

building construction design

www.buildingconstructiondesign.co.uk

AUTUMN 2025

Appointments & news	02
Interiors	11
Exteriors	20

Cover image: PWS
See page 13 for details

Delivering interior moisture protection with Knauf and CCF



With increasing pressure on housebuilders to deliver high quality homes quickly and efficiently, reliable access to performance-led interior building products is essential. That's why CCF, one of the UK's leading distributors of insulation and drylining solutions, partners with manufacturers like Knauf to supply systems that support durability, moisture management and ease of installation.

Among these is Knauf AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Indoor, which can be used as part of a fully warranted system engineered for use in wet and humid environments.

PERFORMANCE WHERE IT'S NEEDED MOST

Moisture management is a critical consideration in the design of modern homes and residential developments. From stylish wet rooms to traditional family bathrooms, modern kitchen areas and even communal swimming pool facilities, residential buildings face a number of challenges in this area and all specified building materials must tolerate prolonged humidity, water exposure and cleaning agents. Using unsuitable components can lead to swelling, mould or even long-term structural issues.

Knauf AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Indoor is designed to overcome these challenges head on. Manufactured from inorganic compounds, the boards are unaffected by water and prevent mould growth, it gives a stable and durable substrate in moisture-prone areas. It has undergone rigorous testing to validate its resistance, helping to support healthier, longer-lasting interiors.



SYSTEM-BASED PROTECTION

Knauf's AQUAPANEL® Interior System includes tailored solutions for both partitions and ceilings. AQUAPANEL® Indoor boards can be used as tile backers in wet zones such as kitchens, utility areas and bathrooms. They resist moisture, chlorine and salt, making them suitable for high-humidity conditions and are as much at home in a single residential dwelling as they are in communal leisure spaces.

For overhead applications, Knauf's ceiling system combines AQUAPANEL® Skylite boards with a full range of supporting C5 metal framing, jointing and skimming products. This integrated system provides a lightweight and moisture-resistant solution for demanding environments with each component designed to work together, ensuring consistency across the build.

EFFICIENT INSTALLATION FOR FASTER RESULTS

Knauf AQUAPANEL® boards also support efficient on-site handling. They can be cut using

a simple score-and-snap method, with no need for power tools or dust extraction. Pre-drilling isn't required, helping to further speed up the installation process.

With a standard thickness of 12.5 mm, AQUAPANEL® Cement Board Indoor aligns with UK plasterboard dimensions for easier integration. Their strength also supports flexibility as by using standard methods, tiles up to 50kg/m² can be applied, rising to 120kg/m² with closer stud centres. A one-metre bending radius further enables bespoke and creative, curved designs.

PARTNERSHIP AND PRODUCT SUPPORT

By choosing Knauf AQUAPANEL® from CCF, installers on all project types gain access to a proven moisture-resistant solution which is backed by full technical guidance and a consistent nationwide supply. With dependable nationwide stock availability, local branches that understand your timelines, and a dedicated technical team offering product guidance and installation insight, CCF is an established distribution partner to many of the UK's housebuilders and developers and is here to help keep your projects on track.

For full product details, installation guidance and warranty information, please visit the website.

0161 848 0145
www.ccfstd.co.uk/blog/product-news/knauf-aquapanel-indoor

SIMONSWERK UK strengthens sales leadership with new appointment

Leading hinge system manufacturer SIMONSWERK UK has announced the appointment of Andrew Kite as head of sales. The appointment represents a strategic move to strengthen the company's presence in the UK market as it continues to expand its premium door hardware solutions.

Andrew brings over a decade of strategic sales leadership experience from the kitchen industry, having worked with some of the sector's most prominent names. His career began with the Franke Group in the UK through their Future Leaders Programme, where he progressed from sales manager to national sales manager, leading the UK Projects Channel.

Subsequently, Andrew played a key role in launching the House of Rohl in the UK, consolidating four unique British heritage brands under a single umbrella for Fortune Brands. Most recently, he served as Head of Sales at Omega Kitchens, a leading British kitchen furniture manufacturer.



"I'm thrilled to be joining SIMONSWERK at such an exciting time in the company's development," says Andrew. "The company's reputation for premium quality and innovation in hinge systems, combined with their strong heritage of over 135 years in European manufacturing, makes this an ideal

opportunity for me to apply my experience in a new sector. The parallels between the kitchen industry and the door hardware market are significant, particularly when it comes to serving discerning customers who demand both aesthetic excellence and functional performance."

Andrew's appointment comes as SIMONSWERK continues to build on its strong UK presence, with manufacturing operations in Tipton dating back to 1977. The company has established itself as a leader in premium hinge solutions across multiple applications, from traditional timber and PVCu doors to sophisticated glass door systems and the innovative TECTUS concealed hinge range.

In his new role, Andrew will work closely with the existing UK team to drive continued growth and strengthen SIMONSWERK's market position.

01215 222848 www.simonswerk.co.uk

Balancing conservation, re-purposing and modern tourism

Sustainable construction extends through to the detail of air distribution in Edinburgh's latest hotel The Resident Edinburgh.

Winner of the Retrofit category at the 2025 Scottish Design Award, the modern venue demonstrates effective re-purposing of a 1950s office building that was no longer fit for purpose in today's commercial environment with low ceiling heights, multiple columns and cellular layout.

MLA Architects' design, implemented by Morrison Construction, has delivered 164 bedrooms with reception, lounge and bar across four storeys. Redevelopment instead of demolition and rebuilding has achieved a 40% reduction in embodied carbon emissions.

The sustainability of the project extends further. Building services consultant Rybka specified the use of mechanical ventilation with heat recovery throughout, using localised in-room units for the bedrooms



and a centralised, basement-level unit for the public spaces. To deliver fresh air and extract the used air, Rybka chose Gilberts' swirl diffusers and linear bar grilles. The ventilation units are manufactured from 100% mild steel- the most recycled material in the world.

Installed by contractor March Engineering, Gilberts' ventilation units ensure rapid entrainment and intermixing into the

space and smooth extraction of used air to maintain a comfortable, draught- and odour-free environment for guests.

Gilberts also supplied the facade and penthouse louvres to supply air for the air conditioning plant.

Explained Barry McKenna, associate mechanical engineer at Rybka and lead consultant on the project: "Being mindful of the client's standards of quality and desire to be environmentally responsible, we chose Gilberts to support us on the project. We have always found them to be a manufacturer that guarantees quality and responsive in technical support."

Gilberts has a proven track record in supporting creation of a relaxing, odour-free ambience within hospitality venues beyond Scotland, including Radisson RED, The Social Hub, Premier Inn, Grantley Hall and Carden Park.

01253 766911 info@gilbertsblackpool.com



19-20 November
Excel London

elementalLONDON debuts!



This new exhibition for London is focused on the twin aims of advancing building efficiency and decarbonisation

ElementalLONDON is a new event coming to London's Excel on 19-20 November 2025. This new exhibition for London is focused on the twin aims of advancing building efficiency and decarbonisation.

The 4,000 attendees expected at elementalLONDON encompass a variety of roles and disciplines across commercial and residential buildings. The common thread across a community of decision makers who are responsible for the reduction of energy use and carbon emissions in the built environment. Here are the key reasons why you should attend.

Engaging speaker programme

The two-day programme of thought-provoking and informative content includes

five theatres and over 200 expert speakers from government, industry and academia.

The elemental Arena will feature keynote speakers and lively debates on decarbonising the built environment and the National Home Improvement Council (NHIC) Knowledge Hub will cover everything you need to know about housing, from the Future Homes Standard to the Warm Homes Plan and anything in between. The Climate Solutions Theatre will showcase heating and cooling issues and solutions in commercial and public buildings, a key area of decarbonisation.

Peer-to-peer learning will also play a key role in the programme, with visitors given the chance to collaborate with others, share knowledge and exchange ideas from their own projects and challenges, which will help ensure better outcomes for all.

Renowned architect Michael Pawlyn has signed up to speak on 20 November. He set up architecture practice Exploration in 2007 to focus on high-performance buildings and the circular economy after previously working with the late Nicholas Grimshaw on the Eden Project.

Pawlyn joins a growing list of speakers from across the building supply chain. Some confirmed speakers so far include:

- Phil Steele, future technologies evangelist, Octopus Energy
- Ben Cross, managing partner, More
- Marcella Ucci, professor in healthy & sustainable buildings, UCL
- Jess Hrivnak, sustainability lead, RIBA
- Janet Smith, head of sustainability, The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
- Shabna Hayes, regional director, AECOM
- Freya Scott, public health engineer, Arup
- Anna Thompson, head of engagement, LABC
- Craig Robertson, associate director & head of sustainability, AHMM

The event programme is fully CPD certified by The CPD Group, so visitors can collect CPD points by attending sessions hosted by our engaging and insightful speakers. Keep your eyes peeled for the full event timetable which will be revealed soon.

Big name exhibitors

elementalLONDON will feature over 200 exhibitors across a wide variety of key industry sectors.

Exhibitors at the event include leading brands operating in the built environment industry, with a wide selection of heating, cooling, ventilation, renewable energy and building management systems and controls suppliers, and more. Key exhibitors already signed up include:

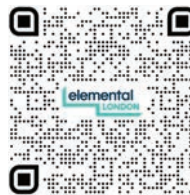
- Samsung Climate Solutions
- Mitsubishi Electric
- Baxi
- Mixergy
- Danfoss
- Panasonic
- Geberit
- Resideo

A full list of exhibitors is available, but make sure to follow elementalLONDON on



LinkedIn for all the latest announcements of who's attending.

To register for your free ticket to elementalLONDON, please scan the QR Code or visit elementallondon.show for more information.



Article supplied by
elementalLONDON

Freefoam unveils ambitious sustainability targets

Freefoam, a leading manufacturer of innovative building products, has announced its Sustainability Targets as part of a comprehensive strategy aimed at creating long-term value for stakeholders while addressing environmental and social challenges.

Freefoam have always been at the forefront of best practice and continuous improvement, holding ISO's 9001, 14001 and 45001 in addition to an Ecovadis rating in the top 6% of companies. These goals are the natural extension to Freefoam's long-standing commitment to quality and sustainability.

The newly unveiled targets are designed to be achieved by the end of 2030, unless otherwise specified, and focus on two key categories: Operations and People. These initiatives underscore Freefoam's commitment to responsible business practices and align with its vision for a more sustainable future.

Under Operations, Freefoam is taking significant steps to reduce its carbon footprint, with goals to cut Direct and Indirect emissions by 15% from a 2022 baseline. Water conservation is another critical focus, with aims to reduce mains water usage by 30% and implement closed-loop water systems in all manufacturing plants by 2027. Additionally, Freefoam is working towards zero waste to landfill by 2030 and a 15% reduction in general waste.

On the energy front, the company plans to transition entirely to renewable electricity and eliminate reliance on non-Bio LPG fuels for



forklift operations.

In the People category, Freefoam is prioritizing employee wellbeing, safety, and development. The company has committed to reducing its Annual Injury Incident Rate (AIIR) by 10% year-on-year and ensuring each employee receives at least 18 hours of training per year by 2027. Furthermore, 5% of the workforce will be placed on structured training pathways, including graduate, apprenticeship, and work experience programs.

Ethical standards also remain a top priority, with targets to ensure 100% of employees with

company email accounts receive IT security awareness training and to maintain a zero-tolerance policy toward corruption and bribery.

"These targets represent a bold step forward in embedding sustainability into the core of our business," said Aidan Harte, CEO "The simplicity of our goals gives us transparency and ensures they are relevant and clear to our teams and our customers. By acting today, we are building a stronger, more resilient company for tomorrow."

01604 591110 www.freefoam.com

Civils & Lintels unveils new underground drainage range

Civils & Lintels, part of the Huws Gray group of companies, has launched its own brand of underground drainage products to better support contractors who require open-spec solutions.

Centurion, as the range is known, has been



developed as the ideal 'open specification' solution, suitable for both public and private sector contractors, where quality and value remain paramount. Centurion sits alongside C&L's existing essentials range.

Commenting, Chris Brewster, commercial director at Civils & Lintels, said: "This is an exciting opportunity to fulfil our customer's open-spec requirements, whilst continuing to deliver the quality and value that they've come to expect.

"Importantly, every product in the Centurion range is compliant with necessary industry standards, including BS EN 1401 and BS EN 13598-1 where relevant, and is available 'ex-stock' across Civils & Lintel's nationwide network of depots."

The Centurion underground drainage range is comprised of a full range of 110mm and 160 mm pipes and fittings, plus shallow inspection chambers to suit. Safe and easy to install, Centurion offers optimum drainage performance for an efficient and professional finish.

Concluding, Chris Brewster said: "We had witnessed an increase in the number of open-spec requirements from our customers but could only offer them the same solutions that would be available in a specified order. In parallel with this, an increasingly competitive marketplace left many customers uncertain of which was the best option for them, often opting for the same solution that they would in

Centurion Underground Drainage



a specified situation.

"By investing in our own range of underground drainage products we're providing those customers with both choice and guidance and feel confident that these products will be positively received by both our existing and future customers."

marketing@huwsgray.co.uk
www.civilsandlintels.co.uk

New acoustic floor systems set to improve residential spaces

Saint-Gobain Weber and REGUPOL in partnership with CMS Danskin Acoustics have collaborated to develop, test and launch a suite of new impact sound insulation floor systems designed to reduce sound transmission. The new 'weberfloor acoustic systems' are set to help meet acoustics targets across both new residential construction and refurbishment schemes.

Aimed at making acoustic floor system specification more straightforward for architects, acousticians, contractors and installers who are designing and delivering residential developments where controlling impact sound is required or desired, the new weberfloor acoustic systems work with most floor finishes, such as LVT, sheet vinyl, laminate, timber, ceramic tiles and carpet.

The collaboration draws together Weber's flooring screed expertise developed over more than 40 years, REGUPOL's cutting-edge acoustic product technology and the strengths of leading acoustic insulation supplier CMS Danskin Acoustics. The capabilities of the three respected brands have been combined to offer this new, wide range of fully tested acoustic flooring options.

Fully tested for compatibility, the weberfloor acoustic systems unite Weber screeds and smoothing/levelling compounds with REGUPOL impact sound insulating membranes for both under screed and over screed applications to reduce noise transmission. Each component of



the system is equally important in achieving the specified acoustic performance.

Acoustic under screed and over screed system product selectors are clearly outlined in Weber's new Acoustic Flooring Solutions brochure, which can be downloaded at the company's website. The systems are also shown on CMS Danskin Acoustics' website. Product specific technical data sheets are available from Weber and from CMS Danskin.

The weberfloor acoustic systems are supported by a fully trained team of specification and technical managers who can guide clients throughout their specification and installation journey.

Training, including CPD modules for architects and installers, will be announced shortly.

www.uk.weber/weberfloor-acoustic-systems
www.cmsdanskin.co.uk/weber



Marmox's silver jubilee a roaring success

At the big Cat Sanctuary in Kent, around 50 of Marmox's staff and family gathered to relax and celebrate the company's 25 years in business. After visiting Lions, Tigers, Pumas, Jaguars, Cheetahs and Leopards, they enjoyed a buffet lunch before founder Harry Parsons cut a cake suitably decorated with the company logo and gave a short speech on, as he put it, 'how it all started.' This was followed by Sarah Viney, Harry's daughter and managing director and her brother Jonathan Parsons who is business development director, together with long time member of the Marmox team, finance director, Richard Kent-Smith presenting certificates to many long serving employees and as an extra thank you, under each guest's glass on the dining table was a lottery ticket – so three lucky winners' prize was to feed the Tigers. While Marmox remains a family business, staff retention across the company's various departments is excellent, with the stability this offers boding well for the future. Here, Sarah sees the industry as shifting towards off-site fabrication, in the knowledge Marmox is well placed to respond.

01634 835290 www.marmox.co.uk



NEWS FEATURE

Getting it right when tanking a wetroom

Nick Bratt, national technical sales manager for tile adhesive manufacturer Palace Chemicals, outlines the importance of the correct use of materials and good practice, as defined in the relevant British Standards, when it comes to tanking a bathroom or wetroom.

With the continuing growth in popularity of wetrooms, we are seeing a corresponding increase in incidents where the installation has not been satisfactory, and often this is caused by water or moisture getting into the substrate behind the tiles. These issues are very difficult to solve post-installation but can be easily prevented at the design stage by following the guidance contained within the British Standard relating to tiling.

BS 5385-1 2018 states that for all new or refurbished properties, a proprietary tanking system should be used. BS 5385-3, concerning floor tiling, was updated in 2024. One of the key amendments is for direct tiling on to plywood and other wood-based sheets or boards, an intermediate layer, such as an uncoupling membrane, reinforced tanking system or tile backer board should be used, providing the plywood is rigid and stable enough to carry the expected in service load. The new standard also states that timber is not recommended as a suitable substrate for floor tiling in wet, frequently damp, or high humidity areas. For wetroom floors, they should be laid to falls with gradients of between 180° and 135° to ensure that the water flows towards the drain, taking note that a gradient any greater than 135° is unsuitable and possibly dangerous. This requirement impacts on the design of wetrooms in particular since they are subject to repeated and persistent wetting, and a suitable proprietary tanking system should be used prior to tiling. This should be laid continuously around upstands and points where services pass through the floor, to create a seamless seal, so that there is no risk of water leaking through to the substrate.

If using other intermediate substrates, such as moisture resistant boards, the manufacturer's technical data and/or the manufacturer itself should always be consulted, as these would usually state that a tanking system should be used. The recent updated release from NHBC has sparked some controversy due to the wording around flow rates of a shower and moisture resistant boards, as these contravene the British Standards guidance for tanking.

For walls which surround a bath where a shower is not fitted then the substrate should be suitable for the application and moisture resistant.

It is important to recognise that water resistant adhesives and grouts are designed to allow water to pass through them without them breaking down, hence 'water resistant', but are not a substitute for a waterproof tanking system, as clearly stated in BS 5385 Part 4.

If in doubt, tank it out! That way, any and every project that has wet, frequently damp, or high humidity areas will always have the added insurance policy that there will not be any leaks!

Supplied by Nick Bratt, national technical sales manager for Palace Chemicals

SUPPLIER SPOTLIGHT

WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/SHOWCASE/SUPPLIER-SPOTLIGHT

Sureserve becomes first Aico Platinum Partner, setting benchmark in home life safety

Aico has named Sureserve as its first-ever Platinum Partner, recognising their outstanding commitment to raising standards in home life safety. This prestigious achievement, announced live at Housing 2025 in Manchester, recognises Sureserve's outstanding commitment to compliance, innovation, and excellence in electrical solutions across the UK's housing sector.

The recently launched Platinum Partner initiative is the latest evolution of Aico's dedication to raising industry standards and building long-term, meaningful collaborations. Platinum status is reserved for organisations that meet a diligent set of criteria including technical excellence, quality management, sustainability, and commitment to training.

As the UK's leading energy and compliance services provider to the social housing sector, Sureserve deliver essential heating, renewables, energy efficiency, and compliance solutions. With a national reach that spans local authorities, housing associations, and public sector clients, Sureserve is recognised for its comprehensive services - from fire and gas compliance to smart metering, insulation, and air and water hygiene.

Through close collaboration with Aico, Sureserve has become a standout example of what the Platinum Partner initiative was created to celebrate. The company not only meets but exceeds the required standards, including:

- Aico Gold Standard installer criteria
- Leadership-level participation in Aico's City & Guilds training
- Participation in joint site visits with Aico and clients
- Executive factory engagement at Aico's manufacturing facility
- Verified ISO 9001 accreditation



- Active CSR and sustainability participation
- Ongoing compliance with BS 5839-6

Steve Trafford, sales director at Aico, commented: "Sureserve's achievement as our first Platinum Partner represents the very best of what the initiative stands for - dedication to high standards, continual professional development, and true partnership. Sureserve have a longstanding relationship with the UK social housing sector and an enviable reputation and are helping set a new benchmark in the sector, not just through technical ability but through leadership and vision. We are delighted to announce them as our first Platinum Partner."

Graeme Heanan, managing director of Sureserve Compliance Fire, reflected on the achievement: "We

are privileged to be awarded the inaugural Aico Platinum Partner accreditation. It's a direct result of the close and hugely collaborative relationship between my team and Aico - built on mutual respect, trust, and a shared drive for excellence. Aico's product quality, innovation and support are enablers of our continued growth and exceptional client and resident satisfaction.

This accreditation wasn't easy to achieve - nor should it be. It required a high-level of commitment, it meant myself and my senior leadership team returning to the classroom to achieve Aico's City & Guilds qualification. The team's resilience and ambition made it possible, and I couldn't be prouder. My thanks go to Steve Trafford and the Aico team - together we're making homes and communities safer."

With over 3,700 employees and customers including L&Q Group, Southern Housing Group, Aberdeenshire Council, Haringey Council, and Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Sureserve is also playing a vital role in the decarbonisation of social housing, offering forward-thinking solutions like heat pumps, energy storage, and solar technologies to lower bills, reduce emissions, and create healthier homes.

As Aico continues to champion innovation and safety through its Platinum Partner initiative, Sureserve stands as a powerful example of what is possible when expertise, collaboration and purpose align.

enquiries@aico.co.uk
www.aico.co.uk/contact





NEWS FEATURE

Why tiles are the sustainable choice

Nick Bratt, national technical sales manager for tile adhesive manufacturer Palace Chemicals, describes how tiles should be considered a sustainable option for wall and floor finishes, compared to the alternatives available to specifiers today.

Although various other options are available, tiles have the benefit of a strong sustainability proposition, compared to other types of wall and floor coverings. For a start, they are durable and longlasting, as well as being fireproof, anti-allergenic, waterproof and scratch-resistant, assuming of course that the area is prepared correctly and they are installed using appropriate high quality adhesives and grouts. According to the Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) of Confindustria Ceramica of Italy, which represents the Italian tile manufacturing sector, ceramic tiles have a reference service life of 60 years, well beyond many alternatives. From the point of view of a building specifier who is looking to maximise the energy efficiency of a building, tiles also have the key benefit of adding to the thermal mass of the structure, aiding the retention of heat and minimising its loss through walls and floors. In today's modern builds, underfloor heating is often incorporated into the build-up of floors. Thermal mass, of which tiled surfaces are an important part, combined with the low energy, low heat technologies of underfloor heating, make an important contribution to the modern energy efficient home.

Furthermore, tiles are made from naturally occurring raw materials and are fully recyclable at the end of use. While there is concern about VOCs and chemicals used in tile adhesives, grouts, cleaners and preparation products, the manufacturers of these products have made major changes in their product formulations in recent years to improve the environmental performance of their products. Due to advances in technology, there are now for example lightweight adhesives on the market, which are easier and more sustainable to transport to site, requiring less mixing and involving less weight. They are also designed to provide much improved coverage, reducing material usage during installation. Additionally a new generation of levellers is available nowadays, which use recycled material rather than quarried sand, helping improve the sustainability of floor tiling projects.

It is interesting to note that the tiling sector, through The Tile Association, is now fully committed to ensuring that its materials, methods and processes are helping to achieve sustainable targets by 2050. The main focus is on circular design, meaning that product development should consider the lifecycle of such in order to extend its use. This involves using longlasting materials, reusing offcuts, introducing take-back schemes and recycling old tiles into rubble for other construction uses. These and other initiatives provide reassurance to architects that they can specify tiles and adhesives, secure in the knowledge that they are a more sustainable choice.

Supplied by Nick Bratt, national technical sales manager for Palace Chemicals

elemental
LONDON

19-20 November 25
Excel London

Secure your free ticket to elementalLONDON!

Join elementalLONDON - the event for built environment professionals cutting energy use and carbon emissions. Discover the latest products, solutions and ideas to help you deliver your Net Zero goals, all under one roof.

Featuring

- 5 CPD content areas
- 200+ expert speakers
- 200+ exhibitors

BUILD2
PERFORM



Scan the QR code
to register for your
FREE ticket

Sponsored by

BAXI

DAIKIN Danfoss NIBE GRANT mixergy

Supported by



A2 Boards add to AIM's high impact soffit liner range

High Impact Soffit Liner Boards with Euroclass Reaction to Fire A2-s1,d0 classification are now available from AIM – Acoustic & Insulation Manufacturing. For use with concrete soffits where thermal or acoustic performance is required, the boards offer excellent impact resistance, so providing an insulated lining designed for semi exposed soffits, such as in car parks.

AIM manufactures a variety of non-fire rated High Impact Soffit Liner Boards. Now, the fire, acoustic and thermal insulation specialist has invested in reaction to fire testing for its stonewool backed board, resulting in an A2-s1,d0 classified 'limited combustibility' option to add to the range.

The primary job of a soffit liner is to provide thermal insulation to the soffit typically the ceiling within semi exposed places, including car parks. In such instances there is a requirement that the soffit insulation is protected with a cement board and that the combined product is of limited combustibility.

AIM's A2 High Impact Soffit Liner Boards manufactured with stonewool insulation are classified in accordance with BS EN 13501-1 as A2-s1,d0 'limited combustibility'. This applies to boards of a thickness from 56 mm to 256 mm.

AIM's A2 High Impact Soffit Liner Boards can also be used as internal linings for walls and ceilings. They are available in a wide range of thicknesses and insulation materials to suit the thermal resistance (U Value) required to support the thermal performance of the construction. The AIM Technical Support Team can provide U Value calculations as required.

The boards can also contribute to the overall acoustic performance of the soffit/floor construction. Acoustic testing is covered by Z11012 – Acoustic Performance BS EN ISO 10140-2.

The fibre cement facing board can be easily decorated to match colour schemes. However, decoration would be outside the



scope of the classification report for reaction to fire. Pre-decorated and through coloured facing boards are available but these have not been classified for reaction to fire.

Part of the Performance Technology Group, UK-based AIM – Acoustic & Insulation Manufacturing has over 30 years of experience in the design, testing and manufacturing of high-quality fire, thermal and acoustic barriers. The company produces a wide variety of bespoke insulation products to customer specification and a range of standard products.

01293 582400

www.aimlimited.co.uk/solutions/a2-high-impact-soffit-liner-boards

Beko recognised as one of TIME Magazine's Most Sustainable Companies in the World 2025

Appliance manufacturer Beko has been named one of TIME Magazine's World's Most Sustainable Companies for the second year running, earning a place in the Top 20 and securing the number one position in the industry.

As a supplier to the housebuilding sector, Beko Appliance Partners, the company's dedicated contract specification division, fully recognise their responsibility to support their housebuilder and developer partners' sustainability objectives, and are proud to offer energy and water-efficient products which not only meet, but exceed government regulations.

The annual ranking, developed in partnership with Statista, evaluates more than 5,000 global companies across data-driven KPIs spanning environmental and social stewardship, reporting and transparency. Beko's ranking at No. 17 marks a leap from its 2024 position at No. 44, a rise achieved despite TIME introducing stricter assessment criteria this year.

"The recognition by TIME and Statista proves that sustainability and scale don't have to be at odds," explained Hakan Bulgurlu, CEO of Beko. "We're proud to be the sector leader, not just by intent, but through verifiable progress, smart design, and industry-leading transparency."

Beko's top-tier ranking is a testament to its sustained investment in energy-efficient



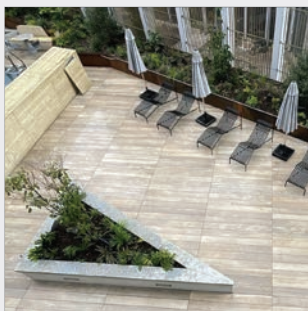
manufacturing, adherence to circular economy principles, and a long-term ESG strategy, manifesting the company's resolve to drive meaningful, measurable impact across its operations.

Bulgurlu concludes, "At Beko, we're embedding environmental responsibility into every layer of our business, from design and

manufacturing to supply chains and the homes we serve. As we continue our journey to net zero by 2050, this milestone affirms the impact of credible data, long-term thinking, and putting sustainability at the centre of how we grow."

appliancepartners@beko.com
appliance-partners.bekopl.com

Dura Composites advises specifiers on meeting high-rise fire regulations



Many specifiers are unaware that the testing and implementation of decking and cladding for buildings over 11 meters can affect their compliance with the Building Safety Act fire regulations. Dura Composites advises on how they can ensure they're meeting current guidelines.

Specifiers can protect themselves by asking the following questions: Is the certificate provider UKAS accredited? Has every component of the product received a fire rating? Different aspects of a product may perform differently. Do the fire rating and test certificate match the field of application? Does the installation guide advise on installation methods to match the field of application? Has the right orientation been tested? Different orientations may impact the fire rating of the product. Have all of the available colours been tested? This may impact its fire rating. Does the fire certificate state which colours are covered, as outlined in section-4 of the field of application?

For more guidance speak to Dura Composites' high-rise decking and cladding team.

info@duracomposites.com www.duracomposites.com

Zest unveils new range of acoustic wall panels



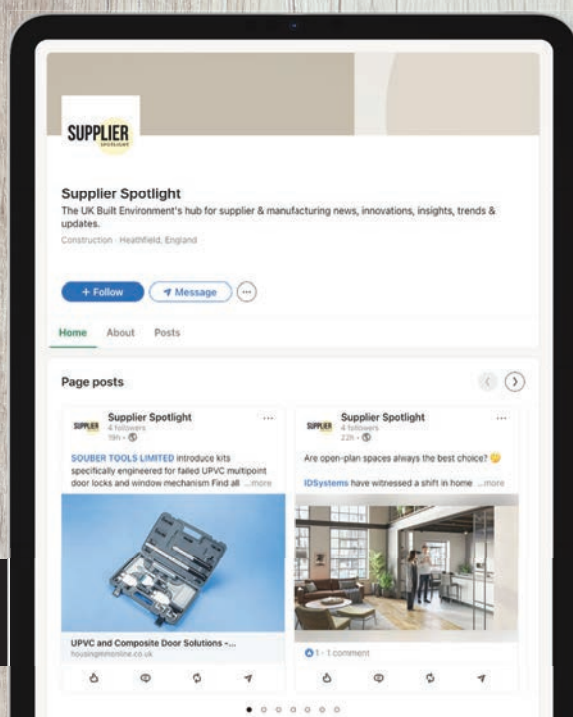
Zest Wall Panels, part of Swish Building Products, has announced an extension to its range with the launch of its new contemporary Acoustic Wall Panels. Manufactured with real wood veneers and rigid, fully recycled plastic backing, these stylish slatted wall panels are specifically designed to absorb noise and improve sound quality. With the real wood veneer covering all three sides of each slat, these panels are beautiful from every angle. They are available in four timeless shades, Washed Oak, Oiled Oak, Ash Grey, and Contemporary Oak, allowing them to blend seamlessly into any style of interior design. Available as single panels and standing 2.6 m high, Zest Acoustic Wall Panels are easy to install and ideally suited to both modern and older properties and any size and shape of space. "An increase in customer demand for a quality product, together with a desire to extend our range led us to create our new Zest Acoustic Wall panels," explains Brian Neville, national account manager, at Zest. "Our aim is to offer a high specification wall panel which beautifully combines style, substance, and sustainability."

01827 317 200 zestwallpanels.co.uk/wall-panels/acoustic-wall-panels

SUPPLIER SPOTLIGHT

**YOUR NEW SOURCE OF MANUFACTURING
INSIGHTS! DISCOVER INNOVATIONS AND
KEY INDUSTRY UPDATES.**

WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/SHOWCASE/SUPPLIER-SPOTLIGHT



HMG's decorative coatings detailed in a new comprehensive guide

HMG Paints have launched their Decorative Coatings Guide, underlining their wealth of expertise in this marketplace to assist the painter in achieving the highest quality results across the whole spectrum of domestic or commercial, contemporary or heritage buildings.

The guide covers both a water-based Vinyl Matt, as well as a Vinyl Silk Emulsion which contains a higher sheen. Both paints are quick drying with excellent colour retention. Acrylic eggshell, also water-based, provides a durable, wipeable finish and Contract Matt Emulsion offers good covering power for new work applications.

The Decorative Coatings Guide also features trim paints in the form of both water-based Gloss and Satin Finishes, plus Acrylic Primer Undercoat, suited to a wide range of substrates.

The HydroPro range of coatings is also detailed. These include a superior, micro-porous multi-surface paint for internal or external use and HydroPro Garden Paint designed to protect fencing sheds and other outdoor features. Also in the range is HydroPro Masonry Paint that gives a tough, hard wearing easy to maintain result.

The latest addition to HMG Paints' growing HydroPro range of products, Floor Paint, is formulated for either interior or exterior use and can be applied to suitably prepared bare

and previously painted floor areas including bedrooms, kitchens, domestic garage, workshop, office, and studio.

It is an innovative, high-performance, single-pack, cross-linking water-based coating, low odour, quick drying with a tough, hard-wearing mid sheen finish available in a choice of 10 colours.

HydroPro Floor Paint is one of three distinct floor coatings recently launched by HMG. The others are Polyurethane Floor Paint and 2K Epoxy HD Floor Paint, details of which are contained in a separate Floor Paint Guide.

The Decorative Coatings brochure contains a handy at-a-glance guide that shows which products are suited for walls, wood and metal; all are suitable for interior use and most for external.

HMG Paints recognise the importance of colour and have used their wealth of experience to create an 'Essentials Colour Collection' a collection of versatile shades. Perfect for any situation. These have been hand-picked by the company's advanced colour stylists and incorporate both a number of classic shades along with newly developed colours at the forefront of modern trends.

Decorators interested in trying out any of HMG Paint's floor paint products for themselves can visit HMG's online e-commerce store at



shop.hmgpaint.com for an online discount.

By using the exclusive code PNDPRO25, decorators can get themselves 25% off all floor paint, online only.

The HMG Decorative Coatings Guide is available both online and direct and can also be found at many of HMG's local distributors. You can obtain a copy of HMG's Decorative Coatings Guide via the website below.

Manchester-based HMG are the UK's leading independent paint company, whose expertise dates back to the company's founding in 1930. All of HMG's products are made in Britain.

0161 205 7631

shop.hmgpaint.com/products/decorative-coatings-guide

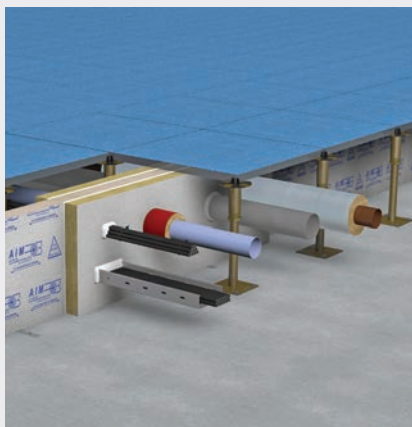
AIM raised access floor barrier system facilitates services

Installers are often faced with the challenge of maintaining fire barrier integrity when passing services through raised access floors. AIM – Acoustic & Insulation Manufacturing's new technical solution combines its Raised Access Floor Barrier (RAFB) with Rockwool Ablative Batts to provide a tested, cost-effective solution.

RAFBs prevent the passage of flame and smoke through underfloor cavities for at least the period of fire rating specified. The AIM RAFB is used to subdivide large uninterrupted cavities, maintain partition fire ratings when aligned under a partition, reduce flanking transmission of sound through underfloor voids and create plenum chambers.

However, passing services, including cable trays and pipes, through the RAFB can compromise the barrier's vital primary function if not completed in line with the manufacturer's standard tested details.

Now, AIM provides installers, specifiers, fire consultants and RAF system holders



with a solution. When penetration is required to pass services through the AIM RAFB, two Rockwool FirePro® Coated Batts, the same height as the AIM RAFB, are placed on either side of the barrier. The services

are passed through both the RAFB and ablative batts with any small gaps around the penetrating component filled with Rockwool FirePro® Acoustic Sealant, pipe sleeves and pipe closers.

The AIM RAFB is tested to BS EN 1366-4 and the principles of TR31 and can provide up to 120 minutes integrity and insulation. The addition of Rockwool Ablative Batts, to allow services to penetrate the barrier, does not denigrate or reduce the overall fire resistance of the AIM RAFB.

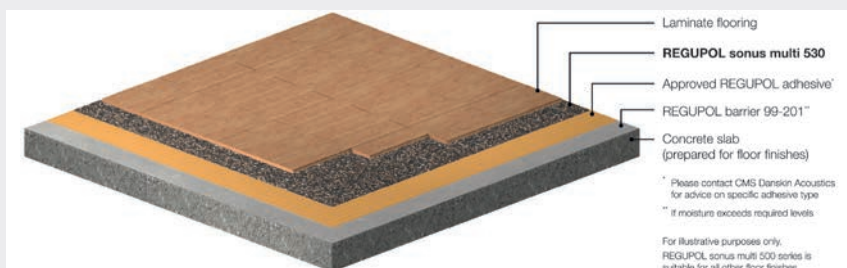
An additional advantage of AIM's new solution is that the services do not need to be installed as the barrier is installed. The Ablative Batt and services can be installed at a later date providing a retrofit solution.

The AIM RAFB datasheet is available at www.aimlimited.co.uk/solutions/raised-access-floor-barrier

01293 582400

www.aimlimited.co.uk

CMS Danskin acoustics launches improved acoustic underlay



CMS Danskin Acoustics' new acoustic underlay REGUPOL sonus multi 500 series provides excellent acoustic performance, contains a higher percentage of recycled material and offers a commercial advantage over previous REGUPOL variants.

Available in the UK from CMS Danskin Acoustics, and its merchants and distributors, the REGUPOL acoustic underlayment is available as sonus multi 530 (3 mm) and sonus multi 545 (4.5 mm). Developed to attenuate impact sound beneath a range of floor finishes, including vinyl sheeting, LVT and tiled floors such as ceramic, granite, stone and marble, sonus multi 500 offers long term performance without collapse or bottoming.

As with the earlier products, REGUPOL sonus multi 530 and 545 demonstrate compliance to Approved Document E (England & Wales), Technical Booklet G (Northern Ireland) and Section 5 (Scotland).

New REGUPOL sonus multi 500 is

manufactured using post-consumer recycled materials with material content @ 90% recycle @ 10% PU binder ref: EPD-REG-20230194-IBC1-EN as per ISO 14025 AND EN 15804+A2.

In another step change, REGUPOL sonus multi 500 is to be supplied as rolls without cardboard cores, reducing shipping weight and eliminating site disposal of cardboard. This can help to reduce transportation emissions, and, most significantly, it will reduce waste from site compared to its predecessors.

"We have basically improved what was already a high performing acoustic underlayment in REGUPOL sonus multi taking into account the needs of the market," explains UK REGUPOL consultant Jamie Symons. "The investment means the new REGUPOL sonus multi 500 series gives improved performance, dependent upon floor finish and system build-up, gives a commercial advantage over previous REGUPOL variants and has a greater recycled material content."

Andy Hayes, technical manager at CMS Danskin Acoustics and Associate Member of the IoA, comments: "This development makes it easier for our customers to choose the right acoustic underlayment to deliver acoustic performance while having the advantage of being commercially attractive."

"With improved price stability due to the availability of the raw materials, REGUPOL sonus multi 500 series does not contain any rubber, removing concern over plasticiser migration. The recycled content of REGUPOL sonus multi 500 series is now 90%, compared with sonus multi and sonus eco at 72% and 87% respectively."

The new acoustic underlay has tested successfully for compatibility with approved REGUPOL adhesives.

New Product Data Sheets and Installation Guidelines are available on the website.

01925 577711 www.cmsdanskin.co.uk

PWS expands the Mornington door family with the new Mornington Beaded Vale

A leading distributor of kitchen and bedroom components, PWS, has announced the expansion of its best-selling Mornington shaker door family to introduce the new Mornington Beaded Vale.



The Mornington Beaded Vale provides a new in-frame effect option for kitchens, ideal for achieving a timeless, traditional look. The Beaded Vale design features an elegant and ornate internal bead, classic for a shaker style, combined with in-frame effect detailing and a distinctive ash grain texture. The result is a high-quality and affordable alternative to an authentic in-frame door.

Available from stock as sanded and in 35 Paint-to-order colours, the Mornington Beaded Vale is also offered in an extended palette of 12 colours from PWS's new Paint Plus Service. Responding to growing demand, PWS announced the expansion of its successful Paint Plus Service – including new colours Copse Green and Fawn – to give customers greater flexibility and value when designing their ideal kitchen.

From the softer tones of Porcelain and Dove Grey to the deeper Regiment and Graphite shades, the service allows customers to order a selection of popular paint colours, for the price of a stocked door family.

Alongside a comprehensive, flexible and extensive choice of stocked products, PWS offers its customers unrivalled commitment to quality, functionality and aesthetic appeal.

01325 505 599
www.pws.co.uk



The natural and technological unite at the NQCC

The new £33m National Quantum Computing Centre (NQCC) in Harwell, Oxfordshire, is a landmark laboratory created to drive quantum technologies for the future. Not only is the facility state-of-the-art in terms of technology but also in design.

Rated BREEAM Excellent, architects Hawkins\Brown has conceived a dynamic and versatile work environment designed to deliver transformative results. At the building's heart are non-laboratory spaces full of open-plan areas for collaborative working, interaction and innovation. These are centred around a high linear atrium and link off to adjacent laboratories and the 12 quantum computers.

At every stage of the design and specification, careful thought and diligence was given to the choice of materials, ensuring that the building uses products which minimise its carbon footprint, harness natural energy and provide a calm

and inviting space for its users. To control sound reverberation from the open areas and hard surfaces, Troldekt's wood wool acoustic panels were specified as floating clouds above the open break-out spaces and within the meeting rooms. These effectively maintain acoustic levels, leading to a more productive environment and promoting a healthy indoor climate.

Troldekt's wood wool acoustic panels are Cradle to Cradle Certified® at Gold level and manufactured using wood from certified forests (PEFC/09-31-030 and FSC®C115450), positively contributing to a building's BREEAM, WELL or LEED points. Panels can also be manufactured with FUTURECEM® which achieves an approx. 30 per cent lower carbon footprint than that of Troldekt based on white cement. Depending on the panel specified, reaction to fire is classed in accordance with EN 13501 as B-s1,d0 or A2-s1,d0 respectively.

Available in a wide variety of different



© Jack Hobhouse

structures and colours, they combine optimal sound absorption with an award-winning design. The Troldekt range has a minimum expected life cycle of 50 years coupled with excellent resistance to humidity and tested to meet ball impact standards. Panels can be supplied as natural wood, unpainted based on FUTURECEM™ offering a reduced carbon footprint or finished in almost any RAL or NCS colour.

Samples, case studies and technical guidance are available from Troldekt's website or see product listings on NBS (<https://bit.ly/3vxoTfq>) or Material Bank (www.materialbank.eu).

sales@troldekt.co.uk www.troldekt.co.uk

New HQ provides a test-bed for circular economy principles

Unusual Rigging, the bespoke rigging company specialising in providing services for theatres, film, TV and museums is flying high with its new HQ in Bugbrooke, Northamptonshire. Designed by Corstorphine & Wright, the building is a test-bed project for circular economy principles and low-carbon design and has exceeded all expectations. This approach moves away from traditional linear building concepts of take, make, use and dispose to a more circular methodology of using materials with low embodied carbon and which can be dismantled and reused at end of life.

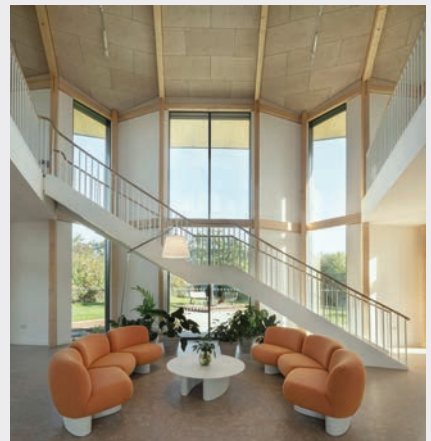
The building was designed to Passivhaus principles and includes a glulam and timber frame envelope with the interior fit-out, also by Corstorphine & Wright, focusing on materials selected for high performance and durability, coupled with Cradle to Cradle certification where possible and their potential for reuse or recycling. For this reason, Troldekt wood wool acoustic

panels were specified across the entirety of the first floor.

The panels help to control the sound reverberation from the hard surfaces and double-height atrium, improving comfort and wellbeing for the building's users and providing a visually appealing surface in an unpainted finish.

Troldekt's wood wool acoustic panels are Cradle to Cradle Certified® at Gold level and manufactured using wood from certified forests (PEFC/09-31-030 and FSC®C115450), positively contributing to a building's BREEAM, WELL or LEED points. Panels can also be manufactured with FUTURECEM® which achieves an approx. 30 per cent lower carbon footprint than that of Troldekt based on white cement. Depending on the panel specified, reaction to fire is classed in accordance with EN 13501 as B-s1,d0 or A2-s1,d0 respectively.

Available in a wide variety of different structures and colours, they combine optimal



sound absorption with an award-winning design. The Troldekt range has a minimum expected life cycle of 50 years coupled with excellent resistance to humidity and tested to meet ball impact standards. Panels can be supplied as natural wood, unpainted based on FUTURECEM™ offering a reduced carbon footprint or finished in almost any RAL or NCS colour.

www.troldekt.co.uk bit.ly/3vxoTfq

Procheck® A2 membrane delivers speed and performance on Birmingham regeneration project

Occupants of Moda Living's 722-home build-to-rent scheme at Great Charles Street in Birmingham will soon enjoy the thermal comfort benefits of airtight building fabric, thanks to installation of the A. Proctor Group's Procheck® A2 membrane.

As of April 2025, work is well under way by Titan Interior Solutions (part of the Horbury Group) to complete the membrane installation as part of the full internal fit out package on blocks B and C of the project.

INTERNAL AIRTIGHTNESS LINE PUTS ONUS ON PRODUCT HANDLING AND EASE OF INSTALLATION

The 16-storey block B and the 5/6-storey block C of Great Charles Street both feature a concrete frame with brickwork finish. This is in contrast to the 39-storey block A, which features a facade build-up and is outside the scope of Titan Interior Solutions' work.

The external wall structure of blocks B and C meant the airtightness line was specified internally. That has required the company to install an air and vapour control layer (AVCL) membrane to the internal face of the walls.

The initial specification package included a different AVCL product, which Titan Interior Solutions began to install. However, as Project Manager Matthew Cockayne explained, it quickly became clear that a change needed to

be requested.

"The original product did not provide the best install. We got feedback from the team on site that it wasn't the easiest to cut or handle," said Matthew. "The decision was made to change to the Procheck A2 membrane and the reviews improved immediately. The installers found it better to use and easier to install, which saved us time. From there, we carried on using it."

Procheck A2 is a vapour and airtight membrane. Its composition gives the membrane a high degree of vapour controlling properties, as well as being airtight, which allows its use as an AVCL and helps contribute to the thermal efficiency of the building due to its' reflective surface. It is also rated A2-s1,d0 when classified to BS EN 13501-1, meaning it is considered limited combustible with no contribution to fire and can be used in relevant buildings and those over 11 m/18 m.

Better handling and faster installation make a big difference on a large project like Great Charles Street. With an internal airtightness line, installers had to work around a lot of penetrations, including ducts, pipes and brackets. In Matthew's words, that's a "nightmare" because any single penetration could be a source of failure when it comes to airtightness testing. A product that cuts and handles well reduces the potential risks of failure.



QUALITY CONTROL DELIVERS CONSISTENT PERFORMANCE

Thorough checking of work has also played a significant role in the delivered results.

"We don't want to take finished walls down to address airtightness failures, so the more people who view the completed installation before it is covered up, the better," said Matthew. "Block managers from main contractor Sisk check all the work. We also had a member of the A. Proctor Group technical team visit site, to comment and report on the installation."

The change in product and the approach to quality control has so far paid dividends. Finished apartments that have been airtightness tested have averaged a result of below 2.0 air changes per hour (ACH) at 50 Pascals pressure.

Compare that to the minimum standard of 5.0 ACH required by the Building Regulations, and it gives an indication of the performance and thermal comfort that eventual occupants can expect to enjoy at Great Charles Street.

01250 872 261

proctorgroup.com/products/procheck-a2

Enhancing the iconic Gosfield Collection with new Taps, Showers & Water Controls

Fitzroy of London is proud to unveil the latest evolution of its signature Gosfield Collection, now enhanced with a full range of Taps, Showers & Water Controls. The launch marks a significant step forward in the brand's mission to deliver cohesive, design-led bathroom solutions that balance elegant aesthetics with outstanding performance.

With the introduction of these new products, the Gosfield Collection becomes a truly complete and unified offering whether for accessible or standard spaces. Featuring beautifully crafted deck and wall-mounted taps, contemporary handheld and overhead shower solutions, shower arms, precise shower mixers, and advanced infrared sensor taps, the range has been thoughtfully designed to ensure a seamless water management solution across all bathroom elements.

Each product within the Taps, Showers & Water Controls range reflects Fitzroy of London's commitment to quality and

innovation. Engineered for reliability and ease of use, they provide precise water flow and temperature control, supporting comfort and safety in both residential and commercial environments. All products are WRAS-approved and Regulation 4 certified, meeting stringent requirements for water efficiency and compliance.

A selection of customisable finishes ensures versatility, giving architects and designers the creative freedom to tailor schemes without compromising visual consistency. With its understated styling and inclusive functionality, the expanded Gosfield Collection delivers a timeless solution and reliable performance at every touchpoint. Whether designing for a luxury hotel, office washroom or leisure facility, Gosfield is crafted to meet the highest standards, ensuring seamless integration and durability.

With expertise in inclusive design solutions for today's modern world, Fitzroy of London creates spaces which are truly functional



and aesthetically pleasing, while honouring individual needs. The new Taps, Showers & Water Controls are available now – enquire through the website today.

0203 773 1050

www.fitzroyoflondon.com

Marmox holding the line on NHBC wetroom requirements



Not only does 2025 mark the 25th anniversary of Harry Parsons setting up Marmox UK Ltd, but it will also remind many longer-serving bathroom and wetroom specialists of when the manufacturer's remarkable Multiboard product first became available to the home market—providing them with a totally waterproof, insulating tilebacker board that completely eclipsed the performance of conventional plasterboard.

The fact that it took almost a quarter-century for the NHBC to tighten its regulations on the unsuitability of certain substrates in these settings will also be a matter of frustration for the countless homebuyers who have suffered the inconvenience and expense of needing to have the walls and often the floor structure around baths and showers reinstated due to water penetration and consequential damage. In addition to gypsum plasterboard, the guidance also effectively discourages specifiers from utilising magnesium oxide boards, which have shown a tendency to suffer moisture-related failures.

For those who have yet to hear about the country's leading warranty provider's introduction of tough new guidelines to prevent such water damage, we should outline the main content of NHBC 9.2/06, which came into force on 1 January this year. The document applies to all new homes registered with the NHBC, focusing on waterproofing details in bathrooms and other wetrooms. It stresses the need for structural integrity in waterproofing solutions,

with particular attention paid to areas around baths and shower enclosures. In wetrooms where the entire floor and surrounding walls are expected to be regularly wetted and where power showers are installed full tanking is required. In less arduous situations, such as with low-flow showers, waterproof adhesive and grout may be considered adequate, though specifiers should be mindful that fittings and flow rates may be increased by future occupants.

From the perspective of manufacturers such as Marmox whose waterproof panels, shower formers, tapes and adhesives are now under renewed scrutiny the onus is on them to prove that all system components perform together so water cannot penetrate beyond the line of defence. Supportive of the NHBC initiative, Marmox has now had further BBA testing, which confirms the modified concrete cement-coated XPS boards not only offer a stable background for direct tiling, but also fulfil the enhanced technical objectives of 9.2/06.

In relation to the NHBC Standards 2025, the certificate states: "In the opinion of the BBA, Marmox Tilebacker Boards (referring to Multiboards), if installed, used and maintained in accordance with this certificate, can satisfy or contribute to satisfying the relevant requirements in relation to NHBC Standards Part 9 Finishes; Chapters 9.2 Wall and Ceiling Finishes and 9.3 Floor Finishes."

The Technical Manager for Marmox, Mark Bowman, comments: "Essentially, the new

guidance means you have to prove your system is waterproof not just the boards themselves which, as Multiboard is a modified cement-faced extruded polystyrene, is a given. So, you have to offer a viable solution for the joints between them, which we do with Marmox Self-Adhesive Waterproof Tape and MSP 360 Sealant & Adhesive. The actual test conducted by the BBA saw a box somewhat reminiscent of a Belfast sink being built, and the prescribed volume of water poured into it to ensure it didn't leak. That testing was completed on the 27 February this year."

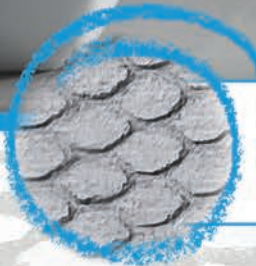
"The BBA is the only test house authorised to carry out this testing in relation to the new NHBC guidance, and the fact that the joints were treated in the same way as any sheet of Multiboard installed when tanking a wetroom should give real confidence to specifiers, installers, and end users."

Marmox is currently in the process of updating its selection of shower formers rationalising the range of sizes, attaching a slightly different model of drain outlet, and featuring a section of membrane bonded onto the back to overlap with the rest of the boarding. The Marmox stand at this year's Installer Live exhibition also saw the company showcasing new versions of its popular shower niches and other products that help contribute to a consistently constructed wetroom shell.

01634 835290
www.marmox.co.uk

marmox multiboard

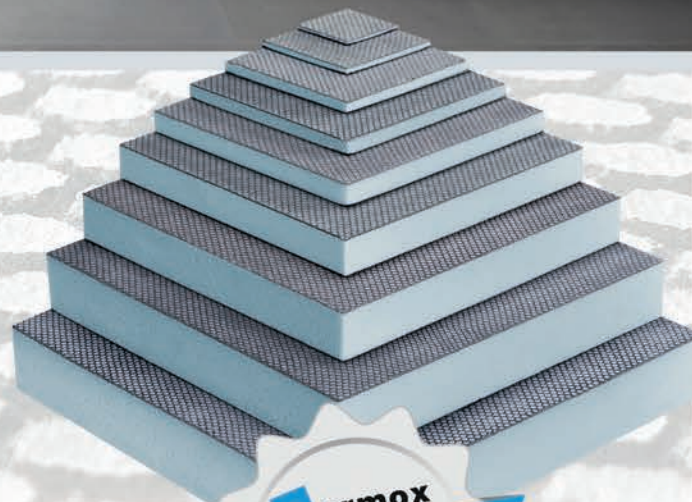
Giving wetrooms the backing they need!



Look out for the Honeycomb Finish!

It means... Genuine Marmox and an ultra-strong surface for adhesion!

- Waterproofing
- Insulating
- Walls & Floors
- Tiles or Plaster
- Decoupling Membrane
- Use for Construction
- Lightweight
- Easy to Cut



marmox
Waterproofing & Insulation Solutions



W: www.marmox.co.uk

T: 01634 835290

T: sales@marmox.co.uk

Weber and CMS Danskin Acoustics launch new acoustic floor systems incorporating REGUPOL



Saint-Gobain Weber and REGUPOL in partnership with CMS Danskin Acoustics have collaborated to develop, test and launch a suite of new impact sound insulation floor systems designed to reduce sound transmission. The new 'weberfloor acoustic systems' can be used to meet challenging acoustics targets across both new construction and refurbishment projects, including residential, healthcare, commercial and leisure schemes.

Aimed at making acoustic floor system specification more straightforward for architects, acousticians, contractors and installers who are designing and delivering developments where controlling impact sound is required or desired, the new weberfloor acoustic systems work with most floor finishes, such as LVT, sheet vinyl, laminate, timber, ceramic tiles and carpet.

The collaboration draws together Weber's flooring screed expertise developed over more than 40 years, REGUPOL's cutting-edge acoustic product technology and the strengths of leading acoustic insulation supplier CMS Danskin Acoustics. The capabilities of the three respected brands have been combined to offer the construction

market this new, wide range of fully tested acoustic flooring options.

Fully tested for compatibility, the weberfloor acoustic systems unite Weber screeds and smoothing/levelling compounds with REGUPOL impact sound insulating membranes for both under screed and over screed applications to reduce noise transmission. Each component of the system is equally important in achieving the specified acoustic performance.

Acoustic under screed and over screed system product selectors are clearly outlined in Weber's new Acoustic Flooring Solutions brochure, which can be downloaded at the company's website. The systems are also shown on CMS Danskin Acoustics' website. Product specific technical data sheets are available from Weber and from CMS Danskin Acoustics.

"In today's construction landscape, where noise pollution is a concern, the need for effective sound insulation is critical. This is where weberfloor acoustic systems will come into play by offering solutions designed to improve the acoustic quality of spaces," says Ian Dennis, Weber's national flooring manager.

"With three market leaders at the heart of these new acoustic systems, this is a significant development," explains UK REGUPOL consultant Jamie Symons. "The market can be assured of the compatibility and integrity of the weberfloor acoustic systems, making product selection much simpler."

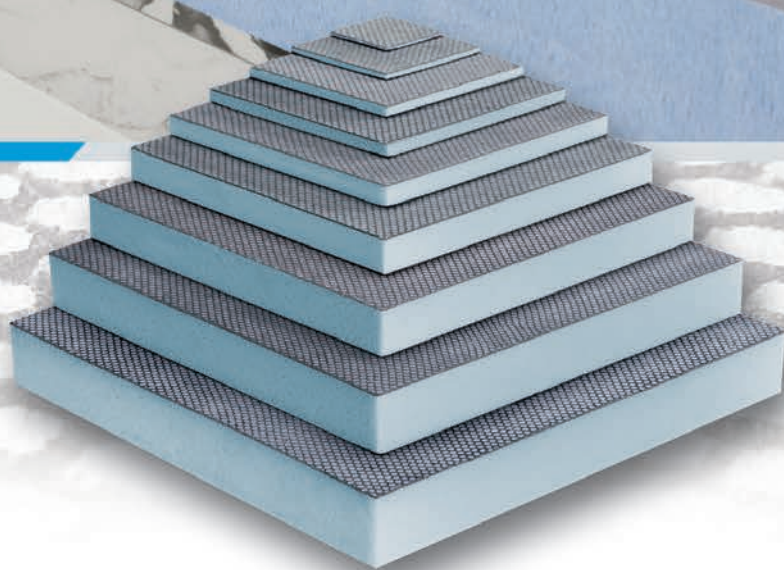
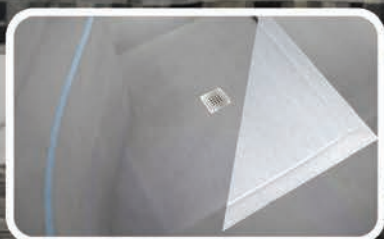
Andy Hayes, technical manager at CMS Danskin Acoustics and associate member of the IoA, adds: "The extensive development and testing work at the foundation of these systems means that, when specifying the weberfloor acoustic systems, the market can be confident in achieving both effective acoustic performance and excellent loading performance with minimal construction height."

The weberfloor acoustic systems are supported by a fully trained team of specification and technical managers who can guide clients throughout their specification and installation journey. Training, including CPD modules for architects and installers, will be announced shortly.

www.uk.weber/weberfloor-acoustic-systems
www.cmsdanskin.co.uk/weber

marmox multiboard

Waterproofing • Insulating • Drylining



marmox
Waterproofing & Insulation Solutions

W: www.marmox.co.uk

T: 01634 835290

T: sales@marmox.co.uk

A new angle on ceiling design

Material Source Studio in Manchester serves as a hub of innovation and inspiration for built environment professionals. Featuring installations from over 50 leading brands, the space offers a dynamic mix of product showcases, seminars, workshops, CPDs, and networking facilities. The studio is designed to foster creativity while providing a comfortable, collaborative environment for designers and architects.

When Material Source Studio sought to enhance its meeting room with a ceiling solution that would push the boundaries of traditional ceiling tiles and encourage collaboration across its partners, Zentia in collaboration with MSS partner, Light Forms, stepped in to deliver a tailored solution.

To meet the unique needs of Material Source Studio, Zentia was tasked with incorporating a ceiling solution that would tie in with the room's soft furnishing and create a cohesive visual appeal. A ceiling solution that could integrate lighting and remain acoustically sound was also required to ensure the installation provided practical benefits, including a comfortable co-working

and networking atmosphere.

Material Source Studio wanted to highlight how successful collaboration between different manufacturers could result in a high-quality, bespoke product solution. For Zentia, a grid solution had to be devised that could include bespoke lighting from Light Forms as well as the installation of triangle ceiling tiles. Zentia proposed and delivered a bespoke solution featuring the DecoFrame Kit Classic Canopy, Gridline, and triangle tiles in a mixture of white and grey. Zentia's Solutions Design Manager, Nick Harper, created the design alongside providing the expertise and partnership working that Zentia is known for.

Key features of the solution included bespoke lighting, designed in collaboration with Light Forms, which complemented the overall aesthetic and functionality of the raft system. The raft was tailored to align perfectly with the size and space of the table beneath it, ensuring a balanced and cohesive look.

The meeting room containing the Zentia ceiling solution is positioned next to the



kitchen and at the bottom of the main staircase meaning people were often walking past. The room is also primarily used to host presentations and board meetings, so an acoustically sound solution was essential. The DecoFrame Kit Classic Canopy, Gridline, and triangle tiles enhance the ambience, inspiring designers and architects while providing a comfortable, inviting atmosphere for collaboration.

0191 497 1000 www.zentia.com/en-gb

Wraptite® external air barrier helps to create state-of-the-art learning environment

The specification and installation of A.Proctor Group's Wraptite® external air barrier is helping three separate secondary school projects in Scotland to achieve the Passivhaus standard. As a result of the high-quality new school buildings, more than 4,500 pupils will benefit from learning in thermally comfortable classrooms with excellent indoor air quality.

The external walls of each new school are constructed in a slightly different way, showing that the Passivhaus standard can be achieved using different construction methods. Building on and using its sustainable construction expertise, main contractor Robertson Construction Tayside ensured the standard was capable of being met on these three projects.

A similar procurement process to Riverside Primary meant that using Wraptite satisfied the requirement for using local suppliers, on top of the experience gained in using it to meet the airtightness requirements.



Perth High School is a concrete frame with mineral wool insulation and a facing brick facade. The school buildings to the other two campuses feature a mix of concrete and steel frame, with high performance insulation. Facing brickwork is the finish at Monifieth, while East End Community Campus will have finishes of facing brickwork, precast concrete and cladding.

Wraptite is well-suited to Passivhaus projects, and the different construction methods demonstrate its versatility in

helping to meet the standard's high levels of airtightness. By moving the airtight line to the exterior face of the wall structure, it avoids a lot of complex detailing around services and other penetrations that typically occur at the internal face.

As a fully-adhered vapour permeable membrane, Wraptite saves on labour and material costs, without compromising airtightness levels and without increasing condensation risk within the structure. Not all detailing issues can be avoided, of course, and where particular areas of detailing do need to be addressed there is the added benefit of Wraptite tape.

On-site quality checks are a hallmark of the Passivhaus standard and accreditation. The simple solution offered by Wraptite allows those checks to be carried out with the minimum of fuss.

01250 872 261
proctorgroup.com/products/wraptite

National Timber Systems launches NTSROOM™ – Integrated floor and roof system for UK housebuilders

National Timber Systems (NTS) has unveiled NTSROOM™ – an integrated floor and roof solution which promises to redefine efficiency, safety, and quality in modern housebuilding.

As the demand for faster, more sustainable construction solutions continues to grow, NTSROOM™ offers developers and housebuilders a comprehensive “Room in Roof” package including the cassette floor, that is factory-built and delivered ready for rapid installation on-site. A pair of semi-detached houses can now be installed in a single day using just one delivery, one crane, and one coordinated install plan.

Part of the NTSROOF® suite alongside NTSROOF® and SUPER-SPAN® NTSROOM™ is backed by BBA third-party certification, providing proven quality, performance, and compliance to developers and specifiers.

Engineered for modern construction challenges, NTSROOM™ replaces high-level steels with a level wall plate start, building up to a fully insulated, weather-tight structure. The system feature pre-drilled holes in the floors for pipes and cables, reducing on-site modifications and installation errors.

Already in use on live sites with regional and national housebuilders, NTSROOM™ supports evolving regulations like Part L and Part O, offering energy-efficient solutions including



cantilevered roofs for shading. Its joist layout ensures exceptional stiffness, shorter spans, and minimal on-site drilling.

Developed around the principles of Simple. Safe. Secure, NTSROOM™ empowers local carpenters to complete installations confidently and quickly. The system includes the ‘Supply with Assist’ support package offering:

- Full installer training
- Detailed RAMS support
- Direct access to NTS experts
- Cost-effective pricing

“NTSROOM is the natural progression for

NTSROOF” said Philip Carney, NTS technical and innovations director.

“NTSROOF has always had a level wallplate with a dwarf wall and a stubbed spandrel, integrating the floor is simple, as it is easily encapsulated in the current solution, growing on our need to do less on site.” As build schedules tighten and sustainability becomes key, NTSROOM™ arrives at the perfect moment for the UK construction industry.

enquiries@nationaltimbersystems.co.uk
www.nationaltimbersystems.co.uk

Luxury window and door hardware by Croft

It's easy to overlook window and door hardware, but these details play a crucial role in defining a room's style and functionality. Whether renovating, upgrading or simply making small changes, investing in high quality hardware is a smart and stylish way to add character and definition. With an array of design and finish options, Croft offers solutions to suit a variety of needs and styles, allowing spaces to be transformed into something special.

When it comes to interior design, upgrading window hardware is a small but impactful way to refresh the aesthetic. Croft products are made from brass which resists corrosion and wear over time, making them ideal for windows that receive a lot of regular use. Elegant designs, such as the Sliding Stays in Polished Brass, add a sophisticated and luxurious touch to windows, while more traditional options like the Reeded Window Espagnolette Handle in Aged Brass enhance the charm of period properties with a timeless appeal.

Externally, the hardware used on a front door significantly increases a property's kerb



appeal, enhancing the visual impact from the outside. Not only are they functional elements of the house, but they also create a lasting first impression for guests, who will notice the attention to detail in the tactile aspects. Croft offers a wide selection of beautiful, high-quality architectural products designed to enhance front doors, including doorknobs, knockers, letter plates, and bell pushes.

Beyond aesthetics, high quality hardware enhances the way we interact with spaces, with easy-to-grip handles, smooth operating



hinges and sliding mechanisms all adding to the level of comfort. Ensuring smooth operation and longevity, Croft's range of luxury window and entryway hardware makes opening and closing effortless.

As a proud British, family-run company, Croft has been a leading name in architectural hardware in the UK since 1868, designing and handcrafting a diverse portfolio in over 25 different finishes and patinas.

01902 606 493 www.croft.co.uk

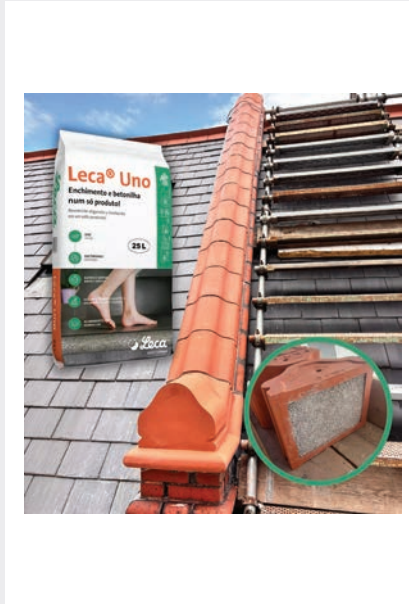
Arnot St. Mary School Terracotta coping stone replacements with Leca® Uno

Resapol were contacted by Liverpool Council/Kier to ask to tender for the Arnot St. Mary School Project, a listed building. Liverpool Council, are being advised by Kier throughout the duration.

For over three years, the classrooms at the school have suffered from leaks and internal plaster damage at the base of each apex.

This initiative aims to prevent further water intrusion and to repair all internal damage. The project involves replacing the existing terracotta coping stones with Leca® Uno, a material known for being easier to move into position and fit compared to a heavier filling material.

The project will be executed by a skilled team from Quadriga Ltd, in collaboration with Kirk Scaffold and Darwen Terracotta. This cooperation is crucial for ensuring that the work meets the high standards expected by the council while ensuring



minimal disruption to the school's activities. By taking these measures, the project promises to enhance the structural integrity of the buildings.

All the terracotta coping stones will be replaced, except for the top decorative fleur-de-lis, and a damp proof course (DPC) installed underneath to prevent future water ingress. Leca® Uno, a lightweight filler, is being utilized to fill the sections where terracotta was replaced.

The use of materials like Leca® Uno underscores a commitment to sustainability by reducing the carbon footprint associated with transportation and installation. Additionally, this approach reduces the overall weight on the structure, minimizing the risk of further damage over time.

Please call or visit Resapol's website for further information.

0800 083 1942
www.resapol.com

Renovation of office building with captivating rhythmic facade

A company working out technically sophisticated solutions wants to communicate this to the outside world with an appropriate visual business card. The same was true for RE-AVES in Helmond (NL). Managing Director Reinier Vogels bought a building a few years back to completely gut it and make it ready for the next 20 years (or

more). Spaces were opened up, everything was finished down to the smallest detail, and the Linarte facade with random profiling was the crowning touch.

RE-AVES contacted fellow native LXarchitects. LXarchitects explored the possibilities. They compared materials and colours, also considered wooden variants. "The choice eventually fell on aluminium combined with stucco. This provides a nice contrast, isn't as commonplace, and will stand the test of time. The neutral black and white colour palette also repeats itself in the interior, where we added warmth through natural materials."

The architect deliberately sought a changing rhythm for the new facade. A private home in the city with a Linarte facade visually convinced its client.

LXarchitects chose random profiling and determined a nice mix. Craftsmen neatly adopted this design and finished between the frames with flashing. Installers followed the drawing and alternated narrow, wide, and



border profiles according to the design. All the profiles, accounting for 78 m², were placed within five days. Smooth installation is one of Linarte's advantages. You have to think of it as a kind of accordion with 2 mm margin (narrower and wider) per profile. So if there are already frames, you can still slide various profiles in and out to create the desired look. That gives more freedom in execution. Ease of installation is also a strong argument in new buildings, in addition to the vertical character that makes the facade easy to clean and the possibility of integrating techniques. Here, for example, cables from the embedded security cameras run neatly behind the profiles, for a sleek result.

www.renson.net



Senior delivers fenestration package for new Monkwearmouth Hospital development

Senior Architectural Systems has supplied a high-performance aluminium fenestration package as part of the major redevelopment of Monkwearmouth Hospital in Sunderland.

Designed by Ryder Architecture and built by main contractor Sir Robert McAlpine, the new three-storey outpatient facility creates a welcoming gateway to the wider hospital site. At the heart of the building is a light-filled atrium that houses the main reception area and café facilities, helping to provide a bright and inclusive space for patients, visitors, and staff.

A variety of Senior's aluminium fenestration systems were fabricated and installed by Hadrian Architectural Glazing Systems. Senior's thermally efficient SF52 aluminium curtain wall, specified as both fully capped and silicon glazed systems, has been used extensively to create large glazed areas that maximise daylight and support a calm, therapeutic environment. To create the



glazed elements in the atrium and courtyard areas, Senior's SF62 aluminium curtain wall was chosen. Similar in appearance to the SF52 system to ensure consistency of the fenestration design, the SF62 curtain walling option offers a wider 62 mm box which allows greater flexibility in accommodating structural movement.

Senior's curtain walling systems have been further complemented by the installation of durable SP501 commercial doors and stylish PURE® SLIDE doors, which together offer

both ease of access and durability in high-traffic areas. Senior's PURE® Commercial Door, which is the manufacturer's largest and strongest option, has been installed to the courtyard with the patented low U-value PURE® aluminium windows fitted throughout.

The use of aluminium throughout the fenestration package not only enhances the building's contemporary design but also supports its environmental credentials. Offering excellent recyclability and low maintenance, Senior's glazing systems have also helped contribute to the scheme's BREEAM 'Excellent' rating through their enhanced thermal performance.

The completed building provides a modern, functional, and welcoming environment and has been nominated in the Best Commercial Project category at 2025 North East Property Awards.

01709 772600
www.seniorarchitectural.co.uk

Using Wraptite® to achieve Ireland's Home Performance Index certification

Around 11,000 m² of Wraptite® – the Proctor Group's external air barrier membrane – are being installed at Rockbrook Apartments in Sandyford, Dublin. The 428 apartments, built in two blocks and arranged around two courtyards, are all being certified to the Home Performance Index (HPI).

HPI certification includes enhanced levels of airtightness, as part of the overall aim "to produce great quality homes, healthy and comfortable, with efficient use of resources, minimising waste and destruction of the environment."

Readers outside Ireland are unlikely to be familiar with HPI certification. Essentially, it is a residential equivalent to BREEAM or LEED. First trialled in 2016, the scheme is managed by the Irish Green Building Council.

Demand for the certification has grown in the years since and, according to the HPI website, many developers use the certification as "a symbol of quality



assurance" in their developments.

For areas of the scheme considered to be most important, mandatory requirements are set to ensure a particular level of quality and comfort is achieved. Examples of such areas include water efficiency, ventilation and thermal bridging, as well as the aforementioned enhanced airtightness. It is in this context that Wraptite has been

specified and, at the time of writing, is currently being installed.

Rockbrook Apartments features a concrete frame with SFS infill stud. The Wraptite membrane, which is both airtight and vapour permeable, is applied to the external face of the wall structure. In this position, the airtightness barrier is moved away from the internal services zone, which simplifies detailing and reduces the number of penetrations.

At the same time, Wraptite's vapour permeability allows the passage of moisture vapour and helps to eliminate any condensation risk in the wall.

Wraptite has always been a feature of the facade specification at Rockbrook Apartments – and it was originally complemented by an internal membrane acting as a vapour control layer (VCL).

01250 872 261
proctorgroup.com/products/wraptite

Renson at the Old War Office: Historic elegance, modern air

The historic Old War Office (OWO), a Grade II* listed neo-Baroque landmark in central London, has undergone a remarkable transformation. An example of adaptive reuse in architecture, where heritage meets modern sophistication. A pivotal element was the integration of Renson's innovative 450 and 480 louvres. These high-performance ventilation solutions played a crucial role in enhancing indoor



air quality, energy efficiency, and aesthetic harmony, all while preserving the building's architectural integrity.

Balancing heritage with innovation

Transforming a historic structure into a contemporary space demands a delicate balance between conservation and innovation. Renson's louvres were seamlessly incorporated into the building's facade, offering discreet yet effective airflow management. This ensured optimal indoor climate control without compromising the grandeur of the original design.

By reducing reliance on mechanical ventilation systems, the louvres contributed to lower energy consumption – aligning with modern sustainability standards and demonstrating how heritage buildings can be future-proofed without sacrificing their legacy.

www.renson.net



NORclad launches two new pre-finished timber cladding ranges for 2025

NORclad, National Timber Group's specialist cladding division, is proud to unveil two new cladding ranges as part of its 2025 launch – Tailor's Collection and Natura Collection. These innovative additions expand the NTG Group's offering of pre-finished timber solutions, combining natural beauty with premium performance coatings and outstanding material integrity.

The Tailor's Collection features ultra-stable Accoya® boards, factory-finished in a selection of contemporary tones using high-performance coatings from Remmers. The result is a modern, elegant cladding solution with a refined, tactile finish and a 50-year warranty on the timber.

The Natura Collection, by contrast, celebrates texture and warmth—offering brushed ThermoWood® boards finished in a palette of rich, earthy hues. Crafted from heat-treated Scandinavian Pine, Natura balances rustic character with lasting durability, ideal for residential and commercial exteriors.



"Both new ranges are about offering architects and installers more design freedom without compromising on performance," says Phil Nash, cladding manager at NTG England. "With Tailor's and Natura, we've blended the best in timber technology – Accoya® and ThermoWood® – with the trusted protection of Remmers coatings.

It's all about delivering style that lasts."

To obtain a sample or for technical support, the specification team at NORclad are on-hand to provide anything else you need – contact the team or visit the website.

sales@norclad.co.uk
timbercladdingsolutions.co.uk

Okopod selects Hörmann RollMatic roller doors for striking 9-car garage

Modular building specialist Okopod has specified Hörmann RollMatic roller garage doors for a newly completed nine-car garage project in Cambridge, showcasing the company's commitment to sustainable design and precision-engineered construction.

Founded in 2019, Okopod has quickly become a leader in the manufacture and supply of eco-friendly modular pods for use as garden rooms, workspaces, and garages. Drawing on lean manufacturing techniques inspired by the automotive sector, the company's offsite construction process ensures minimal waste, high build quality, and reduced disruption on site.

In one of their most recent installations, Okopod delivered a Scandinavian-inspired garage structure designed to store a collection of classic and performance cars. The double-height garage accommodates up to nine vehicles, thanks to an integrated stack parking system, offering a luxurious yet



practical solution that blends seamlessly into family life.

To complement the clean, contemporary exterior, which is clad in vertically arranged, sustainably sourced Red Grandis timber – Okopod selected two fully automated Hörmann RollMatic roller doors for their slim profile, reliable performance, and stylish modern aesthetic. A double-width door (6,000 mm x 2,100 mm) and single-width

door (2,600 mm x 2,100 mm) were installed, both finished in Anthracite Grey (RAL 7016) to perfectly match the garage's refined, minimalist palette.

"Our design ethos is rooted in the belief that less is more," says James Home, founder of Okopod. "This project is all about celebrating materials and craftsmanship. The Hörmann doors provided the perfect balance of function and form - elegant, discreet, and built to last."

The Hörmann roller doors were supplied and installed by Fenland Garage Doors, ensuring smooth integration into the structure. The slimline fit of the RollMatic doors allow for maximum internal clearance, while offering the robust security and convenience demanded for the high-value vehicles housed within.

01530 516868

www.hormann.co.uk/home-owners-and-renovators/garage-doors/roller-garage-doors

Bespoke security for cultural spaces

In 2021/2022, over £3.2 million worth of cultural property was stolen from museums, art galleries, and stately homes in the UK. Heritage insurer, Ecclesiastical state that nine in 10 heritage organisations surveyed had suffered a crime in the previous 12 months.

Protecting art galleries, cultural spaces and museums means not only addressing safety and security but also considering the social and aesthetic aspects of the building.

With over 20 years' experience, Charter Global designs, manufactures and installs bespoke, high-security roller shutters certified to LPS 1175. Suitable for any building style or



age, their shutters provide internal or external protection while preserving aesthetics—even for listed properties.

One project example is MK Gallery; an impressive public gallery designed by 6a Architects. It was important for the clients and designers to include security that aligned with the stunning architecture and cladding of the building, maintaining security but also aesthetics.

The exhibition loading area required an abnormally large shutter but lacked the headroom to support a standard motor. Devising a unique system with a bespoke motor specification that reduced the headroom required, an Obexion MD SR4 Shutter from Charter Global was installed.

Bespoke controls were incorporated along with status indication, a remote confirmation of opening and closure. As the loading area was located on the other side of the gallery to the security reception, this mitigated the risk of internal sabotage. Two further security roller shutters were provided for the personnel fire escape to and from the fire exit staircase. Both also certified to LPS 1175



Issue 7 SR4, these heavy duty shutters were connected to the fire alarm interface with battery back-ups.

0845 050 8705 enquiries@charter-global.com

Schöck are offering free design support for BSA projects

Thermal breaks in external wall systems play a pivotal role in meeting the revised Building Safety Act 2022. Professional design input is a vital part of this process.

Following the Grenfell tragedy and the subsequent Hackett Review, The Building (Amendment) Regulations were introduced in December 2018. These set out restrictions on the combustibility criteria of 'specified attachments' forming part of the external wall. For example, balconies, solar panels or solar shading, attached to the external wall of a 'relevant building' in England (over 18 m above ground level, or seven storeys). Now, the Building Safety Act 2022 further reforms building safety regulation and has also introduced a Building Safety Regulator; whose primary goal is to improve the design, construction and management of higher-risk 'relevant' buildings.

Designers play a critical role in this new regime

At Schöck, we understand the increasingly critical role designers now have. Ensuring the safety and compliance of building projects is of course a given, but the avoidance of unnecessary delays by resolving possible issues early on and minimising the need for late-stage changes is also pivotal. That is why we are delighted to offer complimentary design support services, allowing specifiers to create seamless, compliant, and efficient thermal break solutions with confidence. Whether you're working on connecting balconies, canopies, or solar shading, our thermal breaks provide exemplary load-bearing insulation solutions.

How does the Isokorb range comply with the Amended Regulations?

In part 7(3) of Approved Document B in the Amended Regulations there is a list of materials exempt from the restrictions, which includes thermal breaks. Because Schöck Isokorb thermal breaks form part of the external wall, it is critical that they comply with the Amended Regulations. The Isokorb uses thermal insulation material to improve thermal performance (verified to meet the requirement of Part L by independent thermal testing from Oxford Brooks University) and



consequently they are exempt according to the amended regulations.

What makes Schöck thermal breaks so effective in meeting Part L?

The quality of the components used in their construction guarantee superior thermal performance. Stainless steel (in the thermal zone) is used for its greatly reduced thermal conductivity when compared with carbon steel. The HTE (High-performance Thermal Element) module used is a concrete thrust bearing designed to both transmit compressive forces and optimise thermal conductivity. When Neopor®, an expanded polystyrene (EPS) insulation with superior thermal performance, is used together with the HTE module, thermal bridging is almost entirely eradicated.

Design of the Isokorb range addresses key safety requirements

The Building Safety Act emphasises the importance of using tested and certified

components in safety-critical systems. Substituting specified products, such as thermal breaks, without ensuring compliance and suitability, could breach the regulations, leading to significant liability risks. The Isokorb range exceeds the demands of the Building Safety Act by addressing key issues such as: BBA Agrément Certified to exceed fire resistance standards (REI120); helps mitigate fire spread risk as required by the Act for use in high-risk residential buildings – and provides critical documentation (including design calculations) to support the 'golden thread' of safety information.

We would be delighted to partner with you and ensure your BSA projects not only meet, but exceed, safety and thermal performance standards.

To leverage our expertise and create a robust engineering solution for your next project, connect with us.

bsa@schoeck.com
www.schoeck.com/en-gb/isokorb

EJOT flat roofing solution helps housing developer avoid weather-related delays

An EJOT fixing combination, which is designed for rapid installation of flat roof systems with tapered insulation, has been instrumental in market-leading retirement property developer McCarthy & Stone meeting the strict completion deadline at one of its latest developments in Wiltshire.

The scheme at Wichelstowe in Swindon is formed of two blocks which accommodate a range of one and two bedroom apartments designed to offer stylish independent living for the over 60s, with around 120 new properties in total. McCarthy & Stone has co-developed the site with Anchor Hanover Group (Anchor), England's largest not-for-profit provider of specialist housing and care for people in later life, to deliver a retirement community close to the picturesque Wilts and Berks Canal.

The developer's firm commitment to delivering the scheme to new residents on time, as promised, meant that the construction team had to pull out all the stops to find creative solutions to keep the build schedule on track. One particular challenge resulted from the relatively small window available to install the extensive flat roofs of the apartment blocks which fell at a time when temperatures had plummeted unexpectedly.

The original proposal was for a tapered insulation system, incorporating a Bauder PVC membrane plus mineral wool insulation, to be bonded to the concrete deck. However, given the cold weather conditions, it was not possible to apply the adhesive during the planned installation window.

As waiting for the temperature to rise to the required level would have resulted in unpalatable delays to the construction programme, nationwide roofing contractor Protec Roofing was tasked with finding a solution that would ensure the proposed flat roof system could still be used.

Protec Roofing's managing director Ian Green approached EJOT UK's flat roofing specialist Kevin Rackley for assistance. He had recently been introduced to EJOT's mechanical fixing solution for flat roof systems involving a combination of the JBS-R fastener and EcoTek tube-washer at an industry event, and after recommending it to the project team, it was subsequently approved for use by Bauder.

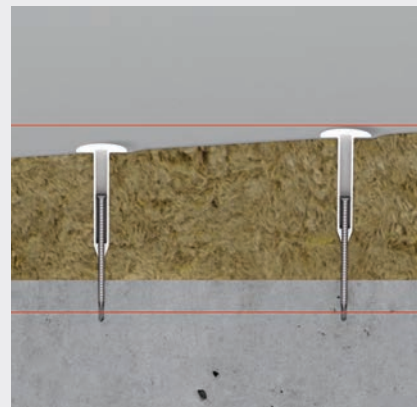


The EJOT JBS-R/EcoTek combination brings together a high-performing organically coated concrete screw (JBS-R 7.5) with a high-quality telescopic tube-washer (EcoTek) to provide a fixing solution that is adjustable to fit the required depth of insulation. It is suitable for all types of commonly used tapered insulation, principally mineral fibre, EPS, XPS and PIR.

The combination is suitable for any insulation depth of between 70 mm and 590 mm, and it has the benefit of requiring fewer fastener/washer combinations than any other current mechanical fixing approach. As a result, fastener use can be significantly rationalised, subject to the application, a site survey and pull-out tests, which EJOT UK is able to assist with.

At the Wichelstowe development, the tapered insulation depth on one of the roofs ranged from 90 mm to 330 mm, using four lengths of JBS-R fastener of between 80 mm and 210 mm. The roof on the second building involved insulation depths between 140 mm and 380 mm, which required three fastener lengths of between 120 mm and 210 mm.

In addition to keeping the construction schedule on track during the cold weather, the installation process also proved popular with the team on site. Installation of the EcoTek/JBS-R combination is easy because only one embedment depth is needed whatever the insulation thickness. Easy adjustability is also provided through the innovative way that the EcoTek tube-washer is driven into place using a custom tool with the fastener already in place.



Where the roof features a particularly deep layer of tapered insulation to maximise thermal performance, as was the case at Wichelstowe, EJOT's flanged A-cone and driver bit extension is used to avoid the awkwardness associated with drilling deep using standard SDS drills. This means installers can avoid a highly delicate procedure requiring long-length SDS drills, which are often difficult to source.

The simplified installation process offered by the EcoTek/JBS-R tube-washer and fastener combination also means that fewer on-site calculations were required compared to using other mechanical fixing approaches.

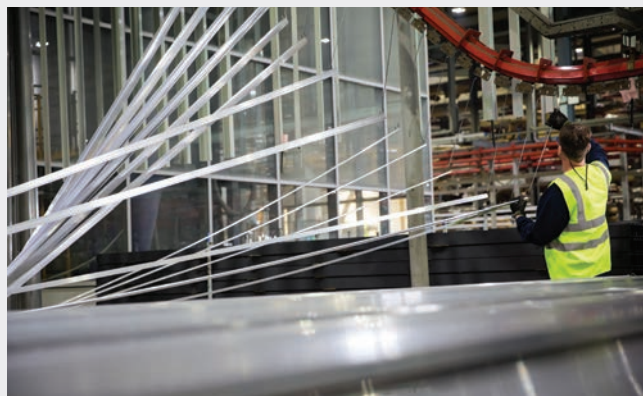
Long term performance is assured when using the JBS-R/EcoTek fastening system given the quality materials used to manufacture both fastener elements. The JBS-R fastener is manufactured from case hardened steel and the EcoTek tube-washer is formed from high quality plastic to provide a lasting solution.

The EcoTek/JBS-R combination is part of EJOT's extensive range of fastening solutions for flat roofing, encompassing fully mechanical and part-bonded systems, and fully compliant with the guidelines published by the Single Ply Roofing Association (SPRA). Flat roof designers, contractors and installers benefit from highly specialised support from the EJOT UK team at all stages of the flat roofing project to ensure all the performance objectives can be met without compromise.

01977 687040

www.ejot.co.uk/jbs-r_ecotek_combination

Senior Architectural Systems publishes EPD for its SF52 aluminium curtain wall system



Senior Architectural Systems, a leading UK supplier of aluminium fenestration solutions, has published a new independently verified and product specific Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) which delivers a new level of transparency for its SF52 aluminium curtain wall system.

Developed in accordance with EN 15804+A2 and independently verified to ISO 14025:2011, the new EPD provides transparent, third-party assessed data on the environmental performance of the SF52 curtain wall system. This includes key metrics such as global warming potential (GWP), energy consumption, and water usage across the product's full life cycle.

Unlike many comparable EPDs in the market, which typically report carbon figures for 1 kg of aluminium billet and often exclude the environmental impacts of profile extrusion and non-aluminium components, Senior's latest publication sets a new standard. The SF52 EPD offers fully project-relevant data by detailing the environmental impact of all system components, including thermal breaks, gaskets, and fixings, as well as fabrication and delivery to site via Senior's fabricator network. The energy-intensive extrusion process is also accounted for, providing a truly comprehensive overview.

Senior's new EPD has also been developed in line with the latest BS EN 18001:2024+A2 Product Category Rules for curtain walling, using the recommended reference sizes for the system. Importantly, the glazing has been excluded, as it is not normally supplied by system houses. If glazing is included, it can distort results when divided down to 1 m²

declared unit. The heavy weight of glass, combined with its relatively low carbon per kg, makes the overall figures for the aluminium system look lower than they really are after conversion. That's why for complete accuracy, glazing should always be reported separately through its own EPD.

By taking this approach, we believe our SF52 EPD gives a true and transparent figure per m² of aluminium system. This more holistic approach not only aligns with rising industry expectations around transparency and project-specific carbon reporting, but also underlines Senior's proactive strategy to support informed specification. The SF52 EPD is also unique in that it includes non-linear scaling, with three system sizes verified and consolidated into a single publication. This enables specifiers to accurately calculate and scale the environmental impact of any SF52 mullion-drained system configuration. Senior and its verifier, EPD Hub, believe this level of detail is currently unmatched within the sector.

By making this data available, Senior is supporting the whole construction supply chain, from architects and main contractors to specialist fabricators and installers, in making more informed decisions when specifying aluminium curtain wall systems. The published EPD, which is available on request or via Senior's NBS Source profile, also supports compliance with increasingly stringent building regulations and sustainability frameworks such as BREEAM and Passivhaus projects.

Senior's SF52 curtain wall system, which is manufactured in the UK using responsibly

sourced aluminium, offers excellent thermal performance and high levels of recyclability. The publication of its EPD reinforces the product's suitability for a wide range of low-carbon construction projects, including new builds and refurbishments across the commercial, education, residential, and public sectors.

Senior is also in the process of developing further EPDs for its aluminium system portfolio, including the patented PURE® range, underlining the company's ongoing commitment to sustainable specification and transparent reporting.

Luke Osborne, Senior Architectural Systems' UK sustainability lead, said: "We know how important reliable environmental data has become for everyone involved in the construction process, from design and procurement, right through to delivery and installation. The Environmental Product Declaration document for our SF52 curtain wall system gives our customers across the supply chain the information they need to meet their own sustainability targets and regulatory requirements. It's also part of our wider commitment to raising standards and driving continuous improvement in environmental performance."

Download the SF52 EPD via Senior's NBS Source profile or request a copy from UK sustainability lead Luke Osborne at lukeo@sasmail.co.uk

For more information, please email enquiries@sasmail.co.uk

01709 772600
enquiries@sasmail.co.uk

Invisible Innovation: The architectural case for underfloor drive systems on swing doors

In contemporary architecture, the demand for seamless integration between technology and design continues to grow. Nowhere is this more evident than in entrance systems, where the challenge lies in balancing automation, accessibility, and aesthetics. Underfloor drive systems for swing doors offer architects an elegant, discreet solution – one that delivers all the benefits of automation without compromising on visual design.

Seamless design integration

Architects often face the dilemma of integrating essential hardware into spaces where minimalism or heritage preservation is paramount. Traditional surface-mounted door operators can disrupt clean lines, obstruct sightlines, or appear visually intrusive – particularly in glass facades, timber doors, or stone-clad entrances. Underfloor operators resolve this by removing the need for visible hardware. Entirely concealed beneath the floor, these systems allow swing doors to function effortlessly without interrupting the aesthetic flow of the space.

Meeting accessibility standards with style

Complying with regulations such as the Equality Act and BS 8300 doesn't have to come at the expense of design. Underfloor systems support fully automated, barrier-free access, while remaining hidden from view. They can be integrated with push pads, access control systems, sensors, or building management systems – ensuring compliance without cluttering the interior or exterior design.



Maximising space and flexibility

For projects where space is at a premium – narrow corridors, compact lobbies, or glass curtain walling – underfloor operators are an excellent alternative to overhead systems. They eliminate the need for side or overhead clearances and free up wall space for other architectural elements like signage, glazing, or lighting.

Quiet, durable, and built to last

Behind the scenes, underfloor operators are designed for longevity and performance. Housed in sealed, floor-mounted boxes, they are protected against dirt, dust, and moisture – making them suitable for both interior and exterior applications. Their quiet operation makes them ideal for environments where acoustics are a priority, such as hotels, libraries, and healthcare settings.

Smart specification for modern projects

Underfloor swing door operators align perfectly with modern architectural values: minimal visual impact, improved user experience, and intelligent, integrated functionality. While installation requires early coordination with floor construction and finishes, the design benefits are significant. For architects committed to delivering clean,

cohesive, and compliant environments, underfloor operator systems offer a quiet revolution in door automation – both literally and aesthetically.

UFO NT: Underfloor operator – concealed door drive system

Giving designers greater freedom to create aesthetically attractive entrances the UFO NT operator is perfectly hidden from view. Mounted below the finished floor level it enables maximum transparency of the entrance yet still provides automatic access.

The UFO NT offers a wide range of capabilities and features, including manual use via the Smart swing function, a redundant spring system, programmable force settings, greater opening angles and increased leaf weight and widths for both internal and external doors.

Offering flexibility, the UFO NT has a full range of operational functions from fully automatic to manual opening and closing including low energy and Push & Go. At its core is GEZE's popular automatic swing operator, Powerturn.

Please scan the QR code to find out more.

info.uk@geze.com
www.geze.co.uk/en



EJOT UK provides fully tested standing seam fastening solution for new 'civic hub'

EJOT UK has supported roofing and cladding products distributor Tektum Supplies and contractor Fowler McKenzie to develop a robust fixing specification for the building envelope of a highly sustainable new multi-purpose civic facility in Aberdeenshire.

The two-storey, £11.4million development in Ellon is designed to elevated sustainability standards to reflect its significance and to achieve net zero in operation. It incorporates renewable energy systems and a highly insulated and airtight envelope to minimise energy use.

A key challenge for the construction of the building envelope for 'Formartine House' was how best to securely fix the Kalzip standing seam system to the building's structure. This is formed of glulam beams and supporting secondary steelwork, with the envelope also featuring a thick layer of insulation as part of a design to Passivhaus standards.

To determine the most effective fixing solution for this unconventional envelope design, the project's appointed roofing and cladding contractor, Fowler McKenzie, consulted with Tektum Supplies, with whom EJOT UK has a strong working relationship.

The process started with Tektum utilising their unique prognosis software to generate the calculations necessary, confirming that the fasteners recommended by EJOT would satisfy Kalzip's own technical criteria. Tektum's calculation program has been developed specifically for specifications such as this, with the benefit here of being able to provide EJOT's technical team with the



data to conduct a range of detailed tests, recreating applications scenarios within its Applitec Centre.

Mike Saini, managing director of Tektum Supplies said: "Collaboration with the fastener manufacturer at an early stage is key to the success of projects like this and, through our work with the EJOT UK team on previous projects over many years, we knew they would have the products, resources and expertise to confirm our own calculations.

"Combining our prognosis data with Applitec's physical testing capabilities meant we could achieve a fastener specification that everyone in the project could depend on. It enabled Fowler McKenzie to move forward with the envelope construction with complete

confidence, providing peace of mind for the main contractor and the client that the roof will perform as specified."

Pullout tests conducted by EJOT's technical team confirmed the suitability of the two recommended fasteners. They also looked deeper into the material characteristics of the proposed envelope build-up, including an analysis of the steel section using X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) technology and withdrawal testing on the glulam sections which were conditioned in one of Applitec's dedicated chambers for one week. Installation depth was also carefully monitored to further ensure quality control and consistency.

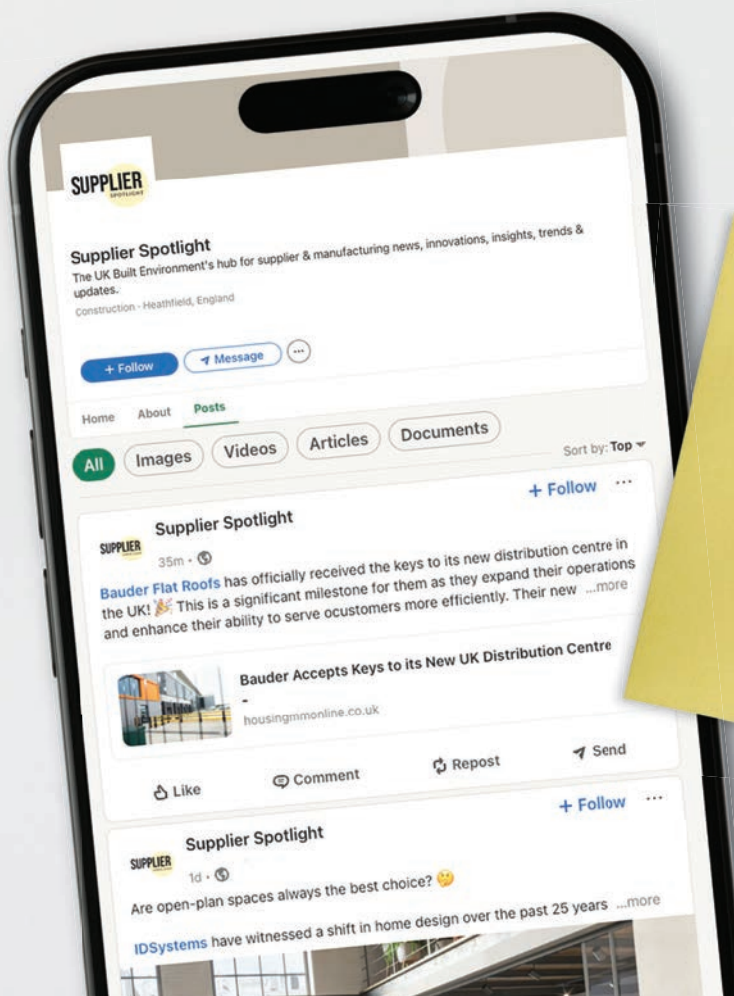
Jon Knaggs, technical manager for Industrial Light Weight Construction at EJOT UK added: "When Tektum approached us for a standing seam fixing solution we immediately recommended two types of our JT3 fastener. One of these, the FM Approved JT3-X2-6.0, is actually purpose-designed for fixing standing seams and brackets back to steel and aluminium substructures, and has been used on projects where Kalzip is specified, as well as other similar systems, for many years."

01977 687040
www.ejot.co.uk



SUPPLIER

SPOTLIGHT



Your new Source of
Manufacturing
insights!

WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/SHOWCASE/SUPPLIER-SPOTLIGHT

