relocation to London's new 'Knowledge Quarter' bringing them closer to their broad network of healthcare partners to enable them to work in ambitious, purpose-led partnerships.



As part of the stunning design, Ekho Studio used Troldekt's acoustic wood wool panelling as part of the specification to combat issues around acoustics and reverberating sound. The design embraced a lot of hard surfaces – from break-out areas and open plan offices stretching around meeting rooms. This, coupled with the full-height windows to maximise natural light all have an impact on acoustic performance.

Troldekt acoustic panels are available in a variety of different surfaces and colours and combine sound absorption with a tactile surface. With an expected life cycle of at least 50 years and resistance to humidity and impact, they are available in various sizes and four grades, from extreme fine to coarse. The panels can be left untreated or painted in almost any RAL colour. Depending on the panel specified, reaction to fire is classed in accordance with EN 13501 as B-s1,d0 or A2-s1,d0 respectively.

Cradle to Cradle Certified® at Gold level, Troldekt wood wool acoustic panels are manufactured using wood from certified forests (PEFC™ and FSC®C115450) and



Photos: Billy Bolton

can contribute positively to a building's BREEAM, WELL or LEED points.

Samples, case studies and technical guidance is available from the website.

sales@troldekt.dk  
www.troldekt.com

## Sto maximises thermal efficiency and aesthetics for retrofitted homes



In partnership with E.ON and Green Homes Solutions, Sto has enhanced energy efficiency for Cheshire residents while maintaining the traditional appearance of their homes. All the properties have been upgraded with Sto's external wall insulation (EWI) system. Installed by Green Homes Solutions, the EWI system is improving the homes' thermal performance by reducing heat loss and energy consumption while protecting the properties from weather damage. The risk of condensation, damp and mould has also been minimised. To meet the needs of residents, who did not want the look or feel of their homes to change, Sto's solution included a range of products designed to replicate the homes' traditional brick appearance and complement architectural details. This saw StoCleyer B brick slips, StoDeco profiles and StoFentra Duo windowsills installed on each property. The StoCleyer B brick slips offer a realistic brick appearance with a durable, weather-resistant finish. The StoDeco Profiles replicate stone architectural detailing on the window heads and are manufactured using a lightweight material that is easy to install.

0330 024 2666 www.sto.co.uk

## Domus Ventilation launches dMEV-NICO



UK ventilation manufacturer Domus Ventilation has launched a new Decentralised Mechanical Extract Ventilation (dMEV) fan, dMEV-NICO, to provide continuous background extract ventilation for new build properties. Designed to remove waste and moist air from a single wet room, such as bathrooms and kitchens, dMEV fans continuously extract

the waste air at both low trickle or boost speeds which, in the case of the new dMEV-NICO, is automatic thanks to a built in monitoring device which detects occupants' operation.

vent.info@domusventilation.co.uk www.domusventilation.co.uk

## Building a better workplace



Project: The Gilbert

The work environment significantly influences productivity and wellbeing. Companies globally now prioritise operational efficiency and healthy workplace practices. By investing in employee wellbeing, companies not only boost productivity but also cultivate a culture of care and support that contributes to long-term success and sustainability. As businesses recognise the link between a healthy work environment and organisational performance, the pursuit of wellbeing will remain a foundation of modern workplace practices. Please visit Flexible Space's website for more information.

sales@flexiblespace.com www.flexiblespace.com

# Gaia install underfloor heating for high-profile developments

Part of the wider regeneration of Watford, The Eight Gardens is a residential and commercial development from Berkeley Homes, featuring studio, 1- and 2-bedroom apartments surrounded by landscaped gardens and art installations.

Due to Gaia's long-standing relationship as a trusted supplier for Berkeley Homes, they were asked to provide pricing for The Eight Gardens project (Block S3 and S6).

The original design involved wet underfloor heating through Heat Interface Units with a gas energy plant room or air-source heat pumps.

However, Gaia proposed using exclusively electric underfloor heating for the scheme.

This would reduce the need for heat pumps and energy plant rooms, therefore lowering capital costs for the developer. Also, it would minimise maintenance costs for homeowners, and provide quicker heat-up times.

Following their proposal, Gaia managed the entire electric underfloor heating design

and installation process. Their team levelled the structural slab with latex before installing thermal insulation boards and electric underfloor heating systems, finished with a latex screed on top to achieve an SR1 finish.

By delivering their services from design to completion, Gaia provided a single point of accountability and streamlined the process for the client.

This is just one case study within an extensive portfolio of underfloor heating projects Gaia has completed across London and the surrounding areas.

The underfloor heating experts worked with Telford Homes to deliver a customised underfloor heating specification for the former Elizabeth Arden factory site – which is being transformed into a new mixed-use development, with the majority of space allocated to residential properties.

Gaia provided the complete design, installation and commissioning of wet underfloor heating systems throughout the



374 apartments.

Also, as part of a long-standing partnership with Woodford Heating, Gaia provided full design, supply, installation and commissioning of Polypipe wet underfloor heating systems for High Street Quarter in Hounslow – a £210 million scheme featuring 528 residential properties.

For more information about Gaia and their services, please visit their website.

01359 242400 [gaia.co.uk](http://gaia.co.uk)

Introducing the new

## HRV COOL PLUS™

The **smart choice** for thermal comfort **all year round**

Overheating indoors can present several dangers, such as heat-related stress, dehydration, and heightened health issues. The new Titon HRV Cool Plus™ offers a solution designed to deliver cooling, filtered, and tempered air for user comfort in warmer weather conditions via a compact efficient MVHR and cooling module.



- Up to 3.3kW total cooling (subject to volume flow and relative humidity)
- Available for wall mounting or floor mounting
- Minimal maintenance of fully sealed refrigerant heat pump with coil & fin heat exchangers
- No need for run around ducting. Keeps complexity low
- CIBSE accredited CPD course available on Part O



01206 713801 | [marketing@titon.co.uk](mailto:marketing@titon.co.uk) | [titon.com](http://titon.com)



**Titon**  
ventilation systems

# Why ventilation must be integrated earlier

Jason Bennett of indoor climate solutions provider Zehnder Group UK explores why including the consideration of heating and ventilation systems at design stages is the most effective approach, but it's being overlooked

Traditionally when designing properties, heating and ventilation systems were seen as two very separate entities. Factoring in both, along with other essential building systems, can be problematic for architects, and as a result, this has often led to ventilation being a last-minute thought, or overlooked completely.

However, in our efforts to build tighter for better energy efficiency and to meet our net zero targets by 2050, ventilation has had to shift to the top of the priority list for every build – and yet it's still not properly considered, or its potential fully realised.

A ventilation – or air distribution – system shouldn't just be considered in isolation from the other building systems but integrated to work together and fully complement one another. The evolution of these services within a home means that systems can now be more integrated for energy efficiency and futureproofing – and it is time more thought is given around that at the design stage.

Ventilation systems can do more than provide better indoor air quality for occupants inside the dwelling – although that is reason enough for factoring them into building plans. An effective and integrated air distribution system can also assist with the heating and cooling load for the property, and this should be a consideration for any indoor climate strategy.

The initiative towards heat pumps replacing boilers is a key driver in this shift. Heat pumps are now being prioritised to supply heating for the home, but few realise that by using a reversible heat pump, in conjunction with a mechanical ventilation with heat recovery (MVHR) unit and water coil battery, heat output can be greatly increased – and vice versa when cooler

temperatures are required.

As human beings, we naturally generate heat within our homes – through cooking, bathing and general living. This heat warms the air inside our homes but quickly becomes stale and needs to be refreshed. With an MVHR ventilation system this stale air is extracted and filtered. But before leaving the house, the air passes over a heat exchanger which recovers the heat that would otherwise be lost outside. MVHR systems provide ventilation with heat recovery of up to 96%.

With an integrated air distribution and reversible heat pump system, this tempered (now filtered) air is passed over the water coil battery containing hot water inside from the heat pump and gains substantially more heat before being supplied into living spaces. These systems have already proven effective across warmer, colder and more humid climates in our European markets.

Then in the summer months when cooler air is required, the MVHR activates its modulating bypass to prioritise the recovery of the cooler air through the system. This provides a comfortable climate all year round as well as clean, fresh, filtered air for better occupant health and wellbeing.

And with a reversible heat pump, cold water supply to the water coil can also substantially cool the tempered air into the property.

## Integrated systems for overheating problems

An ability to cool as well as heat is essential for futureproofing homes. Our recent summers have already been characterised by extremes in the UK's climate. Temperature records soared beyond 40°C for the first time and large parts of the country experienced unprecedented discomfort



**The evolution of these services within a home means that systems can now be more integrated for energy efficiency and futureproofing**



through overheating.

With this in mind, there will be less of a drive for heating in new builds and an increased focus on cooling. And yet people will still want it. Therefore, it is vital that building designers consider a heating and cooling strategy that works efficiently and seamlessly together.

Within the UK Building Regulations, Approved Document Part O provides guidance to building designers on mitigating overheating in residential buildings; reducing the effects. The prescriptive approach within the Approved Document architects on optimising glazing, solar shading and natural ventilation clearly outlines preferred solutions to keeping a building cool.

But problems occur when external factors dictate that passive ventilation can't be used to control internal temperatures. In this scenario, a mechanical ventilation system such as MVHR forms the base of the strategy for overheating.

Incorporating an integrated system that cools when required can mitigate overheating from the outset, and this can then be adapted accordingly to ensure compliance with best practice guidance (CIBSE TM59) for residential properties.

### Space saving and optimised delivery

When planning an integrated system into a build, it is not only important to get the delivery of heating and cooling set up in the best way but also specify the best installation for the services. Design consideration should be given to aesthetics at this stage – how the room will be used and how occupants will operate in the space.

Traditional methods to heat and ventilate the property don't always need to be used. Heating and cooling systems can be provided in combination with existing specifications to assist with the delivery of air into the living areas via many different means.

Semi-rigid ducting for example can take 8 kN of weight on top of it, so it can be laid into the screed of the building and won't affect its performance. This extends the options for ducting installation and allows for supply air to be delivered from below as well as through the wall or ceiling.

Heating and cooling from below can also be done via trench systems – a comprehensive heating solution that is

## An ability to cool as well as heat is essential for futureproofing homes

installed into furrows dug beneath the floor, where an insulated steel box casing is discreetly hidden away from view. Generally, this heating system is installed around the perimeter of a room to create a heat curtain across large windows, but can also be adapted to deliver a supply of fresh air into a room via the integrated ventilation system.

Heating and cooling from above should also be a consideration. Floor and wall space is often at a premium, so using radiant heating panels for heating and cooling in the ceiling can free up precious space in the room for furniture. It also makes maintenance and servicing easier and more accessible.

Discreet supply and extract valves can also be installed into the corner of a ceiling to distribute airflow evenly across the ceiling and into a room. Using an innovative airflow pattern known as the Coanda effect, the air dissipates directionally using blanking plates, so no downward draughts are felt, yet clean air is delivered optimally into the room it serves.

### Designing for the future

Homes of the future will see systems working together as one, adopting climate strategies for the property that fundamentally change the layout of a building to assist with how we live in it – creating more space, better indoor air quality and cost savings through more energy efficient systems.

Imagine a home that is powered by solar, driving energy into a heat pump that provides heated or cooled water into a ventilation system that also delivers additional heating or cooling by feeding radiators or radiant panels on the ceiling to create whole house climate control – all systems working together like cogs in a machine, unseen and unheard.

Only when we look outside the norm and imagine a different approach to a building ecosystem, will it significantly improve not only the health, but also the wealth, of the homes we design and build.

*Jason Bennett is national business development manager at Zehnder Group UK*





Underfloor heating. **Cosy simplicity.**

## Schlüter®-BEKOTEC-THERM - Low profile modular underfloor heating system

The focus on a low-carbon future and improved energy efficiency is leading to an ever-increasing demand for underfloor heating systems. Schlüter-BEKOTEC-THERM offers modular heating with lower supply temperatures, low construction height, and shorter construction times. Learn more about the many benefits of Schlüter-BEKOTEC-THERM.

It's the details that make the difference. [schluter.co.uk](https://www.schluter.co.uk)



# There's an Ecodan for every home

NEW  
R290  
REFRIGERANT

The NEW Ecodan air source heat pump is setting new standards for performance and sustainability. Using R290 with a Global Warming Potential of only 3 and offering flow temperatures of up to 75°C, Ecodan offers flexible application. Available in 5kW, 6kW, and 8kW sizes.

Made in Britain, to British standards, for British homes.



[ecodan.me.uk/R290ADF524](https://ecodan.me.uk/R290ADF524)

**ecodan**  
Renewable Heating Technology

## The latest in designer bathroom cabinets from KEUCO

Whether refurbishing or creating a new bathroom the SOMARIS mirror cabinet is a sleek and stylish addition. The appearance is minimal and precise, with no decorative handles, additional trims, or finishes. The sides of the cabinet are available in four different finishes, mirrored, white, black and an oak



wood style surface. The cabinet can be either wall mounted or recessed depending on the available space.

The doors are mirrored on both sides and can be configured as either a classic symmetrical cabinet or as an asymmetrical version. As the cabinet is not split down the middle there is a door that can be opened without disturbing the full mirror image on the other side.

The main body of the cabinet is made from long lasting and sustainable aluminium, which is not affected by the moisture in a bathroom. It has technological advantages too, all the controls easily located underneath the cabinet, and it can be operated whether the doors are open or closed and the icons on the mirrored surface indicate which buttons are situated below. The LED lights at the sides provide perfect illumination for washing, shaving and the application of cosmetics, but can be dimmed if needed. The optional mirror heater ensures a clear reflection after



showering, and automatically switches off after 20 minutes.

The interior of the cabinet is storage heaven, the glass shelves can easily be adapted to accommodate the different heights of a variety of bottles and jars and the electrical socket at the side enables a toothbrush to be re-charged inside the cabinet. Protected by a hinged cover the port can be accessed as needed then hidden safely away when finished.

01442 200050 [www.keuco.com](http://www.keuco.com)

### Hybrid Cooling System from Nuair



Nuair's Hybrid Cooling System is a cooling extension for its boxed-ventilation range designed to tackle residential overheating and provide a solution that meets Building Regulations. The Nuair Hybrid Cooling System is an ancillary cooling module that works with the existing Nuair MRXBOX MVHR products to provide a hybrid MVHR and cooling system – delivering clean indoor air, while combatting

overheating – a modern day issue in many high-rise new builds. The new system is an energy efficient, space-saving solution that can be effortlessly integrated to newbuilds that face overheating problems.

[enquiries@nuaire.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@nuaire.co.uk) [www.nuair.co.uk](http://www.nuair.co.uk)

### Stelrad launches 'green steel' rads



Leading radiator manufacturer Stelrad Radiators is going green with another UK powerhouse, Tata Steel, to offer the first 90% green steel radiator range. Tata Steel is supplying UK made 90% Carbon Lite steel to Stelrad within the radiator market, so that Stelrad customers can choose a Green

Compact radiator range that contributes directly to a reduction in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> today and accelerates decarbonisation in the future. To find out more about this exciting new range and the new partnership with Tata Steel, head for the website.

0800 876 6813 [www.stelrad.com](http://www.stelrad.com)

### Keeping kitchens and bathrooms free of condensation, odours and mould



Vectaire has four fans with EC motors designed for ventilating wet rooms. The Elegance (axial with 100 mm or 120 mm ducts) and the Elix (centrifugal) operate continuously, quietly and economically. They have a choice of two trickle speeds and options of delay timer, humidistat and low voltage. The Elprex is a powerful, four speed centrifugal fan for larger areas. It has a choice of three trickle speeds, the same model options as the Elegance and Elix, plus models with a data-logger. Vectaire's single room heat recovery unit, HREC1003, is available in three tube lengths; can be rotated into four positions; incorporates a summer bypass and frost-stat, and saves both money and heat with a 75% heat exchange efficiency. It includes a terminal kit with a weather louvre and condensate outlet, and is available in standard, timer, humidity control and SELV models. These products fully comply with the latest building regulation requirements and can be installed quickly, easily and safely. They keep rooms condensation free and stop the build-up of unhealthy and unsightly mould.

01494 522333 [www.vectaire.co.uk](http://www.vectaire.co.uk)

# Horne partners with NBS

Horne Engineering is delighted to announce its Manufacturer Partnership with NBS, the leading platform that is revolutionising the way construction products are selected and specified. This collaboration aims to provide architects, engineers, and other specifiers with easy access to detailed, standardised information on Horne Engineering products.

Now listed on NBS Source ([nbs.fyi/gEWcCy](https://nbs.fyi/gEWcCy)) it's easy to add them into AutoDesk Revit and ArchiCAD projects, and cloud-based specification writing platforms like NBS Chorus.

Horne products are specifically designed for a range of niche applications within healthcare, accessible/inclusive and dementia/aged/rehabilitation care, learning disability, mental health and secure environments, education, sport and leisure.

The NBS team has authored the Horne product data to NBS Specification standards and assigned its relevant classifications under both the CAWS and Uniclass systems. The extensive suite of Horne products available on NBS Source



includes the award-winning Optitherm thermostatic tap for clinical handwashing and surgical scrub, Type 3 thermostatic mixing valves (DN15 and DN20), the patented ILTDU, In-line Thermal Disinfection Unit for effective management of retrograde contamination by pathogens, the stylish Dušo sport shower column, and the complete range (incorporating 130+ models!) of robust and durable pre-plumbed shower panels, for quick and easy installation and maintenance. Associated shower accessories

like supportive grab rails and shower risers complement the accessible range of shower models. Options within each BIM file allow the specifier to select various features such as connection size, basin pairing, ligature-resistant or inclusive design features, and colour variants. Each NBS Horne shower range, determined by its shower head/s and control valve pairing, is offered in two BIM Data files; with or without the ILTDU, In-Line Thermal Disinfection Unit, as an integral component.

Users can now explore and easily select Horne Engineering's diverse range of products and associated assets on NBS Source. It boasts a wealth of up-to-date content; enhanced product data, BIM models, company and product literature, useful drawings and instructions, case studies and third party certifications, all available for download to better aid sharing of information and collaboration to support specifier project requirements.

01505 321455  
[www.horne.co.uk](http://www.horne.co.uk)

# SAFETY

## LOVE STRAND

It's safety first for Strand Hardware. Many of our specialist product ranges are produced with safety in mind: finger protection, window controls, door holders and emergency exit and panic hardware - all produced to the highest quality and standards.

Don't scrimp when it comes to safety - buy well and buy once.

#LoveStrand



01922 639 111



[info@strandhardware.co.uk](mailto:info@strandhardware.co.uk)

**PREMIER**  
LOFT LADDERS

Counter-balanced for **ease-of-use**

Highly insulated hatch to **keep in the warmth** (U value of 0.63 W/m<sup>2</sup>K)

**High strength** wooden ladder (load rating of 180 kg/tread)

6-point latching system for an **airtight seal** (class 4)

Explore our range of Passivhaus certified loft ladders...  
[www.premierloftladders.co.uk/passive](http://www.premierloftladders.co.uk/passive)  
0345 9000 195 | [sales@premierloftladders.co.uk](mailto:sales@premierloftladders.co.uk)

Certified Passive House Component



## Access all areas, with a Stiltz

A perfect time to create the 'now home' while planning for the 'forever home', is when building from the ground up or significantly remodelling an existing property.

A homelift from Stiltz provides the ideal future-proofing solution. Clients embarking on self-build projects or major renovations often request non-intrusive accessibility features. Older clients are keen to make sure their home is suitable for the coming years, and level entry plus an easy access to upstairs are top of the list of must-haves.

Stiltz Homelifts have a division dedicated to supporting professionals involved in newbuilds, renovations and extensions.

Speak to our specialist Sam Townend today on 0808 304 9805.

- Contemporary, elegant styling
- Freestanding for flexible positioning
- Plugs into a standard domestic socket
- Deal directly with the manufacturer
- Full consultation & installation service

*"The Stiltz Homelifts building and renovation division worked together with our architects to deliver the lift installation exactly to our specification. Impressive work".*

Mrs W., Oxfordshire

For a free information pack, please call

**0808 256 6154** or visit [stiltz.co.uk](http://stiltz.co.uk)

**Stiltz**  
Homelifts



**COMMERCIAL CARPETS**  
 OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE  
 INNOVATIVE PRODUCT FEATURES



**Innovative  
 Carpet  
 Solutions**

**danfloor**  
 An Ulster Group Company

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

0333 014 3132

**Back to nature with Keller**



The new Nature's Choice kitchen for Keller (pictured) is an elegant, industrial scheme which highlights natural tones and textures. There is a clever interplay between the lines of okapi wood and vibrant cactus green. Pictured are melamine-fronted Bolton doors in Cactus and Bronx doors in Okapi. The design of the back walls, with LED lighting behind the pillars and up- and down-lights on the glass shelves, accentuates the natural theme as does the tip-on island unit. Keller is well known for offering the widest range of colours and finishes in the kitchen furniture market.

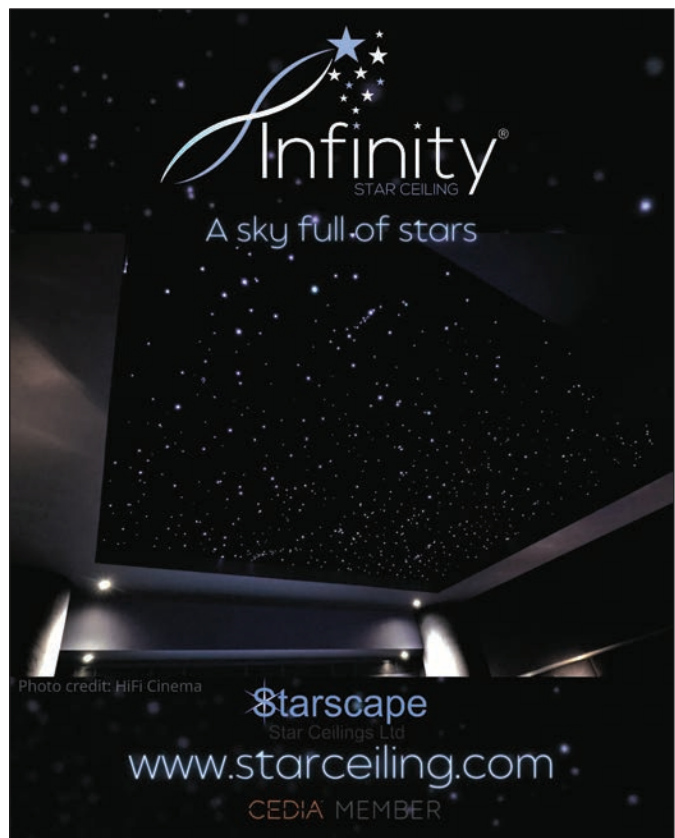
[www.kellerkitchens.com](http://www.kellerkitchens.com)

**Ideal Heating space-saving boilers**



Four Evomod 1000kW output boilers from **Ideal Heating** – Commercial Products have been installed at Beetham Tower in Manchester, which has the distinction of being one of the UK's tallest buildings outside of London. Available in 250, 500, 750 and 1,000 kW outputs, the Evomod will achieve an output up to 1 MW from a single unit solution together with a minimum footprint that enables the product to be installed where space is limited. Each module provides a maximum of 250 kW heat output and will modulate down through a sophisticated control system.

01482 498376 [idealcommercialboilers.com](http://idealcommercialboilers.com)



**Infinity**  
 STAR CEILING

A sky full of stars

Photo credit: HiFi Cinema

**Starscape**  
 Star Ceilings Ltd

[www.starceiling.com](http://www.starceiling.com)

CEDIA MEMBER

# An education in aesthetics

Flooring in education is becoming a question of aesthetics, with schools and colleges giving more consideration to its importance in creating inspiring learning environments. Jake Parks of IVC Commercial explains how great design plus safety and practicality can be achieved in sheet vinyl floor installations

Educators are aware of the importance interiors have in creating an environment that supports its students and encourages learning. The use of colour psychology to support activity – green for contemplation and concentration, yellow for creativity and blue for productivity – is increasingly commonplace, and biophilic, natural design is being employed to relax and calm students. Opportunities to exploit these practical applications of colour and natural design in the floor are plentiful. Examples include zoning in classrooms in primary education or the use of green and natural finishes in a secondary school library.

But outside of design, there are other factors that affect the floor's suitability for education environments. Its ability to combat acoustics or improve safety – or both for that matter – while providing a finish that's durable and easy to maintain are important factors for a floor that's fit for purpose. And for many schools and colleges, these factors hold more sway in the decision-making process than just choosing the right shade of green or yellow. Rightly, practical considerations dominate the floor selection process, but that's not to say it should be at the expense of achieving a design that can support learning with focus on the given activity within that area.

Sheet heterogeneous vinyl flooring is a popular choice in schools and colleges because of its practical advantages. It also presents design flexibility, giving the opportunity to achieve a functional finish that can also contribute to a focused, supportive learning environment. Whether zoning in colour for areas of learning or creating contrast to help with navigation, sheet vinyl flooring delivers a finish that's hardwearing and easy to clean. Easy to cut to shape, it can also be used to create a floor with a design that adapts to specific requirements, such as a quiet reading zone in a primary classroom.



However, mixing different designs in this way is not without its challenges. The seam has always been considered something of a weak point in sheet vinyl installations, so the natural course of action is to minimise occurrence using an 'all over' finish that eliminates a potential failure hot spot unless absolutely necessary. While this may be a 'safer' route functionally speaking, it is not the best way to ensure the environment is as supportive as it can be for pupils.

So, how can durability, ease of maintenance and design integrity be achieved with sheet vinyl flooring? By changing the method of installation.

## Bonding

A method of creating seams is available that eliminates the weld rods and visible joins of hot welding. Sometimes referred to as cold welding, our technology Invisiweld uses a chemical bond between each sheet, rather than introducing a third element – the weld rod – that relies on heat to create a bond between it and the two adjoining sheets.

By nature, the weld rod is a weak link in the floor installation. A pure PVC construction is ultimately less durable and

**Whether it's a herringbone wood design or a concrete effect, the elimination of a visible seam makes the floor look more authentic**



harder to maintain than the PU protected floor finish and so it is often the first point of failure, or at least it begins to show wear and dirt in advance of the rest of the floor. It's also not uncommon for hot welded seams to separate from sheets over time due to atmospheric movement – the weld rod and sheet vinyl are two different materials – and constant heavy traffic also stresses the joint. In many instances, failed hot welded seams will compromise an otherwise fully functional floor well before it needs replacing.

A direct chemical bond 'fuses' the sheets together so they become a whole, single piece. By eliminating the weld rod, this method is not only far less likely to fail, but it also allows seams to be introduced with less risk so that a better floor design can be achieved. Allowing the installation of sheet vinyl in shapes, colour combinations or indeed almost anything that can be imagined, such a method brings durability and design integrity.

The resulting join is almost imperceptible to the human eye, so even in 'all over' installations of a single design or colour it brings a better look. Whether it's a herringbone wood design or a concrete

effect, the elimination of a visible seam makes the floor look more authentic.

In short, from both a performance and aesthetic standpoint the approach is superior. Installation is also no more time intensive than hot welding and it is safer too. With hot weld torches operating at a temperature of over 300°C, severe burns are a real risk in operation and a constant power source is required. Getting rid of both of these provides an installation that's safer and easier to implement across a range of environments and build phases. Eliminating the mess and off-cuts of unused weld rod, it makes for a cleaner install and can also be used to join heterogeneous sheet vinyl with our luxury vinyl tiles.

For schools and colleges looking to embrace a more focused approach to the design of the floor, then sheet heterogeneous vinyl installed using a chemical bond method makes complete sense. Indeed, even if a varied layout isn't required, such a solution is still sensible – and one that offers advantages for both the installer and education environment.

*Jake Parks is commercial business manager at IVC Commercial*



## A New Era for Commercial Flooring Solutions



Until now, the IVC Commercial name has crossed flooring categories, providing carpet tiles, luxury vinyl tiles and sheet vinyl floors to the commercial market. Now it is stepping back to its origins and becoming a specialist in sheet vinyl floors for the contract and commercial sectors. The transition represents a new era for the brand, with projects now benefitting from the innovation that comes from specialised flooring manufacturers. The Roots luxury vinyl tiles collection that was previously available from IVC Commercial is now supplied by Moduleo, and award-winning carpet tiles are from Mohawk Group. IVC Commercial remains the brand for commercial grade heterogeneous vinyl floors made by IVC. As part of Unilin, the three brands share a passion for creating better spaces and will add unique value to your project. David Bigland, VP Sales & Marketing, Unilin Flooring: "IVC Commercial has become synonymous with high-quality flooring for a wide range of commercial interiors. Our heterogeneous vinyl, luxury vinyl tiles and carpet tiles have been supplied to projects of all types and scale, from a single classroom right up to large scale BTR developments and flagship retail stores."

0330 1222 133 [www.ivc-commercial.com](http://www.ivc-commercial.com)

## Ideal Heating launches ECOMOD heat pumps



Ideal Heating Commercial has launched its next generation ECOMOD heat pumps, with natural refrigerant. The first to be released this year is the ECOMOD 290HT, with ECOMOD CO<sub>2</sub> to follow. The ECOMOD 290HT is a monobloc air source heat pump able to achieve high temperatures up to 75°C, whilst benefitting from an ultra-low global warming potential (GWP) of just three as a result of the use of R290 natural refrigerant. An ultra-low GWP is not only good for the planet, but also makes commercial sense as high GWP refrigerants become increasingly scarce and therefore more expensive.

01482 498376 [idealcommercialboilers.com/products/ecomod-290ht](http://idealcommercialboilers.com/products/ecomod-290ht)

## Informative & entertaining round table events



Always looking for new ways to engage with our audience, *adf* now hosts round table events. With constant updates to building regulations, round tables are an ideal way to gauge industry concerns/problems, to future-proof your marketing strategy. Hosted by our Editor, James Parker, we ask a diverse selection of our readers to attend, providing us with insights across the full spectrum of our audience. Sponsoring a round table enables you to position your brand/company as a voice of authority within the industry. [insights.nctmagmedia.co.uk/round-tables](http://insights.nctmagmedia.co.uk/round-tables)



# Ready, steady, play!

Andrew Wood of ESP Play discusses the importance for the physical and mental health of children of planning inclusive and high quality playgrounds



**E**nsuring equitable access to inclusive and high quality play spaces is crucial for nurturing healthy, resilient communities.

Sadly, the provision of play facilities is sometimes treated as a box-ticking exercise and this can have long-term negative ramifications for children and the communities in which they live.

Research commissioned by ESP Play shows profound disparities in local authority playground investment and access from region to region and from town to town. This is potentially damaging for many children as it hinders their development and exacerbates inequalities.

Professor Helen Dodd, trustee of Play England and leading child psychologist, said: “Play is essential to a happy, healthy childhood. Having time and space to play gives children the opportunity to express themselves, to explore, to be physically active, to take risks and to have freedom to choose what they want to do.”

She added: “Children who spend more

time playing, especially outdoors and adventurously, have better mental health and are more physically active.”

“Children’s play opportunities are affected by the environments around them, with some environments facilitating active, adventurous, engaged play, and others discouraging play. It is therefore really important that children have access to places that support their play such as playgrounds.”

With all the research showing how important access to outdoor play is, it’s vitally important that architects and developers invest in the right space and equipment to provide the best long-term outcomes for children and communities.

Playground design has evolved considerably over the past 30 years. The innovation and improvement that we see now has only come through detailed research and by listening to children and observing them at play. Continuous research into play benefits and child development is integral to best practice and

**By providing children with a place to play, society is actively encouraging children to develop and grow, while allowing them to have fun**



is a fundamental cornerstone of the best approach to play area design.

By providing children with a place to play, society is actively encouraging children to develop and grow, while allowing them to have fun.

A well-designed and well-equipped playground not only allows children to participate in high quality physical activity, but also encourages them to learn while they play. Outdoor play helps promote physical activity, excitement, social skills and positive behavioural changes, while promoting multi-sensory engagement.

It is also important to note that, with thousands of children throughout the UK having physical disabilities or special educational needs, it's vital that there is better access to accessible play.

Inclusive play designs include products and equipment which allow children of all abilities to get involved on the playground. Inclusive play equipment offers choice and challenge, enabling children to play, laugh and learn together.

Playground designers should be dedicated to inclusive play, and strive to make all playgrounds inclusive to all children, regardless of ability, age, and gender.

Children with restricted movement should

not be left out of any playground.

However, some are denied the opportunity to play because the design of the playground or the equipment on offer creates a barrier for them. Children who use a wheelchair, for example, may face accessibility issues, whereas autistic pupils might find busy spaces overbearing. A truly inclusive playground would ensure that all children could participate in outdoor play.

The first thing to consider when looking at playground accessibility is whether children can get into and move around the space with ease. For this, pathways need to be wide enough to accommodate wheelchairs, be smooth and have gentle inclines to raised areas.

Not only should pathways enable children to get in and move around with ease, they should also help children in wheelchairs and those who have difficulty walking get directly to any of the equipment. Ideally, when creating the playground, you should locate popular equipment near the playground entrance or close to any pathway.

Another important consideration is playground surfacing. Some surfacing materials make it much easier for wheelchair users to move around on while others provide safer surfaces to fall on. Make sure you use the most appropriate surface for each area of your playground.

When designing playgrounds with inclusivity in mind there are six elements that need to be considered:

- movement: helps children to be aware of their joints and muscles;
- balance: contributes to physiological symmetry;
- smell: contributes to the enjoyment by enhancing social activities;
- touch: helps children learn the differences in texture, traction and pressure;
- sound: Helps cognitive progression by developing the ability to process;
- sight: aids and develops the visual sense allowing children to get the most out of their surroundings.

If designers are using these elements to inform their design strategy, then they are able to optimise all of the space and budget, in order to give the best outcomes for the children and the communities in which we all live.

*Andrew Wood is CEO at ESP Play*

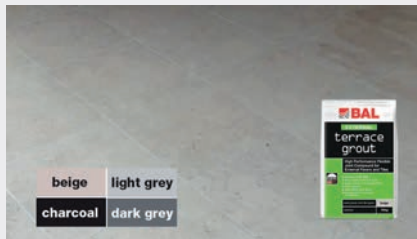
# Safe and long-lasting external tiling installations with BAL

The last few years has seen a massive increase in the popularity of external tiling installations using a range of materials, but primarily external self-supported porcelain (typically 20 mm porcelain), slabs, pavers and natural stone.

On method of fixing is on existing or new concrete bases.

This direct fixing method is essentially the same as internal tiling and can be used for patios, terraces or driveways.

The caveat being that expansion joints need to be incorporated into the subfloor,



and falls will need to be added to ensure rainwater drains away fully.

An effective DPM should also be incorporated into any direct-to-earth subfloors – this is essential to protect the tiles from any subfloor moisture.

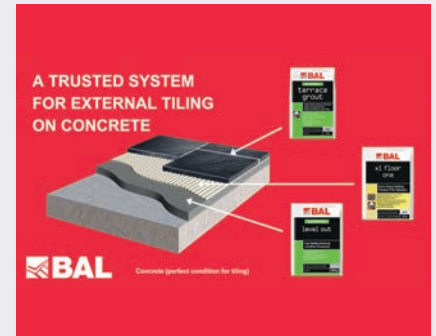
Where necessary, you can level the fully cured surface with an external leveller, such as BAL Level Out. BAL Level Out can mixed whereby the water content can be reduced slightly if gradient levelling has to be carried.

If a leveller is used, then protect this from adverse climatic conditions until hardened.

Once the leveller is cured, external tiles, porcelain, slabs, pavers or natural stone can be fixed using a suitable external tile adhesive – such as BAL XL Floor One.

Some external tile adhesives – such as XL Floor One – can be used directly onto tamped concrete without the use of a leveller – this may be an option if there are time or budget constraints.

Backbuttering of the tiles should always



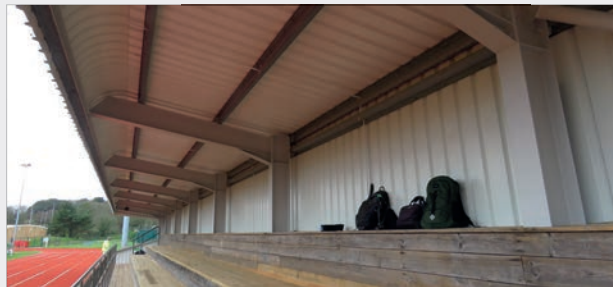
be considered – particularly on heavily keyed tiles to ensure 100% coverage.

A full contact bed of adhesive is required – as spot fixing is against British standards and leads to failures and staining.

Once the adhesive is dry, grouting can commence with an appropriate cementitious tile grout which is approved for external use.

BAL has a special high-performance Terrace Grout which has been designed to protect against the elements and high foot traffic. It is available in Dark Grey, Light Grey, Beige, and Black.

01782 591100 [www.bal-adhesives.com](http://www.bal-adhesives.com)



## Athletic stadium win for HMG Paints

HMG Paints deserves a lap of honour after a suite of its products were used to refurbish a rusting spectators stand at Plymouth athletic stadium. Rabart Decorators Centres worked with HMG Paints to provide the detailed specification needed to tackle the corroded structural steel beams of the stand. Once the area was prepared with a thorough clean to remove all loose material Ferrozinc Rust Convertor was used to tackle any remaining rust. This was followed by a coat of HMG's BDX Synthetic Primer, a high-build, anti-corrosive alkyd primer and then two coats of C71 Speedline, a high quality, single pack synthetic alkyd topcoat enamel. "We've worked with HMG Paints for about three years," explained Peter Bird, Area Sales Manager for Rabart in Devon. "Everyone using it loves the products. It's my go-to system for jobs involving metal and offers good protection against the local environment." The products were brush and roller applied for this job although spray is also possible dependent on the situation.

0161 205 7631 [shop.hmgpaint.com](http://shop.hmgpaint.com)

## UK MANUFACTURERS OF STREET FURNITURE



POSTS - HINGED & TELESCOPIC

BOLLARDS - STEEL & STAINLESS

HOOPED BARRIERS

CYCLE STANDS & RACKS

CYCLE SHELTERS

HEIGHT RESTRICTORS

SWING GATES

ARM BARRIERS

SMOKING SHELTERS

SEATING



01788 550556

[info@autopa.co.uk](mailto:info@autopa.co.uk)

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

AUTOPA AUTOPA Limited, Cottage Leap, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 3XP

# AUTOPA

# Fire protection is key for new FrameSafe FR membrane

Leading manufacturer Glidevale Protect has launched Protect FrameSafe FR – a new Class A2-s1, d0 flame retardant external wall breather membrane offering fire protection across low, medium and high rise buildings.

Featuring an intricately woven glass fibre fabric with a uniquely developed waterproof and fire resistant coating, Protect FrameSafe FR is a high performance breather wall membrane for use on the external side of the frame to integrate with facade wall structures. It is designed to exceed Building Regulations Approved Document Part B.

Protect FrameSafe FR has been independently fire tested by an external laboratory both free hanging as well as part of a system in an end use application, fixed over A1 and A2 substrates using Protect FR tape, which is also available to seal laps. It is fully compliant with the test methods contained within EN 13501-1, making it the perfect solution for higher risk buildings

as defined in the 2022 Building Safety Act, including student accommodation, schools, hospitals, offices and care homes as well as being suitable for many developments in London where there is a combustible material ban on external walls of buildings. In addition, the product can be used for housing developments where the property wall has a minimum separation distance of 1m to the relevant boundary.

Suitable for use on a wide range of residential and commercial developments, Protect FrameSafe FR provides strong UV stability and up to six months exposure before being covered. It is ideal for modular and offsite construction projects, for use on both steel and timber framed buildings as well as on high rise buildings with full rainscreen cladding systems.

Produced in the UK, Protect FrameSafe FR is both UKCA and CE marked with full independent fire test certification. For further product details please visit the website.



For all recommended mechanical fixings and full specification guidance email Glidevale Protect's technical team.

Follow Glidevale Protect on LinkedIn for more information.

[technical@glidevaleprotect.com](mailto:technical@glidevaleprotect.com)  
[www.glidevaleprotect.com/framesafe](http://www.glidevaleprotect.com/framesafe)

## Decking Paint

### PREMIUM MATT OPAQUE FINISH FOR DECKING



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

Now available on:



Premium finish available in **35 colours** to bring life to new or aged decking



High traffic performance - **guaranteed against peeling or flaking for 5 years** on horizontal surfaces



Protects against damage caused by moisture



Offers **excellent adhesion and flexibility** of the film

**BETTER LOOKING, FOR LONGER**

The choice of professionals & enthusiasts for over 100 years.

[OWATROLDIRECT.CO.UK](http://OWATROLDIRECT.CO.UK) 01582 592707

\*When applied following the application instructions.

**OWATROL**  
ADD LIFE TO YEARS

# Scots take the Passivhaus road with new standard

The planned introduction of the ‘Scottish Passivhaus’ standard brings opportunities to minimise energy demand and eliminate the performance gap. Jonathan Ducke of Kingspan Insulation discusses the likely contents of the new standard

This Summer, the Scottish Government is due to consult on the “Scottish equivalent to the Passivhaus standard,” as a compulsory requirement for all new homes. This represents a significant shift, with modelling from the Passivhaus Trust suggesting that heating demand from homes completed to the Passivhaus standard could be 79% lower than an equivalent home built to the current requirements in Scotland.

The Passivhaus standard requires properties to be highly insulated, with thermal bridges eliminated and air leakage reduced to very low levels. Delivering this at scale will require the entire industry to look carefully at its practices and the construction approaches being adopted. In particular, offsite solutions such as structural insulated panels (SIPs) offer a number of advantages which make them highly suited to these requirements.

## Understanding Passivhaus requirements

While the exact format of the Scottish equivalent is yet to be confirmed, the Passivhaus standard itself provides an indication of what we may expect.

Passivhaus was developed to close the performance gap and provides an approach that is quality assured throughout the build process, ensuring that certified buildings really deliver reduced energy use, good indoor air quality and comfortable temperatures throughout the year.

It sets out a range of ambitious energy performance requirements which certified properties must meet:

- Airtightness n50:  $\leq 0.6$  ACH @ 50 Pa
- Space heating/cooling demand:  $\leq 15$  kWh/m<sup>2</sup>.a
- Primary Energy Renewable (PER):  $\leq 60$  kWh/m<sup>2</sup>.a



- Surface temperature:  $\geq 17^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Overheating: Max 10%  $> 25^{\circ}\text{C}$

The space heating/cooling demand is far lower than for an average existing UK home – estimated to be around 130 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>.a.

The PER metric, meanwhile, is designed to encourage the use of onsite renewables, applying fuel factors to different sources of energy. These factors are typically set lower for low carbon technologies and onsite renewables, essentially making it simpler to achieve compliance with these approaches.

The air leakage rate is calculated using an n50 measurement. This differs from the measurement used in Part L and Section 6 of the Building Regulations



and standards meaning the rates are not directly comparable. However, this rate is significantly more stringent, requiring close attention to details.

Above and beyond these targets, the Passivhaus standard also requires that buildings be independently assessed post completion to ensure they meet the performance targets not only on paper, but also in practice. Only once this has been confirmed will the building achieve certification. This essential step has helped ensure that there is little if any performance gap in Passivhaus properties.

### Passivhaus approach

In addition to these targets, the Passivhaus standard sets out a clearly defined process for delivering them. Properties need to be highly insulated with careful attention paid to all details to effectively deliver a 'thermal bridge-free' construction. Air leakage rates through the fabric should also be effectively limited using a range of measures – including specialist triple-glazed windows.

A Mechanical Ventilation Heat Recovery (MVHR) system is used to ensure a good level of ventilation is maintained within the property. These systems use a heat exchanger to take the heat from stale outgoing air to warm fresh incoming air, further limiting overall heating demand.

### Offsite solutions

The high performance criteria of the Passivhaus standard raise obvious questions on how this can be accurately and affordably delivered at scale in Scotland. One solution already used on a large number of UK Passivhaus projects is the adoption of structural insulated panels (SIPs).

SIPs are fabricated by bonding two sheets of particle board or oriented strand board (OSB) on either side of a rigid insulation core. This creates a highly insulated panel which can be used to create both pitched roofs and walls, whose thermal performance can be easily raised further with an additional insulation liner.

The panel's arrangements, dimensions and interactions are designed in CAD. They are then pre-cut at production facilities using CNC cutting machinery. This helps to ensure the cut panels precisely match the designs including openings for windows and doors. This supports accurate detailing to eliminate thermal bridges and limit air leakage around these junctions.

## The Passivhaus Trust's recommendations call for the Scottish standard to be based on the full Passivhaus, including local weather data

Some SIPs also feature a cassette joint which slots into a routed channel between the panels, ensuring excellent insulation continuity across the envelope and further limiting air leakage. Once an airtight membrane is fitted internally and tape is applied to junctions, the air leakage rate can be reduced to the requirements for Passivhaus.

In addition to simplifying installation processes onsite, the offsite production process for SIPs also helps to provide scalable scheduling benefits. The factory cutting process allows identical panel kits to be produced for multiple units without the errors and inaccuracies common with traditional onsite processes. Production timescales can be easily predicted, allowing for accurate scheduling and improved site logistics.

The shells of individual housing units can typically be erected in around two weeks by a small team of site operatives with lightweight lifting machinery. Once a breather membrane is applied and windows and doors fitted, work can then begin on internal fit-out, further speeding up the construction process.

SIPs can also support a wide range of facades including timber cladding, brick slips and renders to meet project requirements.

### Looking ahead

In March, the Passivhaus Trust published its recommendations for the Scottish standard. These called for the standard to be based on the full Passivhaus, adapted into a Scottish-owned version including local weather data. It also suggested a phased transition, allowing time for upskilling, with buildings being accepted as "deemed to satisfy" the new standards by January 2025. Use of established technologies, such as SIPs, can support this transition – helping project teams to meet these ambitious timelines.

*Jonathan Ducker is head of regulatory affairs at Kingspan Insulation*



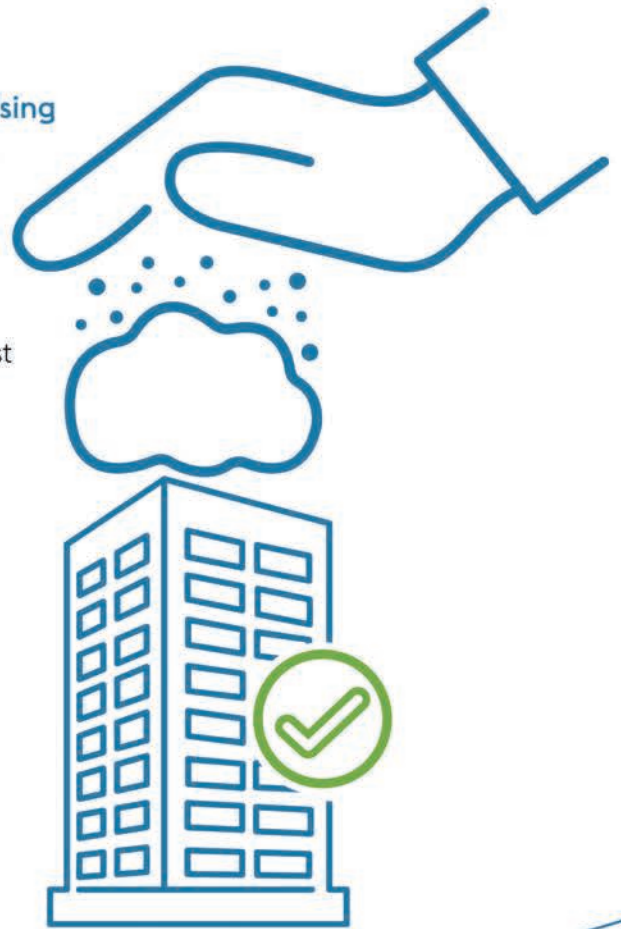
# REDUCING CONSTRUCTION'S CARBON FOOTPRINT

## TRUST METSEC

**Metsec Decarb, a range of Dry Lining and SFS sections utilising the very latest steel making technology. Reducing the CO<sub>2</sub> and carbon footprint of your next project.**

The range uses steel made from new, state of the art electric arc furnaces the alternative to burning fossil fuels, in the traditional blast furnace method. It's that simple. Giving significant reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> that can be balanced against the 30 year London Plan offset charges, or to help achieve the ever increasing sustainability project targets.

- » No greenwashing
- » No mass balance approach
- » No carbon offsetting
- » No allocation of green energy
- » Project specific Environmental Product Declarations available which accurately calculate the project savings on embodied carbon
- » CO<sub>2</sub> savings on top of Metsecs SFS 30 year MetWall perform through the wall warranty
- » Comprehensive library of fire testing for both product ranges
- » Metsec Decarb also available through CCF – Tradeline and SIG – Speedline ranges of dry lining profiles.



#TRUST METSEC

voestalpine Metsec plc  
www.metsec.com

voestalpine  
ONE STEP AHEAD.

# Putting fire safety in the frame

## **A2** protect FrameSafe<sup>FR</sup>

**High performance, Class A2 external  
flame retardant breather membrane**

Fire protection in the design and construction of buildings is paramount. That's why we've used our 40 year industry experience to meticulously develop a new fire rated wall membrane, exceeding Building Regulations Part B requirements.

Protect FrameSafe FR is independently fire tested and achieves Class A2 reaction to fire, both free hanging and as part of a system with sealing tape.

Providing up to six months' UV exposure to suit all building heights, it's time to choose the hidden protector you can trust.



**Class  
A2-s1, d0**

free hanging or  
onto substrate\*

**glidevale  
protect**

**building  
product design**

\*For technical fixing details, fire classification test reports and substrate information for Protect FrameSafe FR, contact us on +44 (0)161 905 5700 or e-mail [info@glidevaleprotect.com](mailto:info@glidevaleprotect.com)

[www.glidevaleprotect.com/framesafe](http://www.glidevaleprotect.com/framesafe)



# Advanced's Fire Protection installed in the heart of Birmingham

Fire protection solutions manufacturer, Advanced, has supplied intelligent fire panels and evacuation alert systems to a mixed-use development at the prestigious One Victoria Square, and adjoining One Swallow Street, as part of a major refurbishment to grade A specification.

One Victoria Square fronts onto one of Birmingham's most high profile and iconic squares and the gateway to the Central Business District. A mixed-use development, it has multiple levels containing mainly office space, with a retail unit on the ground floor. Meanwhile the adjoining One Swallow Street also has multiple levels but offers residential apartments.

Advanced's high-performance, fault-tolerant MxPro 5 analogue addressable panels were chosen to provide industry-leading protection to all levels at One Victoria Square and the linked building One Swallow Street. In addition, One Swallow Street also benefits from BS 8629-compliant EvacGo

evacuation alert systems which were installed to help keep residents safe.

Fire safety specialists, Gem Fire Solutions was involved in the project from design through to commissioning. They installed eight networked MxPro 5 fire panels along with an Advanced graphics system and Apollo devices across both buildings. In One Swallow Street three EvacGo evacuation alert systems were also installed along with Hyfire sounders.

Jamie Dyer, Gem Fire Solutions, said: "As a mixed-used development it was important to find a solution that would meet the requirements of both the commercial and residential buildings. Advanced's ability to provide a full package of fire panels, graphics and evacuation alert systems made the choice simple. The MxPro 5 panels were the ideal solution providing a powerful platform, comprehensive cause and effect options, fast network and user-friendly controls. While the BS 8629-compliant EvacGo evacuation



alert system gives peace of mind that Swallow Street residents can be evacuated safely in an emergency."

Shaun Scott, Emergency Evacuation Systems Application Engineer at Advanced, said: "We offer our customers an extensive range of fire protection solutions to meet the demands of a wide variety of commercial and high-rise residential settings. Our MxPro 5 panels are designed to make life as easy as possible, delivering robust protection that offers real peace of mind, all backed up by our highly rated technical support."

0345 894 7000 [www.advancedco.com](http://www.advancedco.com)

## FIREFLY® products protecting Britain's premier glasshouse business



Thanet Earth is the UK's leading producer of salad vegetables, where an estimated 400 million tomatoes and 30 million cucumbers are grown every year: with the initial processing and packaging being carried out in a facility whose 900 m<sup>2</sup> roof structure has had its fire protection upgraded using products from the range of FIREFLY®. The specialist contractor involved, London based CA Fire Protection, is a regular user of FIREFLY® and called in the manufacturer's local Technical Sales Manager for advice when it was invited to tender for the challenging retrofit project. Following a detailed site inspection and discussions, FIREFLY® Zeus Horizontal was specified in combination with FIREFLY® Collaroll and FIREFLY® Penowrap to offer continuous 60-minute protection across the soffit, which features numerous down-stands and building services installations. The FIREFLY® Penowrap and FIREFLY® Collaroll were employed to ensure continuity around roof beams as well as the hangers for the cable trays and other services. The lightweight and flexible FIREFLY® Penowrap has been developed to complement other FIREFLY® fire barrier systems.

01706 758817 [www.tbafirefly.com](http://www.tbafirefly.com)

Follow adf on LinkedIn

LINKEDIN.COM/SHOWCASE/ARCHITECTS-DATAFILE-ADF

# Vicaima Fire Doors: Safety and Innovation in harmony

In the realm of fire safety, Vicaima has established itself as a leading manufacturer of fire doors, setting new standards in the industry. With a commitment to quality and performance, Vicaima has consistently demonstrated its ability to produce fire doors that not only meet but exceed industry norms.

Vicaima's fire doors form a significant part of the 2 million doors produced annually in their factory. The company's unique approach to construction sets it apart from the competition. Instead of using door blanks, Vicaima focuses on traditional construction with the Vicaima Solid Core, providing a more secure base for the fitting of essential ironmongery and a key reason why installers and post-installation inspectors have greater confidence when assessing a Vicaima fire door or doorset product.

The company's dedication to innovation is evident in its extensive range of doorset and kit solutions. These products, under the Easi-Fit and Portaro brands, are designed to create a complete, fully tested assembly, not only encompassing fire performance, but with security and acoustics where required. This approach is increasingly advocated by government and industry as the way to ensure the whole system is safe and compliant.

## Golden Thread

Vicaima applies the principles of the Golden Thread through its commitment to quality, innovation, and sustainability. The Golden Thread is a concept that refers to maintaining a consistent approach to quality and performance throughout a product's lifecycle, from design to delivery and beyond.

Innovation is another key aspect of the Golden Thread, and Vicaima is a leader in this area. The company's unique approach to door construction, a focus on trend-



setting design, and its extensive range of fire performance solutions, all demonstrate its dedication to future market needs.

## Ai Innovation

In an era where flexible working is increasingly the norm and technological advancement moves at an ever-increasing pace, this year sees the launch of Vicaima24/7. This Ai driven chatbot is on hand 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, guiding users to a wealth of information spread across installation instructions, maintenance advice, technical datasheets, and many other resources, thus ensuring queries are handled efficiently and effectively.

## Traceability

Traceability is a key feature of Vicaima fire doors. This is achieved through unique ink-jet markings on the top edge of the door. These markings help to identify the Vicaima Door model/range, performance, finish, dimensions, and core. Additional data relating to its SKU or product code, manufacturing batch number, and year of manufacture code are also included.

Furthermore, Vicaima fire doors carry tamper-evident labels and/or BM TRADA

Q-Mark plugs, depending on the performance specification. These labels and plugs, along with the Vicaima manufacturing codes, provide complete visibility to important information both at the time of installation and throughout the product's lifecycle.

## Sustainability / ESG

The Vicaima Group is committed, within the framework of the ESG (Environment, Social and Corporate Governance) criteria, to making its contribution towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) defined by the United Nations.

Vicaima acts with the responsibility of providing the market with solutions that have a reduced impact on the environment, are accessible to all and ensure people's safety and well-being and contributing to a more inclusive way of living.

As we look to the future, Vicaima continues to lead the way in fire safety. Regardless of what regulatory changes may come, Vicaima is committed to providing appropriate solutions and being the first choice for a safer tomorrow.

[technical@vicaima.com](mailto:technical@vicaima.com)  
[www.vicaima.com](http://www.vicaima.com)

Furniture

Surfaces


# cdw

the UK's leading design festival

Lighting

& more

21-23  
may

 @clerkenwelldesignweek  cdwfestival  clerkenwell.design.week  
 @clerkenwelldesignweek  #cdw2024  clerkenwelldesignweek.com



# IMAGINE FACADES BEYOND LIMITS

The TENTAL facade gives you the freedom to unleash your creativity while significantly reducing environmental impact. Thanks to its recycled aluminium and extremely low thermal transmission, it offers you one of the industry's lowest carbon footprints for your next project.

So not only can you imagine the world you want, you can build it too.

**IMAGINE WHAT'S NEXT**



By  Hydro