The worldwide patented burner system for restaurants, hotels, living areas, outside areas, as decoration or for wellness areas.

- Leaking arrestive through specialized wick system
- The supply allows a mesmerizing flame over a period of around 4-6 hours (depending on model).
- Due to the easy handling the La Vela can be used fast and effective.
- For the perfect fire enjoyment with an almost odorless combustion
- La Vela is available in 9 different sizes and therefore usable in a versatile manner.

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Front Cover...Photo kindly supplied by Craven Dunnill
www.cravendunnill.co.uk

www.cravendunnill.co.uk
Aluprof On Refurbishment

Back in the late 1960’s, Architect Richard Rogers designed and completed ‘22 Parkside’ with his then wife Su Brumwell, he considers this residential project to be one of the best examples of his early work. He links it to a far more spectacular and famous building, the Pompidou centre in Paris, which he had just begun work on at the time with Renzo Piano. Four years ago, 22 Parkside was granted Grade II listing and is now widely regarded as one of Lord Rogers best examples of his early postmodern architecture.

Lord Rogers donated the building to the Harvard Graduate School of Design who appointed architect Philip Gumuchdjian and his practice to refurbish the property whilst maintaining the unique appearance of this iconic structure. One of projects’ features was its design as a kit of parts that could be quickly assembled on site, something that was quite radical at the time.

During the refurbishment, one of the main criteria was the replacement of all 36 wall panels. These were the original 2” thick aluminium faced ‘Alcoa’ wall panels, complete with a rigid Asbestolux lining and polyurethane insulated core. With the safe removal of the asbestos filled wall panels, the original aluminium framed doors, windows and ventilators were removed from the panels and refurbished.

With the assistance of Aluprof UK, new panels were designed around the company’s high-performance MB-59S system which were of 75 mm thickness and incorporated a rigid polyurethane insulation and fireboard covered with a 2mm powder coated aluminum skin to both sides. The new panels were designed to match the original Alcoa panels and consisted of a new jointing ‘zip’ gasket, again to match existing, extruded from EPDM. The original aluminium framed doors, windows and ventilators were then refitted into the new panels with new EPDM gaskets. The newly installed panels now have a U value of just 0.4 W/m²K.

Aluprof are delighted to have been involved with the grade II listed project which typifies the companies flexible and bespoke approach to all construction projects, either new or of a complex refurbishment arrangement such as this.

Aluprof’s extensive range of systems which include unitised curtain walling, sliding folding doors and a wide range of window systems are increasingly being specified on a variety of residential and commercial projects across the UK. All systems are designed and installed by selected, specially trained companies to ensure each product meets the Aluprof exacting standards.

Further information is available on the company website at aluprof.co.uk and specialist advice is available directly from Aluprof’s UK offices on 0161 941 4005.
**SPSenvirowall Makes First Cladding Division Appointment**

As part of its major expansion into the cladding market, leading external wall insulation and render provider SPSenvirowall has appointed a new Technical Specifications Manager to drive forward its new rainscreen cladding division. Gavin Ross is tasked with heading up the new division and introducing its innovative A1 non-combustible and bomb blast-rated cladding systems to the UK for the first time. Gavin, who joins the team from a leading cladding manufacturing company, said: "A major part of my role with SPSenvirowall is to work alongside architects, contractors and installers, supporting them with the right specification, technical detailing and cladding products for their projects, assisting the process from project conception to on site completion." www.spsenvirowall.co.uk

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**Flowfresh Renews HACCP International Certification Over a Decade After First Application**

The ultra-hygienic polyurethane flooring range Flowfresh has successfully achieved HACCP International certification for the second time, with Flowfresh Cove included in the accredited collection for the first time. This certification comes just over a decade since the global resin flooring manufacturer Flowcrete Group Ltd. first established the blow-on based antibacterial agent Polygiene® with a robust polyurethane coating, creating what is now the go-to choice of flooring for the food and beverage industry. With an average life-span of approximately 15 years, food producers that have installed a Flowfresh finish know that the facility is protected for the long term against the costs and concerns of a failing floor. www.flowcrete.co.uk

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**Helifix Launches New Enhanced Website**

Masonry repair specialist, Helifix, has launched its new website at www.helifix.co.uk, offering enhanced navigation, functionality and content. The site contains over 100 Repair Details that cover most common masonry faults, such as crack stitching, reconnecting separated walls and creating load bearing masonry beams. In addition, there are an ever-growing number of case studies on all types of structures including listed buildings, converted properties and bridges. The redesigned site provides optimised viewing on any device, whether you are in the office on a desktop, at home on a tablet or on site on your smartphone. It provides 24/7 access to installation videos and blogs examining commonly occurring structural faults and appropriate repair strategies.

To complete the new, comprehensive, user-friendly website there is information on Helifix’s on-going smartphone. It provides 24/7 access to installation videos and blogs examining commonly occurring structural faults and appropriate repair strategies.

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**Aico Charity Bike Ride Raises Over £19K!**

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**TPG Are Celebrating 50 Years**

TPG – The Parkside Group Limited – is thanking its architectural, contractor and fabricator clients as they celebrate their 50th year and welcome in their Golden anniversary. As an independent, privately owned British company, the Parkside Group Limited shares its remarkable history and new highlights its ambitious strategy for the future.

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

Handwired within the DNA of a business that has survived and thrived for over 50 years is customer service. To put this longevity in perspective, when The Parkside Group Limited was founded, NASA had not yet taken a giant leap for mankind and landed on the moon. Since 1967 The Parkside Group Limited has worked through great recessions, 3-day weeks and the Black Monday crash, whilst always maintaining its unique customer service ethos, working with customers to supply innovative solutions that make their businesses profitable.

The Parkside Group Limited actively seeks to supply solutions and market leading delivery, that provides the market with cost efficiencies which stand the best of time.

Examples of this are operating a 100% in-stock philosophy and twice weekly delivery service, so fabricators can utilise all the cost savings of a JIT policy and for specification clients creating bespoke aluminium profiles & systems that provide fast-track, robust solutions. In 1987 Aico Architectural Hardware joined the group and the famous TC-8800 Transom Closer stormed the door hardware market, and still today Aico is the number 1 branded architectural door closer for reliability and performance. To celebrate the Golden Anniversary, The Parkside Group Limited has a new brand identity to take them through the next 50 years of ambitious plans.

The Parkside Group Limited, now TPG, uses the heritage of the diamond brand identity to take them through the next 50 years of ambitious plans. To celebrate the Golden Anniversary, The Parkside Group Limited has a new brand identity to take them through the next 50 years of ambitious plans.

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

The competitive advantage of the innovation strategy provides “fast to market” new products that exceed the offer of the competition at a cost-efficient price. Examples of this are the launch of Comar 4579 Comfort Walling suite, a system with glazing strips up to 5mm and high-span additional mullions and transoms, that have the highest load and bye values in the industry. www.parksidegroup.co.uk www.comar-alu.co.uk

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**CCL Wetrooms Launch The NEW Frameless Grill For Wetroom Floors**

CCL Wetrooms have launched the latest development in Wetrooms drainage - the new Frameless Grill. The Frameless Grill: incorporating the minimalist beauty of a Stone-Infill Grill, but without the border of a metal frame. The new Frameless Grill, which only has a 5mm shadow gap visible around the perimeter of the drain and no visible frame, has been designed to complement all porcelains finishes and sanitary ware designs.

Delivering a fabulous finishing touch to any wetroom, the frameless grill is the latest development to the Stone-Infill Grill, the drainage grill that creates the look of a stunning continuous tiled floor. The new Frameless Grill surround creates the illusion of a floating tile. The Frameless Grill is manufactured in marine grade stainless steel and is suitable for use with porcelain and natural stone tiles. www.ccl-wetrooms.co.uk/blog/new-stone-infill-frameless-grill/
Aquatiere Launches New Website With A Special Page For Architects

Aquatiere is a supplier of domestic and commercial water filters and water treatment units. Aquatiere blends its own patented filter media with traditional filter media to produce the best possible filtered water in the UK. Aquatiere’s redeveloped website includes a page tailored for architects where a handpicked selection of products for architect specifications is displayed.

To make specification as easy as possible, content is arranged into a specific format following architectural advice. The product image is followed by concise text about the products and their features together with installation diagrams and specifications. Thus, as you can easily add the content to your own specifications, all the product information is available for download in PDF or MS word format for easy attachment or copy and paste into your document. www.aquatiere.co.uk

LED Floodlights Built For The British Weather...

Our temperate maritime climate may be, relatively speaking mild, but it’s also quite wet - hence our lush green countryside. With much of our weather arriving from the Atlantic as well, it all adds up to a recipe for corrosion. Rusty fittings, casings, screws and brackets on outdoor lights are an all too familiar sight. Until now you could only choose to put up with it - not ideal - or make regular replacements - not exactly a modern, sustainable approach.

Now, with Timeguard’s new Coastal range you can fit kit that will look good for longer. Rust is avoided because all the parts which have to be made of metal have been replaced with high-grade stainless steel, from the brackets to the screws and even pcb components. 10W, 20W and 30W floodlights with integral PIR detectors are available, all with slave terminals to connect external loads. There’s also a new parallel switching facility, so you can connect up to four floodlights in parallel such that any detector will switch them all on.

Another great new feature is the curved Timeguard panning bracket. No longer do you have to align floodlights flat to the wall, this clever curved bracket enables you to pan as well as tilt. www.timeguard.com

Ancon Further Extends Its ST1 Wall Tie Range For Super-Insulated High-Rise Buildings

Now available in lengths of 325mm and 350mm, the Ancon ST1 wall tie range has been extended to suit high-rise masonry buildings with insulated cavities up to 225mm wide. This latest wall tie development clearly demonstrates that Ancon continues to lead the field in masonry fixings. The ST1 is the only heavy duty wall tie on the market suitable for these super-insulated cavities and, with wall tie installation being such a hot topic following the collapse of an Edinburgh school wall as a result of poor workmanship, these new longer lengths of ST1 feature a maximum design cavity embedment guide at each end of installation.

The Type 1 (heavy duty) performance of these ties is independently verified by tension and compression tests in M2 mortar at Lucideon and declared through Ancon’s ‘CE’ labelling and documentation. Type 1 wall ties are suitable for virtually any building type, height and geographical location and are installed at a standard spacing of 2.5 ties per square metre; they are typically used on developments over 15 metres in height. Available in boxes of 250 ties, the Ancon ST1 is value-engineered from stainless steel strip. www.ancon.co.uk.

Caught On Camera! Aico Launches Informative Video Collection

As part of its ongoing commitment to providing the very best customer support, Aico Ltd. – the market leader in residential Fire and Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms in the UK – has created a 15 part series of short informative videos. Presented by key Aico personnel, including National Technical Manager, Martyn Walley, the new collection of videos has been designed to provide customers with a range of educational and practical advice. The videos address subjects such as standards, regulations, best practice, the latest Aico alarm technology such as AudioLINK data extraction and step by step guides to the most frequently asked questions, including how to test an alarm and how to change a battery.

The full 15 part video collection is available to watch now on the Aico’s YouTube channel www.youtube.com/user/aicoalarms or on www.aico.co.uk/about-aico/support/information-videos.

Easi-Dec is the cost saving alternative to scaffolding because it’s quick to erect, with a minimal amount of parts, to get people working sooner after arriving on site.

The basic system includes a standard platform, but our full range offers solutions for both solar panel and window installation. With health & safety being at the core of the system, Easi-Dec is EN tested, with full training provided on request.

For further information call 01767 691812 or email info@easi-dec.com.

Don’t forget to check out our videos at www.easi-dec.co.uk.
Marshalls Launch New Ethical Risk Index

During recent years, improper practice in large organisations’ supply chains have been brought to light in the media, with brands such as ASOS, Mango and Marks and Spencer all being put in the spotlight, with issues including child workers and the exploitation of refugees being uncovered.

Ethical sourcing is an issue affecting many industries today, and is not going away any time soon. Issues including slave and child labour have traditionally marred the stone industry’s reputation, but a positive move towards transparent supply chains has been a sea change of late. However, sourcing in the stone industry is still a difficult area in which to clearly identify transparency in supply chains across the world.

Marshalls has acknowledged the industry’s need for an all-encompassing structure, which highlights potential issues when it comes to stone sourcing in a number of well-known countries, and brought varying measures together in the Ethical Risk Index.

The Marshalls Ethical Risk Index (ERI) uses a bespoke, independently audited scoring framework and gives a genuine insight into the multi-dimensional ethical challenges facing stone procurers to allow for more informed decision-making. It scores its own commercial stone portfolio against the industry ‘cluster’ for the corresponding origin of the stone in terms of ethical sourcing for that particular location.

The ERI has been developed in conjunction with Strirling Smith, an independent consultant who specialises in ethical trade and human rights at work. He has worked for SPEF, British Council, Fair Labor Association, trade unions, NGOs and several companies. He is a lead trainer for the Ethical Trading Initiative, and his areas of expertise include child labour, HIV/AIDS in the workplace, migrant labour, social dialogue and industrial relations, and health and safety at work.

Strirling has worked in more than thirty countries and his training manuals have been translated into more than twenty languages. He said: “The ERI is a huge step forward in transparency. Marshalls was the first company in the stone sector to join the Ethical Trading Initiative and has been a leader for more than a decade. The ERI is a measure of the supplier’s awareness, understanding and implementation of standards on corruption and bribery. The highest level of compliance would be the supplier prohibiting these activities with documented evidence including such things as ‘whistle blowing’.”

The ERI’s score is presented on two levels, a detailed breakdown across 10 assessment criteria, with a simple rating system derived from the average score, and consists of 10 different measures, all of which have equal bearing on the overall ERI score. These are:

- Modern Slavery Act Awareness
- Human Trafficking Policy and Disclosures
- Employment
- Health & Safety
- Governance
- Corruption & Bribery
- Income & Employment Security
- Social Well-being
- Social wellbeing
- Environmental

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The detailed scoring breakdown of each of the 10 measures not only illustrates how Marshalls score against the 10 criteria, but also against the average in that country. Ethical trade is only going to be successful when consumers are better informed, and the Ethical Risk Index is an important step in educating customers.

For further information, please visit: www.marshalls.co.uk/eri
Armourcoat Acoustic Creates A Calm And Inviting Environment

Decorative specialist Armoscuit exhibited at the Decorex International Exhibition in September. Taking place at the start of the London Design Festival in the grounds of historic Syon House, Decorex is synonymous with luxury design offering a collection of over 400 hand-selected exhibitors.

Armourcoat presented a stunning range of hand-applied polished plaster wall finishes and the latest additions to the Signature Collection. The company also launched their new Armourcoat Acoustic Plaster System designed to optimise the acoustics of interior spaces.

From large theatre halls, offices, classrooms, hotel receptions and private residences the use of hard sound reflective surfaces such as glass, wood and stone can cause excessive sound reverberation which leads to unpleasant noise levels. The Armourcoat Acoustic Plaster System offers a clean and smooth mineral surface that can be applied seamlessly over large expanses to both flat and curved surfaces. The correct control of sound can create a calmer and more pleasant environment.

Comprising of a special mineral wool composite panel that is bonded onto the substrate and finished with a seamless layer, the Armourcoat Acoustic Plaster System offers an elegant marble based plaster finish while allowing sound energy to pass through the surface. The zero VOC system, which consists of 80% recycled material, achieves class ‘A’ fire rating and a class ‘A’ Noise Reduction Coefficient rating.

An array of global projects for an impressive list of international blue chip clients in the residential, hospitality and boutique retail sectors have established Armoscuit as a leading supplier of high quality surface finishes. Armourcoat products are made from natural minerals including recycled Italian marble, contain low or zero VOCs, and have the added confidence of a full 10 year guarantee. www.armourcoat.com

Mcavoy Awarded £8.2M Contract To Design And Build New Romford Free School Academy Offsite

The McAvoy Group has been awarded an £8.2m contract for the design and offsite construction of a new 630-place primary school for Concordia Academy in Romford. The 2,972m² three-form entry free school will create an exemplar learning environment, reflecting the academy’s vision and ethos and providing a valuable facility for the community.

Funded by the Department for Education via the Education and Skills Funding Agency, the school will be operated by REAch2 Academy Trust – the largest primary only academy trust in the UK. The use of a McAvoy offsite solution for the project is allowing the development of a highly constrained brownfield site. The new building will be just 1.5m from the site boundary to the front elevation. Modular construction will significantly reduce disruption to the surrounding residential area and will cut the build programme to just 12 months. The first of 67 modules will arrive on site in the autumn. McAvoy has also provided a suite of interim school buildings for the academy, until its new building opens in September 2018.

Raymond Millar, Construction Director of principal contractor McAvoy, said, “We are delighted to be building this wonderful new school which will provide much needed primary school places for the local community in Romford. We will be using the latest advances in education design and offsite construction to create an inspiring environment for teaching and learning, and an outstanding school to help every child realise their highest aspirations.”

“Offsite construction offers clear benefits for the delivery of new education facilities. On this project, the solution from McAvoy is enabling the development of a very restricted and challenging brownfield site, and with much less disruption to the local community. It offers the opportunity for increased value for money, greater quality control and programme benefits because the construction work can progress offsite in the factory while groundworks are put in place on site. Speed of construction is key when the demand for school places continues to rise.”

Due for completion for the start of the 2018/19 academic year, the new state-of-the-art school will help to address the urgent need for additional primary places in the South East. The London Borough of Havering has seen a significant increase in birth rates and this is projected to continue. The local population is set to rise by 11.2 per cent by 2021, further intensifying the pressure on school places.

Designed by Blue Sky Architects, the Concordia scheme will occupy the site of a disused nurses’ home. The curriculum areas will be organised in clusters of three for each year group, and with a linear band of classrooms either side of a central corridor. The teaching spaces are designed to be flexible, allowing adaptation to support future modes of curriculum delivery or advances in technology. Facilities will include a music and drama studio, main hall with adjacent smaller hall, 14 classrooms, full catering kitchen, activity room, small group learning rooms, staff room and offices.

The design solution maximises the external play space within the site and the landscaping will create an inspirational external environment to reflect and support the school’s educational needs. There will be a hard surfaced games area for high-energy play; an informal outdoor learning area with flexible fabric canopy to provide a shaded area; a garden space with raised planting beds; a dedicated, secure reception play area along the southern elevation, and a natural habitat ecology zone.

The contemporary design for the new school combines strong lines, bold geometric shapes and a palette of materials that includes red brick, timber-effect cladding, render and high levels of glazing. Elements of colour provide bright accents to reflect the school’s corporate identity and emphasise the architectural features. There are brick and rendered bands to the curriculum wing, with full height glazing to the recessed areas which allow light into the break-out and circulation spaces.

For further information, visit www.mcavogroup.com, call 0208 8774 0372 or email info@mcavogroup.com.
Bentinck Street is found between Welbeck Street and Manchester Square in Marylebone and was named after the family surname of the Duke of Portland. Charles Dickens once resided on this street with his father. Number 20, part of the Howard De Walden Estate, has been converted to a high spec orthopaedic clinic. The original timeworn windows were draughty and allowed high levels of noise ingress, neither of which are ideal conditions for patients recovering from treatment.

Architects Frank Shaw, generated a design to make the building fit for purpose in its new role, which involved the installation of secondary glazing to the front elevation of the building, to enhance the acoustic performance and thermal retention of the original glazing. The Series 41 side hung casements were selected, due to the units having a flush glass to frame detail which lessens the build-up of dust and dirt. All the casements were glazed with sealed units housing integral blinds to maintain a clean environment and provide patient privacy.

Selectaglaze subsequently installed 30 units, some of which were 2200mm (h) x 820mm (w). The installation was a success and the thermal and noise enhancements can already be felt in the rooms. It is hoped patient stays will be quiet, comfortable, private and clean.

Royal Warrant Holder Selectaglaze is the specialist in the design, manufacture and installation of secondary glazing. Selectaglaze works closely with clients to make buildings warmer, quieter and safer. For more information contact 01727 837271 or visit: www.selectaglaze.co.uk

Wrightstyle Working On Europe’s Largest Construction Project

One of the UK’s leading suppliers of advanced glazing systems has added to its transport portfolio by supplying a range of systems for five new Crossrail stations. Devizes-based Wrightstyle is supplying to Bond Street, Farringdon, Liverpool Street, Whitechapel and Woolwich stations on what will become the Elizabeth Line.

The systems include blast-rated curtain walling, structurally glazed screens, and Fire-rated and ballistic screens. The line is expected to fully open at the end of 2018 and will increase London’s rail capacity by 10% when it is fully operational. The £14.8 billion Elizabeth Line will have 40 stations, including ten new stations, with up to 24 trains running each hour in both directions on its 100 kilometre route. In Whitechapel station, pictured, Wrightstyle has been contracted by Kilnbridge to fabricate, supply and install a range of curtain wall screens for the station’s new ticket hall on its mezzanine level. Building work on the new station has been complicated by its importance as an interchange for both the Hammersmith & City and District lines and the London Overground.

Wrightstyle has completed a number of recent prestigious transportation projects, both in the UK and internationally, including a major railway hub in Hong Kong and the iconic frontage of London’s King’s Cross station. The company has become an international leader in the supply of guaranteed systems to mitigate against fire or ballistic or bomb attack – and has live tested its systems against both car and lorry bomb attack. Wrightstyle is also a major supplier to airports around the world, including several in the UK, providing a high level of protection against a range of threats. www.wrightstyle.co.uk

Selectaglaze Lives Up To Great Expectations

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Yeoman Shield products put an end to costly re-painting and repair.

For more information call 0113 279 5854 or email sallyann@yeomanshield.com

www.yeomanshield.com

PROTECTION FOR WALLS, DOORS and your budget
Yeoman Shield Fire Rated Door Protection Products Can Help With Fire Door Safety

Expensive fire doors are like sitting ducks when it comes to impact damage. Vulnerable glazing beads can be splintered and split, door edges can be carved up whilst door surfaces can experience dents and holes. The very kind of impairment which can render a fire door ineffective - risking the safety of lives and buildings.

Installed on new doors, Yeoman Shield products can be the solution to stopping damage occurring from the start. They can, however, also be retro fitted to doors already in use - that have slight/medium damage already inflicted on them - helping to improve their appearance and condition.

Yeoman Shield Door Edge Protectors - Fitted to new doors or retro-fitted to doors already in use Yeoman Shield Door Edge Protectors save meeting and hinged edges from damage. This protection helps to maintain a gap no more than 3mm between frames and door edges, which will ensure that intumescent seals will function correctly in the event of a fire. Available for ½ hour and 1 hour fire rated applications with a choice of fire or fire and smoke seals.

Yeoman Shield Door Protection Panels & Plates - A PVCu panel supplied in 2500 x 1250mm sheets (or cut to required size) and 2.0mm thick, this fire rated material can be fitted to new or existing doors to protect the leaves of doors from unsightly damage which can be detrimental to both the appearance – and more importantly - the integrity of the fire door. Door panels can be shaped on Yeoman Shield’s in house CNC machine or have images inserted into the leaves for design and information purposes.

Yeoman Shield PVCu Clad Glazing Bead - Designed to reduce damage and expensive maintenance cost to the vision panel apertures of fire doors the Yeoman Shield PVCu clad glazing bead can give existing damaged doors a new lease of life.

Affording protection to the seal around the glass which slows down the progression of smoke and flame, as with all Yeoman Shield door protection products, the glazing beads can be fitted to new or existing doors without affecting the doors fire integrity. The beads can be tailored to the refurbishment of damaged timber beads and fire glass to your requirements by replacing just one bead, both beads or beads and glazing.

Full and comprehensive details on fire certification and details required before installation can commence is available from the technical sales office or at www.yeomanshield.com

New Schueco Jansen Renovation Window Has Additional Features

New from leading steel specialist, Schueco Jansen, is Janisol Arte 2.0, a refined version of the original Janisol Arte renovation window that now comes with an enhanced specification and improved performance characteristics.

As elegantly retro in appearance as its predecessor, Janisol Arte 2.0 offers a new and enlarged range of profiles with sight-lines from 25 mm, including a new profile shape with an integrated weatherstrip groove which offers a push-in rebate gasket to simplify and speed-up fabrication times.

There are also new glazing bead shapes – right-angled, bevilled, scotia and flat – making it even easier to find an exact match for steel windows that are being replaced.

Importantly, the range of projects for which the window is suitable has expanded because it is now possible to add lean-walled profiles to standard Arte profiles to increase mullion spans for larger areas of fenestration. The new Janisol Arte 2.0 window is available in all the conventional opening types currently encountered in both pre- and post-war industrial buildings, but maximum vent weights have increased to 150 kg as a result of the adoption of new 3D adjustable stainless steel hinges.

Another benefit is that simpler fabrication techniques reduce manufacturing time by up to 65%, meaning that six and a half Janisol Arte 2.0 vents can be produced in the time it took to make a single vent in the old system. Special new foam profiles located between the glass and the frame mean that insulation has been significantly enhanced and following the introduction of insert profiles – which also speed up fabrication – drainage has been made even more reliable.

Kalwall® Sheds Light On Education

Kalwall® translucent cladding has been extensively used for the impressive refurbishment of the main teaching block at Featherstone High School in Southall, Middlesex. The renovation required removal of the old concrete spandrel panels, repairs to the concrete structure and then over-cladding with Kalwall panels supported on a new steel frame which was added to extend the floor space.

The build was completed in two phases over the course of a year while the school continued to operate. The ability to keep the school functioning while the work was completed meant minimum disruption to staff and students.

The two fully replaced elevations are a perfect example of how Kalwall can be used for the refurbishment of old and failing cladding and for aged buildings. The new façades allow floor to ceiling diffused and healthy daylight to flood the interior while providing privacy and removing any distractions. An integrated row of clerestory windows provides ventilation and limited views to the outside. Studies show there is a high correlation between daylighting and increased human comfort. Kalwall eliminates all shadows and glare and the stark contrasts of light and shade which rot reduces eye fatigue and enhances concentration.

The system also enhances simplicity by doing away with the need for blinds, curtains or solar control. Even on cloudy days, the interior is flooded with natural daylight, which means less artificial lighting and, because Kalwall is highly insulating, energy costs are reduced. The standard Kalwall 70mm thick panel offers insulation up to 0.28W/m²k - equivalent to a cavity filled solid wall. www.structure-uk.com/kalwall
Julian Sargent, group managing director of partitioning expert Style, considers the need to balance collaborative working with privacy.

Designed with the aim of improving productivity by developing a collaborative culture, the modern, open plan office has largely become the norm. However, a recent Gallup report on the state of the global workplace found only 11% of employees are engaged and inspired at work, with 63% being unmotivated and unlikely to invest effort in organizational goals or outcomes. The report goes on to show that privacy is often under-valued and the drive for collaboration needs to be balanced with space for quiet, solo endeavour. Providing options to ensure all employees have an appropriate setting that is conducive to maximising their output, at any point in time, is a very tall order.

In addition, today’s millennials have high expectations for their work environment and a grey cubicle and staff canteen is unlikely to attract the bright young talent that you want. As the boundaries between work and personal life become ever more blurred, employees expect varied workspaces, vibrant interior design, creative lighting, comfy areas for eating and socialising with colleagues, as well as places where they can work in peace when required. In these competitive times, attracting the right employees in the first place means offering a more exciting, fluid working environment.

Certainly, participating in meetings, informal conversations, brainstorming sessions and working in adaptable groups, have all been shown to lead to greater creativity and innovation, resulting in increased productivity. However, different individuals will be most productive in different environments on different days, depending on their mood and the task in hand. There is no one definitive solution to office design and flexibility is key, as the recent transformation of the London offices of global leader in online trading, IG Group, clearly demonstrates.

Style was brought into this project by the architect ID:SR Sheppard Robson, to work alongside workplace specialist BW, to create a uniquely flexible office environment, quite unlike anything that had ever been done before. IG Group was seeking to create adaptable meeting spaces within an open plan area. Here, employees could gather to discuss ideas or share information, with the ability to screen themselves off as required, whilst making good use of the walls as magnetic, writable white-boards.

“The concept of individual allocated offices was removed, to be replaced by innovative furniture pods,” explains Paul Etherington, Senior Project Manager for BW. “Existing lighting was changed for contemporary LED fittings, significantly enhancing the environment, whilst tea point hubs would provide a place for casual interactions with colleagues, to work and socialise.”

It was anticipated that teams may often be gathered in small breakout units but working on the same project as others in the area, so it would also be necessary to have a means of sharing ideas between the groups.

When Style first considered the brief, it was clear that there was no existing template for such a movable wall solution. Our technical team went right back to the drawing board, designing panels from scratch and devising the optimum way to enable them to move freely, yet be secure when still and rotate when necessary.

Once manufactured, the resulting installation of panels, slide and spin across the open office space, creating informal, collaborative meeting areas for groups of anything from two to twenty people. Delivering the required level of functionality, both sides of the panels act as magnetic writable white-boards, making them great for brainstorming sessions. A further adaptation means each panel can be swivelled round, allowing other people to see what is written on them, effectively bringing them into the discussion.

“The feedback we have received from the client and their professional team has been outstanding,” confirms Etherington. “The re-design has delivered the wow-factor to the project stakeholders and the staff are using the space positively, adapting to the agile new working environment that has been delivered.”

Clearly office design in the future will redefine boundaries between departments, breaking down traditional models with the aim of improving everybody’s performance by creating relaxed and positive working environments. The challenge is in coming up with product solutions, such as this new movable system, that matches an increasingly complex range of demands.
The German premium manufacturer of firing technology Spartherm proudly presents an exclusive range of bioethanol fireplaces branded ebios-fire® which are now also made available for the discerning customer in Great Britain. Made And Tested In Germany - in order to provide an optimum of customer service, the expansive range of ebios-fire® models comprises both standard and made to measure built-in fireplace models in almost any thinkable layout.

Great versatility, product safety and outstanding German quality are key values at Spartherm’s production facilities where all ebios-fire® models are originally designed, crafted and tested by passionate, skilled craftsmen. Test certificates issued by TÜV Germany further underline the outstanding safety of ebios-fire® bioethanol fires, which feature a wide choice of manual and automatic bioethanol burners.

Versatility Is key - The ebios-fire® range of products is available in a vast variety of finishes meeting the requirements of architects and interior designers on an international level.

A Burning Passion For FIRE

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In July this year, Offsite Solutions announced a £5m investment programme to expand its production facilities in Somerset to meet the growing demand for its factory-built bathrooms. This will be the biggest expansion programme in the history of the company. The first phase of the expansion is already complete – a new 45,000sqft production facility that has doubled capacity for steel-framed bathroom pods. A £3m investment will bring the company’s production operations together in a new, purpose-designed, state-of-the-art factory.

Offsite Solutions offers a comprehensive and expanding range of bathroom pods to suit different building types and applications. Options include steel-framed pods with traditional tiled finishes for high-end apartments, student residences and hotels; robust and low maintenance GRP composite pods for student accommodation, care homes, social housing and healthcare; hybrid pods for specialist projects, and award-winning demountable GRP pods for ease of installation in refurbishment schemes.

For further information, visit www.offsitesolutions.com, call 01278 760807 or email info@offsitesolutions.com.
Over the last few hundred years, hydrogen gas has demonstrated a therapeutic effect on over 150 human diseases, as well as enhanced health and wellbeing. As revolutionary as this may be, what exactly is hydrogen? Furthermore, why should hydrogen be included in your water?

The people of Japan have been bathing in Hydrogen Rich water for centuries, their natural hot springs, known as Onsens, are sought after for their salubrious and invigorating effects. It is well documented that dissolved Hydrogen gas is what gives the waters of Nordenau, Germany and Tlacote, Mexico, their medicinal prowess. 1978 marks the earliest record of hydrogen’s medicinal properties, where cases of inflammation were successfully treated. The topic did not gain true popularity among scientists until 2007, when an article on the benefits of hydrogen was published in the prestigious journal of Nature Medicine.

Hydrogen is colourless, odorless, tasteless and non-metallic. It is the lightest and simplest element in our known universe, expressed as the symbol ‘H’. It is comprised of just a single electron and proton. Under regular conditions it exists primarily as molecular hydrogen (H₂ gas). In this form, hydrogen has been shown to exert an extensive range of therapeutic effects.

When H₂ gas is present in water it is referred to as Hydrogen-enriched water and is simply conventional water (H₂O) that contains dissolved hydrogen gas (H₂). For example, there are carbonated soft drinks such as sodas and sparkling waters that contain dissolved carbon dioxide gas (CO₂). In contrast water that contains dissolved hydrogen gas, is the best bet for a longer, healthier life.

Hydrogen is the smallest molecule in the universe; this minuscule proportion allows for a smooth diffusion into the sub-cellular compartments of the mitochondria and other locations in the human body. www.aquatiere.co.uk

Footnote: *Aquatiere does not recommend those types of beverages for improving health.

Why Hydrogen Rich Water In Your Home?

Office Partition Systems Are Safe And Sound With CRL

Glass partitions are an ideal way of creating an open-plan ambience within office buildings, but often have the problem of poor sound insulation which can be a real issue in busy buildings where quiet areas are necessary. The Office Partition XL from CRL can accommodate 28mm thick insulating glass which insulates sound up to 42dB, allowing people to work undistracted by noise around them.

Combined with its acoustic benefits, the Office Partition XL System makes installation quick and easy, enabling the feeling of openness and light created by large glazed walls simple to achieve in practically any space.

With the Office Partition XL System from CRL, the height of hinged doors can be easily adjusted, glass fabrication is not required and the doors can be installed in mounted ceiling profiles in wall-to-glass or glass-to-glass applications. Even floor-to-ceiling doors can be mounted, if desired. CRL offers a choice of high-quality door hinges, latches, and handle sets to complete the installation.

Offering a creative and effective solution for modern interior designs, the standard dry-glazed system provides a maximum transparency and an elegant appearance thanks to its thin, powder-coated profiles available in a satin anodised or brushed nickel finish. The profiles can be fixed to ceilings, floors, walls and door frames for a complete look, or are suitable for 8 to 16mm monolithic toughened glass or laminated glass and are supplied with EPDM fixing gaskets available in black or grey. To help with the glass panel installation, the CRL Vacuum Ratchet Tensioning Kit enables the glass panels to be easily placed and pulled together.

With no silicone sealants required, a clean and neat finish is achieved with polycarbonate joints that simply clip on the glass. Suitable for 180°, 135° and 90° abutment joints, T-connections and corner joints, the Office Partition System from CRL creates the impression of maximum transparency in interior design.

For information call CRL on 01706 863600 or visit www.crlaurence.co.uk

Footnote: *Aquatiere does not recommend those types of beverages for improving health.
**Bacteria Has Nowhere To Hide As New Sanitaryware Products Are Launched To Battle In-Hospital Infection**

Healthcare bathrooms can, if not carefully managed, provide a fertile breeding ground for the growth of bacteria and the spread of infection. Luckily, new innovations from sanitaryware brand Armitage Shanks can help to fight bacteria and provide optimum hygiene and infection control within hospitals. Here, the iconic British brand discusses its new Markwik 21+ fittings and Contour 21+ clinical ceramics ranges.

**About Markwik 21+**

Features are used throughout Markwik 21+’s design to maximize antimicrobial effect. A manual thermal flush feature allows maintenance staff to over-ride the thermostat and flush the fitting through with very hot water, preventing bacterial depositing. An integral thermostat enables water to be mixed closer to the point of discharge – eliminating the cold ‘dead leg’ and minimizing warm water areas.

Auto-flush technology ensures electronic fittings that are irregularly used are flushed with water every day, preventing bacteria formation. A ‘hydro-purge’ facility flushes water through the pipework and inlets to ensure a water ‘dead leg’ and minimizing warm water areas.

The Contour 21+ range includes integral SmartGuard+ antimicrobial additive technology. This antimicrobial protection reduces possible cross-contamination and maintains surface cleanliness and hygiene across its lifetime. Furthermore, the ultra-smooth glaze of SmartGuard+ has been designed to make it more difficult for bacteria to cling to the surface.

**About Contour 21+**

The Contour 21+ clinical basins feature advanced drainage to combat water pooling, a common source of bacterial growth. Its simple waste assembly ensures water drains instantly and vertically, through a smooth flow system, minimising water ‘dead leg’ and maintaining surface cleanliness. The Markwik 21+ and Contour 21+ ranges fit seamlessly together, providing a fully integrated system and the optimum in clinical hygiene.

The easy and flexible installation options of the new Markwik 21+ and Contour 21+ ranges make them simple to install and maintain. Contour 21+ can be installed by one person in 9 minutes compared to the current basin taking two people 18 minutes.

**Research**

Research shows high levels of splashing occurs when taps run into clinical basins, spreading bacteria and viruses as far as two metres. Contour 21+’s HydroFin—an innovative fin on the product base to deflect splashing and provide a fully integrated system and the optimum in clinical hygiene. Aside from the healthcare benefits, the products also fulfil the entire supply chain’s exacting criteria.

The easy and flexible installation options of the new Markwik 21+ and Contour 21+ ranges make them simple to install and maintain. Contour 21+ can be installed by one person in 9 minutes compared to the current basin taking two people 18 minutes.

**Furthermore, the product design makes both ranges easy to use.**

Hospital environments mean that infection can never be entirely eliminated. However, the use of intelligent sanitaryware can help to effectively battle bacteria and keep infection at bay. For more information on Armitage Shanks’ products, please visit: www.idealswipe.co.uk.

**Unique Calacatta From COMPAC – Perfection Of The Soul**

The beauty of the purest white quartz contrasts with dark, sinuous veining, giving rise to an elegance and luminosity like never before. This innovative worksurface from COMPAC makes it possible to decorate homes, apartments, hotels, restaurants, bars and public spaces with elegant overall compositions that transmit Leroy Merlin's desire to make every bathroom a serene and harmonious inbuid with personality and style.

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**The ceilings in the heated part of the ice rink provide a natural surface with a warm glow, contrasting between the cold crystalline rink and the warm club facilities.** Designed as a venue for sport and fun, the architects carefully thought out their choice of materials and finishes, such as concrete, wood and glass and acoustic panels. The City of Copenhagen also invested additional funds to ensure the project was eco-friendly both in its construction and daily operation. Specified throughout the UK and Europe, the benefits of 100% Troldtekt natural wood wool panels include high sound absorption, high durability, natural breathability, low cost life cycle performance and sustainability as documented by Cradle to Cradle certification at silver level. Available in various sizes and in three grades from ultrafine to coarse, they can be left untreated or painted in virtually any RAL colour.

**Yeoman Rainguard Rainwater Systems Chosen By Persimmon Homes For Luxury Renovation**

Yeoman Rainguard’s XL Aluminium rainwater systems, with traditional style, textured finish and colours, were chosen to mirror the grandeur and luxury of the renovation scheme. The exterior of what was the main hospital and clock tower, now exclusive and desirable apartments, was enhanced both visually and practically by the installation of Yeoman Rainguard XL Aluminium gutters and downpipes. A bespoke GRP fascia detail, manufactured by Yeoman Rainguard, sits stylishly below the gutters. The Chapel has been tastefully remodelled into 2 semi-detached properties and now sports XL Aluminium 125x100mm MOG gutters and 100mm dia. downspouts. Finished again in Grey the rainwater system dovetails perfectly with the overall exterior design. www.yeomanguard.co.uk

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**Scalping In The Quiet**

Some of the newest buildings are sports facilities such as ice rinks, halls and swimming pools where hard surfaces and large spaces exacerbate echoes and chatter. Architects Christensen & Co which designed a new and exciting ice skating rink in Hedted, a fast-developing suburb of Copenhagen, used a popular and very effective solution to the problem. To reduce sound reverberation, Troldtekt natural wood wool acoustic panels were installed to provide a calm and uniform surface, together with integrated lighting.

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Salice Furniture Fittings Have It All

SALICE are renowned for designing and manufacturing furniture systems where technological innovation is paired with functionality and design flair.

One such example is their Eclipse pocket door system, which is widely recognised as the market leader. Eclipse is a pocket door system that features an assisted soft-close door return mechanism and a door opening safety device. The system incorporates the exclusive synchronised cam movement which is the hallmark of all sliding mechanisms supplied by SALICE.

In addition, Eclipse has been designed to offer simple fitting and adjustment, and can be installed, adjusted and inspected in situ, as all three movements are adjusted from the front of the cabinet in a simple, intuitive way. If so required, the complete mechanism can be removed from the front without dismantling the cabinet side. Suitable for use with individual door weights up to 30kg, Eclipse assures innovative performance, durability and functionality.

SALICE’s products are specified for use within kitchens, bathrooms, bedrooms, living rooms, and offices, and in a variety of domestic and commercial environments.

For further information on the SALICE product range please telephone 01480 413831, email info.salice@saliceuk.co.uk or visit SALICE online at www.saliceuk.co.uk
Concrete Curves For Copthall Avenue

The recently refurbished reception of 25 Copthall Avenue by QOB Interiors and John Robertson Architects for developer Helix, includes new floor to ceiling glass, contemporary signage, virtual daylight luminaries and a stunning 120m² curved Armourcoat ‘KonCrete’ polished plaster wall to create a striking entrance.

The hand-applied polished plaster wall leads through into the transformed reception area, with a design feature that incorporates a custom stencil of the office address. The full height atrium floods light into the heart of the building creating a bright, spacious environment with a business lounge and in-house café.

Armourcoat ‘KonCrete’ is an urban range of polished plaster colours and finishes designed for contemporary projects. The range offers a wealth of design options to achieve a distinctive modern look, including distressed effects or recessed ‘shutter’ markings.

www.armourcoat.com

Photography © Photobanks

University Of Kent Focusses On Accessibility In New Student Bathrooms

The University of Kent is maintaining a strong focus on accessibility within its residential student accommodation with the completion of four newly refurbished bathrooms in its Kemsdale Court and Stock Court buildings. The fully accessible bathrooms have been furnished with the latest design of height adjustable products from Pressalit Care, providing the flexibility and functionality required for students living away from home.

The Pressalit Care Plus system chosen by The University of Kent offers not just the ability to easily raise and lower the height of individual bathroom elements, but the wall-mounted Plus track system also allows for horizontal movement to suit individual needs. The new bathrooms feature the Matrix Curve hand basin where the ergonomic design helps with the practicalities of everyday use. The shallow bowl allows for wheelchair access underneath, whilst the curved front edge of the basin provides ease and comfort of use, in particular allowing easy reach of the tap.

Also chosen for the new bathrooms is the Pressalit Care shower seat, with back- and armrests. Electrically height adjustable by 500 mm with a wired hand control, the armrests are independently height adjustable. With foldable seat and arm rests, space in the bathrooms is maximised whilst maintaining space for manoeuvrability. Andrew Lowndes, UK Sales Manager at Pressalit Care adds, “The University of Kent has selected bathroom furniture to give them the ultimate in flexibility, and the ultimate in efficiency. By including height and horizontally adjustable products with hand control facilities, the bathrooms are truly future-proofed for students with differing requirements.”

www.pressalit.com

Local Charity Residents Given Level Access Showering Thanks To Marmox

As a manufacturer whose product range is synonymous with wet rooms and high specification bathrooms, Marmox has supplied ten of its specialist Showerstone level access trays for an apartment development in Newark, aimed at those likely to have mobility issues.

The new-build project at Parsons Mount on the town’s King’s Road, is being built for a local charity by Taylor Pearson Construction Ltd. and will eventually provide 22 high specification dwellings for retirees. Guy Taylor Associates is the regional architectural practice leading the widely acclaimed and sustainable project.

Phase 2, where the trays have been used, has created ten, one bedroom flats, on two floors where, on the ground floor the Marmox Showerstone trays were set within a screeded floor, while those upstairs have been installed into the timber joists to maintain level access. All of the 1000 x 1200mm Marmox trays were supplied via the Chesterfield branch of SIG.

The Showerstone is a solid shower base that can be laid directly onto timber joists without any further support needed but in this instance, it was the ideal solution for the whole project, being that it could also be sited into conventional cement based screed. Strong enough to support a load of 400kg, the Showerstone is made with a combination of polymer-concrete and GRP material, which makes it almost unbreakable and robust enough to allow vinyl or mosaic tiles to be laid on top, without the risk of compression through point loading.

The base profile, which slopes from an outside thickness of 22mm down to 5mm, is designed to be compatible with the Marmox McAlpine drain which is supplied in two versions: for tile or the vinyl flooring applications. www.marmox.co.uk
New ZYX – The Future Of 3D Tiles

Craven Dunnill, the award-winning tile supplier, has broadened its appeal to interior designers and architects with the launch of the new ZYX collection of three-dimensional (3D) wall tiles, autumn 2017. Designed for those seeking to create a powerful canvas, ZYX looks beyond the current trend for small format brick-shaped and square tiles, exploring the new formats of triangles and diamonds, featuring varying 3D relief and a multitude of decorative finishes.

The ZYX collection of wall tiles from Craven Dunnill provides maximum scope to create a unique and dramatic feature in the home or public space. Available on special order. Craven Dunnill is the award-winning distributor and retailer of contemporary floor and wall tiles, supplying architects, interior designers and installers. Craven Dunnill: T: 01746 761611 www.cravendunnill.co.uk

Dallmer To Show At Sleep Exhibition On Stand G28

The German based shower drain specialist, Dallmer, will be showcasing some of its most stylish and popular products during this year’s Sleep Exhibition, being staged at the Business Design Centre in London (November 21st – 22nd). Visitors to the event will find Dallmer on stand G28 to see and feel the quality of its linear floor drains first hand, as well as being able to consult the company’s technical sales staff about the specific needs of their own installation or potential projects. Amongst the key products featured on the stand will be Dallflex, as well as CeraWall P and CeraWall S units: offering customers versatile solutions to removing high volumes of water from shower enclosures, stylishly and effectively. The Dallflex DN10 drain body can actually coordinate with Caraflex, Caraflexion and Zentrix as well as CeraWall shower channels, offering rugged polypropylene construction with height adjustment, bull-pointed outlet and an integral sealing collar.

CeraWall P or Plan channel is produced in 1000-1500 mm lengths and can be used with floor finishes from 12 to 24 mm thick, while CeraWall S in polished stainless steel ranges from 800-1500mm. There are also 800 and 900 mm options in satin stainless steel. Dallmer’s participation at the Sleep Exhibition will ensure any bedroom can be given the ultimate en-suite bathroom.

www.dallmer.com/en

Morley Launches Smart Solution For Home Automation Integration

Integral blinds manufacturer Morley Glass & Glazing has developed SmartMotion, a unique interface that helps installers quickly and easily incorporate its motorised integral blinds into home automation systems.

Ian Short, managing director of Morley Glass & Glazing said: “The global home automation market was valued at $4.41 billion in 2014 and is set to grow by 26.3% by 2020. Home automation systems integrate various domestic applications such as lighting, heating, safety and security, energy management, entertainment systems – and motorised integral blinds - and are growing in popularity in the UK, as the concept of ‘smart’ homes takes off.

"An increasing number of our customers are being asked to incorporate our motorised Uni-blinds’ integral blinds into electric-powered home automation systems – and in the past it has been a daunting and a complex task that could cause damage to the wiring of the blinds or the home automation system. This inspired us to commission the development of a unique interface called the SmartMotion which makes the process so simple it’s child’s play. In one easy step the operation of the blinds is smoothly integrated into the whole home automation system so that they can be controlled at the touch of a button, even when you’re not at home.

"The SmartMotion is exclusive to Morley Glass & Glazing and is compatible with the MB System of Uni-Blinds’, which operates using an electric brushless motor. It is supplied pre-wired and fully tested, making for a smooth, problem-free installation. www.morleyglass.co.uk
London GP Surgery Gets The Pendock Treatment

Pendock, the manufacturer of Pipe Boxing, Column Casings, Radiator Guards and specialist Perimeter Casings for heating, has supplied a range of products for work on a doctors’ practice, located in South-east London.

When undertaking the refurbishment of the Albion Street Group Practice in Rochester, the contractor, Western Service Management Ltd., rapidly identified that there was a potential risk of burn/scald injury to the building’s occupants from the heating system’s exposed pipework and radiators as well as aesthetic issues.

This led the Project Manager, Mazin Amin, to contact Pendock as a trusted past supplier to source a protection solution to the issue, which would also be practical in terms of hygiene and the cleaning regime required by a medical establishment as well as safe, the system also needed to look attractive and be straightforward to install. Being a refurbishment project, Pendock was required to produce bespoke as well as standard radiator enclosures for some of the rooms, which are also not truly square.

The specialist contractor decided to purchase 17 standard and bespoke Ultima Plus Radiator Guards for the surgery; these Low Surface Temperature (LST) guards have been designed to provide the ultimate in protection against burns, while the ‘bullnose’ corners afford further safety in situations where patients might fall accidentally or be at risk from self-harm. Ultima and Ultima Plus guards, as with all items in Pendock’s radiator guard range, are finished with an anti-bacterial coating able to combat MRSA, Salmonella, E. coli and C-difficile. www.pendock.co.uk

Marmox Multiboards Facilitate Fit Out Of Queenshurst Apartments

Work to complete the final phase of a luxury residential development at Kingston-upon-Thames has included the use of versatile high performance Multiboards from the range of Marmox Limited. The fit out of the bathrooms within the one, two and three bedroom apartments in this third phase to Berkeley Group’s very popular Queenshurst project has been carried out by specialist sub-contractor, South Eastern Carpentry.

Its operatives are making use of 6mm thick 1250 x 600mm Multiboards as a robust and moisture-proof tile backer as they complete the bathroom interiors. Marmox Multiboards are manufactured from extruded polystyrene or XPS and offer a range of positive physical characteristics in addition to being fully waterproof. They are both light to handle and easy to cut, while still being able to sustain substantial loadings if required. They further offer good thermal insulation performance, helping to cut condensation risk.

Elsewhere the boards have featured in other domestic, commercial and educational projects across the country. They were even used to replace badly deteriorated ceiling panels high above a public swimming pool in Peterborough where ease of installation and resistance to moist aggressive conditions were paramount. www.marmox.co.uk

tp24’s G40 Downlights Prove Perfect For Pinelog

tp24, premier manufacturer of LED lighting solutions, are delighted to be working in partnership with Pinelog, one of the UK’s leading timber lodge manufacturers, by supplying their G40 downlights for installation within all of their Pine lodges.

Pinelog has over 30 years’ design and build experience and today, their luxury Pine lodges are built for holiday parks and private individuals all over the UK – from the Shetland Islands to Cornwall.

Committed to building environmentally friendly and sustainable lodges, Pinelog specifies tp24’s G40 downlights as they provide the perfect low energy lighting solution. They are also incredibly simple and quick for their electricians to install due to their easy fit plug and play option which eliminates the need to strip wires or wire plugs. They are also available in a choice of finishes of chrome, satin silver or white and, at only 50mm deep they are ideal for sloping ceilings or where space is limited.

Additional options include either a round or square bezel, clear or frosted 3.5W lamps, as well as a new 5W frosted dimmable lamp. Furthermore, to ensure long maintenance and peace of mind, all lamps come with a two year warranty and are replaceable.

Paula Skelton, Associate Director of Pinelog commented, “Working with tp24 has been superb in every way – our electricians have commented on how quick and easy their downlights are to install and, as a customer, we are reassured by tp24’s continuity of supply and excellent customer support. We always strive to exceed our customers’ expectations and we care about the environment too so the incorporation of tp24’s G40 downlights into our lodges is a good match for us”.

For further information on tp24’s full range of LED lighting solutions please telephone 01354 691919 or visit www.tp24.com
Guernsey Fire & Rescue Recommends Aico Alarms Across The Island

Guernsey Fire & Rescue Service is fitting Aico Smoke and Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms into islanders’ homes as part of a campaign run by the Service to ensure homes and businesses are made safe.

Guernsey Fire & Rescue Service conducts a risk assessment of every property before deciding which alarms to fit, also taking into account the occupiers.

“Those considered most at risk, including those over 75, the very young and the elderly, may require extra protection so we will fit additional alarms in those properties,” states Martin Lucas, Head of Fire Safety at Guernsey Fire & Rescue Service.

“We have been running a five strake Alarm programme for eight years – thanks to sponsorship from prominent Island companies – but decided to swap to Aico following issues with the Zen air curtain in-situ using an image of the entrance supplied by the client. The Zen air curtain is supplied as standard with anodized aluminium fascia panels and a galvanised steel central structure finished in black forge; other RAL colours available on request. The unit can be mounted on brackets or drop rods horizontally above doorways up to 4.2m high to seal the entrance with an invisible barrier of air. This helps prevent cold air entering in the winter and cool conditioned air escaping in the summer. The air curtain is easy to install and available in 0.5m lengths from 1 to 2.5m with the option to join units to cover very wide entrances, making it ideal for use in shops, restaurants, hotels and public buildings.”

www.jsaircurtains.com

Effective Control For Heating Systems

The selection of programmers and times available today are many and varied and range from the simple to the far more complex. ESI is typical in that it offers a range of programmers from a simple 1 Channel version to a 3 Channel Multi-Purpose Programmer which enables the installer to comply with Part L of the Building Regulations by providing separate timed heating control for living and sleeping zones in a home, whilst also providing timed control of hot water. However, the ESI range all offers 24 hour 5/2 day and 7 day programming options for each channel. And these programmers also feature a ‘Landlord’ option to encourage social housing tenants to allow access for annual maintenance.

ESI provides a range of programmable room thermostats – a seven-day timer makes it possible to set a different heating pattern for each day while 5/2 programming offers different options for weekdays and weekends. www.esicontrols.co.uk

Wilo Brings New Generation Of Tried And Tested Heating Pump To The Market

Wilo has launched the new generation of the Wilo-Yonos PICO series small circulating pumps to the UK market. A range of new features has been added to this popular circulator primarily for residential homes and properties, for heating systems and air conditioning equipment.

With this new version, Wilo has succeeded in not only upgrading one of the most established products in the market, but also to an extent, it has been able to reinvent it thanks to new functionality and ease of use.

“Energy performance plays a major role of course, and many successful exciting features have been kept,” says Wilo UK’s Training and Technical Manager Gary Wheatley. “As in the previous version, the outstanding Wilo ECM technology performance is combined with a precise setting of 0.1°C. In addition, energy consumption can be monitored continuously on the LED display.”

In addition to energy performance, ease of use also plays a major role in the new small pump.

www.wilo.co.uk

Devon Development Shows Benefits Of Omnie Underfloor Heating

The four properties at Clearwater Court in Oyst St. Mary – two of them conversions of a former industrial building and two new-builds - are nearing completion by Vision Developments (SW) Ltd., creating spacious and energy efficient homes with character. Within the converted paintworks, the modernised masonry construction offers both high standards of insulation and thermal mass while the space heating is being provided by high performance gas boilers distributed by two Omnie solutions.

The boiler in each property is connected via two of Omnie’s Axios solutions.

The Managing Director for Vision Developments (SM) Ltd., Richard Parker, commented: “This is a high profile project for us as a regional development company, where we are offering prospective purchasers a high quality finish and good space standards, we wanted to ensure the properties are comfortable to live in and economic to heat. We have used the Omnie systems on other projects in the past and know they are both easy to install and reliable, while we are also assured of good technical support where required. Each system is designed specifically for the build from square one: so everyone is covered for their specifications, right through to the tiling on top.”

OMNIE provided Vision Developments and the Installer, Exeter based Radiate Heating and Plumbing, with detailed layout drawings showing the different pipe runs and manifold positions in relation to the room layouts. The design support included heat loss calculations and flow settings for the commissioning of the underfloor heating.

www.omnie.co.uk
Rinnai Solo Has Multiple Advantages

The Infinity Solo condensing and low NOx condensing water heater is the first Rinnai product for the UK to bring together the advanced technology of its wall mounted continuous flow water heaters with a stainless steel storage cylinder in one compact footprint. Originally envisaged as a single installation product for light commercial operations such as B&Bs, small hotels and schools, Infinity Solo is now being manifolded by installers for larger projects including a recent major primary school installation.

There is no restriction on the number of units that can be linked together as the installer can simply work out the volume of hot water required to determine the number of units required. This versatile newcomer has also very quickly carved itself a niche in new build and refurbishment housing projects where specifiers have identified it as a cost effective hot water provider for a family refurbishment.

This new kit is unique and available only to Tapworks installers and their customers and highlights again why Tapworks water softeners are the number one choice for installers in the UK.

The Certificate further states that the BBA believes SuperQuilt can satisfy the requirements of not only the Building Regulations 2010 (England and Wales), but also the Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012, The Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004: making it “fit for purpose” nationwide. www.ybsinsulation.com
Bona Titan – A New Generation Of Powerful Adhesives

Bona, the wood floor experts, has launched Bona Titan, a new supreme performance, silane-based adhesive for high value projects, very wide or oversized solid wood boards – or any installation where the quality of the bond has to be guaranteed.

Bona Titan contains Titanium Technology - a revolutionary new formula comprising quadruple crosslinking that delivers superior durability and an unbeatable initial bond speed - even under challenging subfloor conditions.

Bona Titan can be specified with confidence to bond all types of wood flooring. Its superb shear strength makes installation easy and keeps even the largest, solid boards securely in place. If the subfloor is sound and dry, no primer is required. The hard, silane-based formula contains no ingredients that can migrate after curing, which eliminates all risk of discolouration at the joints. The smooth, thick consistency makes it easy to use and produces stable ribs, an extremely high initial grab and zero risk of hollow spots. The bond strength of Bona Titan will not diminish over time so the stability of the floor is guaranteed for the long term.

Bona Titan meets ISO 17178 standards and, in line with Bona’s environmental strategy, is a safe, clean formulation which also carries EC1-R Plus, DIBt, Greenguard and A+ low emission certifications. Bona Titan is compatible with underfloor heating and can be used directly on metal or tiles. Floors bonded with Bona Titan can be sanded after just 12 hours.

www.bona.com

Forbo Launches New Tessera In-touch

Taking inspiration from natural craft textiles and artistic hand weaves, Forbo Flooring Systems has launched a new softly striated carpet tile collection; Tessera In-touch. Designed to help de-formalise office interiors, the new range allows designers to create more relaxed and calming working environments.

The In-touch collection features ten planks, with hues that diffuse along their width, rather than their length. Whilst any of the colourways can be used alone, each plank is part of a pair, having three of their four individual yarn colours in common. This relationship of colour and design ensures the paired colours flow easily into each other to achieve tonal or contrasting flows across the floor, creating relaxing interior spaces without the need for complicated space planning.

Janet Lowe, Head of Marketing UK and Ireland at Forbo said: “The current trend for flexibility in the office environment suggests that if workspaces were more inviting and relaxed, employees would work better, collaborate more and ultimately be happier in work. Tessera In-touch embraces this idea of a less-structured, more calming aesthetic to produce a comfortable and tranquil atmosphere.

“The collection is available in contemporary shades including on-trend hues from mustard, blush and grey to duck egg blue, all of which can be combined to create different aesthetics. Further designs can be fashioned by playing with the plank format itself – creating patterns such as herringbone or half drop.”

Forbo aims to create better quality environments in which people can live, work and learn. Tessera carpet tiles achieve this through low levels of VOC emissions, excellent sound absorbency and a wide range of stimulating designs and sympathetic use of colour. In-touch is manufactured sustainably, containing 60% recycled content by weight and using 100% renewable electricity.

For more information please telephone 0844 822 3928, email info.flooring.uk@forbo.com or visit www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/tesseraintouch
Aluminium Balcony Flooring Is Better On Every Level

If you've happened to notice that timber, GRP and composite decking on balconies is an increasingly rare sight on new build and refurbishment projects, you might be wondering why the popularity of these materials has plummeted. There are a number of good reasons for this, but in a nutshell the driving force behind the trend is twofold. Firstly, they are increasingly out of step with the changing demands of modern building standards. Secondly, the rise of aluminium as a decking specification has provided architects and developers with a much better alternative.

One of aluminium's most compelling advantages is its fire resistance, which is far superior to GRP, composite and timber. Housebuilding warranty providers are increasingly requesting balcony design – the aluminium has a design life of 60-100 years, matching the regulatory weight ratio and can accommodate spans between joists of up to 2m.

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Aluminium is a lightweight, corrosion-resistant material that can be easily formed into any shape. It is also very strong, as its density is around 1/3 that of steel. This makes it ideal for use in applications where weight is a concern, such as balconies.

In addition to its strength and durability, aluminium is also low maintenance. It does not require painting or sealing, and it can be easily cleaned with soap and water. This makes it a great choice for use in high-traffic areas, as it can withstand a lot of wear and tear.

Finally, aluminium balconies are environmentally friendly. They are made from recycled materials, and they can be recycled at the end of their lifespan. This makes them a great choice for those looking to reduce their environmental impact.

If you are considering a balcony for your home or commercial property, aluminium is definitely worth considering. It offers a combination of strength, durability, and environmental responsibility that makes it a great choice for the future.
Wakaflex® Lead-Free Flashing For Ultimate Performance

Lead flashing work normally requires a specialist roofer and can be hazardous to the installer if strict health and safety procedures aren’t adhered to. The price of lead can also be prohibitive for basic upstand work.

This has prompted introduction of a large number of lead-free flashings, though Klober Wakaflex® stands apart as one of the longest established and highest performing. BBA-certified and with a 20-year guarantee, it is ideal for all roofing types including clay, concrete, slate, metal and polycarbonate. Available in light grey, anthracite, brown and terracotta (the latter two to special order), it has an aluminium ‘honeycomb’ mesh embedded into UV-resistant butyl rubber which gives the product similar malleability to lead but with no scrap value.

Unlike lead, it can be stretched by up to 50% in length and 15% in width and with no susceptibility to thermal movement it can be laid in long lengths without fixing clips. With no need for forming or other specialist tools Wakaflex provides lasting performance regardless of detailing complexity and can be shaped around deeply profiled tiles or used to seal the top saddle and roof penetrations.

Wakaflex has a high-strength, self-adhesive Butylon® backing which provides immediate weatherproofing and on laps chemically bonds to the facing to provide a virtually unbreakable seal. It is environmentally safe, presents no contamination problem with water run-off and can therefore be used with rainwater harvesting systems. No heat, solvents, adhesives or other additional means of fixing are needed and installation can take place in temperatures from minus 40 - 100°C, normally without priming.

For details of a local merchant stockist call FREE on 0800 783 3216. http://klober.co.uk/shop/product/wakaflex

KeeLine® Horizontal Life Line provides fall arrest/restraint protection where guardrails are not suitable or when a virtually invisible solution is required. The system can be fitted to most standard roof types including membrane, standing seam, metal profile and composite panel roofs. KeeLine® provides users with complete and continual ‘handsfree’ protection throughout the system and incorporates an Inline Shock Absorber to minimise the loads to an acceptable level for both the user and structure in the event of a fall.

- Suitable for use on multiple roof types
- Conforms to EN 795:2012
- Allows spans up to 12m and 3 users
- Designed for horizontal or overhead applications

Fragile Roof Access Solutions / Mobile Man Anchor / Demarcation / Rooftop Walkways / Mobile Valley Frame / Kee Anchor Beam / Ladder Restraints / Self Closing Gate / Guardrails
Full Marks For Kemper System At The University Of Warwick

Stuart Hicks & Kemper System, liquid resin roofing and waterproofing manufacturer, explains how the flexibility of its system delivered a top-quality refurbishment at the prestigious University.

Many of the buildings on the University of Warwick’s Gibbet Hill Campus were purpose-built when it was first established more than 50 years ago. Amongst these is the Life Sciences Building, which, though structurally sound, was in urgent need of façade repairs. Head of special projects at the University of Warwick’s estates department, Richard Weston, explains the predicament the university was in:

“The tiles had failed and become discoloured and they had started to loosen, prompting us to erect a scaffold to ensure no tiles could fall into circulation areas,” he said. “We needed to take action, but any investment in addressing the cladding system had to be aligned to our wider property management strategy.”

Developing A Solution

“I was very impressed with both the product and the team,” says Stuart Hicks from Kemper System. “Burnham and his team were very helpful in determining which elements of its estates to refurbish and which to replace; they already had a previous role and had been very impressed with both the product and the technical support the company provided. I didn’t know whether the roofing systems were suitable for façades or whether Kemper had other products to answer the requirement, but decided to see what they suggested.”

International Expertise

Stuart Hicks from Kemper System:

“It was clear that the majority of the cladding tiles were still in good order. However, some were at risk of falling, there were gaps where tiles had already been displaced and there was no homogeneous surface to protect against water ingress.

“Our advice was to remove and replace any loose tiles or grout and use filler and primer to create a smooth surface, before sealing the tiles in place using Kemper System’s Coetrans liquid resin. This would encapsulate the façade with no need for strip out while the building remained operational.”

JMG was selected as it is a self-vulcanising cleaning paste designed for thorough, water-free removal of residues and soiling on a wide range of substrates. The Arte Mundit Eco was applied using a 4” brush and left to ‘set’ overnight. The set rubber-like material was then removed by hand the following day revealing the original white marble finish. The Client is delighted with the results that the product has achieved. www.remmers.co.uk

And So Much More

Hanover Building Unveiled By Remmers

The Grade II Listed building located in Manchester City Centre is being refurbished by Quadriga Contracts Ltd as part of the NOMA regeneration scheme to provide Grade A office space, retail and leisure facilities. Constructed in 1905; the interior walls have accumulated a thick build-up of dust, dirt, paint and even nicotine residue, all of which needed to be removed.

Following trials of various products, Remmers Arte Mundit Eco was selected as it is a self-vulcanising cleaning paste designed for thorough, water-free removal of residues and soiling on a wide range of substrates. The Arte Mundit Eco was applied using a 4” brush and left to ‘set’ overnight. The set rubber-like material was then removed by hand the following day revealing the original white marble finish. The Client is delighted with the results that the product has achieved. www.remmers.co.uk

The 10km Undergound Journey To Build A New Mersey Bridge

To go over one of the UK’s most famous rivers - you must also go underground. Lanes Group has travelled more than 10 kilometres through the drains and sewers of north Cheshire as it has supported the building of Mersey Gateway, the second crossing of the River Mersey.

The construction project’s specialist drainage contractor, over a period of 18 months, its teams have carried out remote CCTV surveys of drain and sewer pipes that add up to at least that length. They have also completed dozens of remedial projects on the highway drainage system at both ends of the bridge, including pipe desilting and unblocking, root cutting, patch lining, and full pipe lining. Drainage surveys carried out by the Lanes team have helped the bridge’s civil engineering team make sure highway drains along new access roads are integrated optimally with the wider drainage system. They are also clearing and surveying each section of new highway drainage as it is being installed. www.lanesfordrains.co.uk

Leading innovator in cork, Granorte, is continuing to demonstrate the versatility of cork as a sustainable interior surface with a series of high-profile projects that use the material in novel ways. With ceiling panels at the Ace Hotel in Shoreditch, wall and ceiling tiles at Frooted’s Mumble Grape, striking 3D geometric wall tiles and sinks at a leading restaurant chain Grape, striking 3D geometric wall tiles and sinks at a leading restaurant chain. Granorte is headlining the cork revolution. Absorbing sound, insulating against heat loss, comfortable and warm to the touch, cork is a wonderful surface material. It is also sustainable and low-impact: a true wonder surface that can also be turned into fabrics and impressive 3D structures. Granorte leads the way in finding novel applications for this natural and sustainable resource. www.granorte.co.uk

Sustainable Surfaces

And So Much More

Investment In New Wards At County Hospital

Stafford Protected By Yeoman Shield

County Hospital, Stafford, has invested in 4 new wards which are to be opened throughout the year. The first of such wards to be opened is Elderly Care, Ward 15. The ward refurbishment work included wall & door protection products from Yeoman Shield. Yeoman Shield’s General Manager Harry Handall was fitted to the walls along the bed bay corridors.

This dual purpose product not only acts as a hardwall support for those requiring it but the integrated lower protection rail provides protection against wear and tear to the walls and the upper handrail also. The nurses’ station area and connecting corridor walls are now thoroughly protected with Yeoman Shield 125mm protection rail on a solid timber core. Corner protection angles and protection strip were also added to ensure a comprehensive protection system was in place.

All were supplied in complementing shades of grey, dovetailing into the décor scheme, contributing to a clean and attractive appearance throughout the unit.

The 12, bright and airy, en-suite rooms, colourfully painted, have Yeoman Shield bed head protectors installed on the walls at the head end of the patients bed. Yeoman Shield’s Stylish Guardian Bedhead protectors at 500mm long in Cream or Grey, were fitted on spacer brackets, standing slightly away from the wall to ensure full protection was given to the pointer painted wall behind. www.yeomanshield.com

Projects

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Projects
SFS intec’s Powder Coated Fasteners Deliver On Aesthetics And Performance In Prestigious Retail Project

Powder coated high performance fasteners from SFS intec have played a key role in enabling leading roofing and cladding contractor Roofdec to create a striking new building envelope for a major extension to the White Rose Shopping Centre in Leeds. The prestigious £13.7m project completed by Morgan Sindall for client Land Securities expands the popular shopping centre with an additional 65,000 sq ft. This space incorporates an 11 screen Cineworld cinema with IMAX technology, numerous restaurants and an extension of both the existing Primark and Debenhams stores.

Meeting the colour consistency and long-term performance brief across the various elements of the contemporary façade, Roofdec turned to SFS intec for 40 variations of fasteners, many of which were powder coated in-house to match the different forms and colours of the rainscreen exterior. This included ensuring that fastener heads complemented the building’s unique curved facias which were formed of purpose-made anodised panels in various colours.

Jon Barnes Senior, Managing Director of Roofdec, says, “For all of our prestigious jobs, we choose SFS intec’s fasteners for their excellent quality, ease of installation and value for money. SFS intec provide excellent technical support throughout the design and construction phases of a project and with their production facilities being located in Leeds with in-house powder-coating, the logistics to get the right coloured product on-site were a breeze.

“With their unbeatable warranty, we’re confident that we will have no issues when the building is finished. The company’s sales and technical teams are available to advise on how best to colour-match fasteners with panels. Currently, SFS intec’s most popular requests for powder coated heads reflect the trends in contemporary architecture, and include Grooving Grey, Papaya Red, Light Metallic Silver, Solvent Blue, Hamlet and Sargasso Blue.”

David Osborne, National Sales Manager at SFS intec says: “With architects constantly pushing the boundaries of façade design, and O&Ms leading the charge with constant innovation in panel design and construction, maintaining the visual appeal of the building envelope is vital, particularly for clients in the fiercely competitive retail market.

“Our powder coated fasteners, which provide a high-quality finish for our A2 (grade 304) or A4 (grade 316) stainless steel fasteners, is the ideal way to ensure a façade retains its integrity over a long service life, without suffering significant visual defects that will inevitably impact on the visual appeal of the structure.

Powder coating is an advanced alternative to using moulded nylon heads. Finely ground particles of pigment and resin are sprayed on to the metal fastener head using an electrostatic spray process, causing the charged particles to permanently bond to the metal surface. The powder is then heated and fused into a smooth coating in a curing oven at up to 200 °C, melting the powder onto the metal, to deliver excellent weather resistance and colour stability in even the most exposed locations.

Customers can access detailed information about all the fastening solutions available from SFS intec through its 2017 Roofing and Cladding Catalogue which is accessible via the new website www.sfsintec.co.uk. Customers can also benefit from UK-wide sales and technical teams, both dedicated to providing market-leading customer service, along with extensive resources and training facilities to ensure the best possible result in the finished building envelope.

www.sfsintec.biz/uk

Decorative Casing Solutions – Going Undercover

Decorative column casings are an essential part of contemporary building design and perform a vital function by providing an effective, stylish and immensely versatile method of concealing structural steelwork, concrete columns and in some cases, building services.

The demands for wider choice and increased aesthetics from architects, interior designers and specifiers have been key influences on Peterborough based casing and interior wall lining company, Encasement, whose range has continually expanded and diversified during the past ten years to become the most comprehensive available in the UK.

The company’s complete range includes ‘Circa’ and ‘Quadra’ which are manufactured from pre-formed plywood, alongside its ‘Forma’ metal casings, ‘Polyna’ GRP and ‘Sycip’ GRP product ranges. ‘Metal’, a specialised solution that provides decorative floor columns with up to 2 hours fire protection is also available.

Designed solely for interior decorative applications, Circa and Quadra casings are used in an extremely diverse range of projects, which underscores their versatility, ease of specification and the immense range of decorative finishes available to complement or contrast with a building’s interior design scheme.

Circa and Quadra are used in almost every building type from education, retail, hotel, sports and leisure, as well as the health sector and commercial office buildings. As a result, the choice of sizes and decorative finishes available is extremely wide, which enables specifiers to select from circular, square, extended circles and rectangular profiles, as well as choosing finishes from a diverse palette including plain colours, wood grain and metallic, together with textured and real wood veneers.

Both Circa and Quadra are manufactured from FSC® certified plywood and Encasement is the UK’s only supplier and manufacturer of pre-formed plywood pipe boxing and decorative casing products that hold an FSC® Chain of Custody Certification from the Forest Stewardship Council. This makes the products compliant with sustainability codes and environmental procurement policies.

Recent Quadra projects include the Dame Kelly Holmes Sports Centre and Farnborough’s 4th Form College, while among the many Circa installations, Gatwick Airport’s South Terminal, Manor Lodge School in Hertfordshire, Liverpool University and Gateshead International Stadium are major installations.

While all of Encasement’s column casings are suitable for interior use, its Polyna-GRP products and Forma range, which can be manufactured from aluminium or stainless steel, are also widely used on exterior projects due to their inherent weather resistance. Forma also provides specifiers with a wide scope of options and can be specified with diameters from 250mm up to 1000mm or as square, rectangular and hexagonal forms as well as unique custom profiles.

Recent projects, such as Tetroloy’s new head office reception, Birmingham Dental Hospital and Winchester College, together with Porsche West London’s prestige showroom perfectly illustrate the versatility of Forma column casing solutions.

At Tetroloy, the casings have a unique aerofil® profile. Birmingham’s Dental Hospital uses a 25 metre high semi-elliptical design, whilst at Porsche and Winchester College, the casings are circular, but use distinctly different finishes to meet individual project specifications.

Alongside the company’s column casings, its ‘Vestac’ system provides a high-quality solution for interior wall linings, bulkheads and reveals. The system has been widely used in retail, education and commercial buildings, such as Tesco, South Bank University and Priti a Manger, as well as a number of prestige office developments.

Encasement’s Managing Director, Martin Taylor, commented: “Our entire range is configured to provide the widest possible choice, which allows specifiers to source different specialised casing solutions from a single company with high levels of expertise and experience in this sector. We also have our own contracting arm, which enables us to offer a full supply and install service to support contractors.”

A full range of case studies, project galleries and detailed product information is available online from www.encasement.co.uk. In addition, detailed drawings in DWG and PDF formats are available for download alongside specification clauses and product brochures covering Encasement’s full range. Information is also available by calling 01733 26689 or e-mailing technical@encasement.co.uk.
The proprietors insisted on a timber construction, explains architect Martin Kopp from F64 Architekten: “Our client is very climate-aware. That’s why we designed a zero-energy building where the heat dissipated by the production machinery is recovered for heating purposes.”

Glass expanses complemented by slate-clad façade

The ground-floor offices, recreational rooms and adjacent production space are fronted by up to 3m high glass façades, divided by columns every 5m. The office and the production areas are separated by a soundproof glass wall, emphasising the client’s commitment to transparency and teamwork and the idea of equality and inclusion at the workplace.

Above the ground floor level, the building is clad in slate, the region’s natural stone floor in the office areas. In the production hall, a black industrial floor is in contrast to the timber lattice girder construction that appears to be floating above the ground and whose top chords are recessed into the hall ceiling. “We aimed at transparency and the impression of open space throughout the entire building,” reports architect Martin Kopp.

The high production hall accommodates large machinery and rack systems, with elegant trusses spanning the 25-metre wide hall consisting of slender BauBuche elements. “By using BauBuche, we were able to reduce the dimensions of load-bearing elements, achieving a more elegant look,” explains Konrad Mez, who introduced the architects to the material from Pollmeier and proposed the type of construction. “BauBuche is simply the ideal material when it comes to modern lattice girder structures.”

A special feature of the hall’s lattice girder construction are the truss nodes fitted with slotted metal plates and self-tapping dowel connections where the steel part is completely embedded in the timber. This joining method caters for high-precision connections between the top and bottom chords by uprights and diagonal elements, eliminating pre-drilling to save time and money.

Posts and wind bracing diagonals of the main support construction are also made in BauBuche. The ceiling and upper wall elements at ground floor level consist of triple layer boards with a white varnish finish suspended between the BauBuche posts and girders, attractively contrasting the natural warm hue of the beech timber with the lattice girder construction.
Goodbye To Ugly Rooftops

An architect’s vision for a ‘wave-effect’ building with no roof protrusions, to mirror the sinuous lines of nearby hills, has been achieved thanks to drainage ventilation expert Studor. Italian architects, in conjunction with the multi-discipline company STEAM, designed the £130m Monselice Hospital in Northern East Italy to ensure it not only fulfilled the highest operational requirements, but also had a profile in harmony with the adjacent sloping hillside landscape. To achieve this aesthetic look, the integrity of the rooftops needed to be maintained, and the design did not allow for any roof protrusions to interrupt the flow of the rooftop.

The project’s MEP contractor, Gemmo SpA, recognising that input from an expert in drainage ventilation was needed, asked Studor (with over 40 years’ experience in the field) to advise on the drainage system design.

“Our solution was to cap as many stacks as possible with the Studor Maxi-Vent Air Admittance Valve (AAV) which fits discretely within the roof space”, commented Studor’s UK Technical Sales Director Daniel Rath. “The Maxi-Vent protects the trap seals within the drainage system by allowing the intake of air so that each soil pipe can maintain the right level of pressure within the system. This is critical, especially in a hospital environment, ensuring there is no cross-contamination from the drainage system into the habitable space.”

“Furthermore, the Maxi-Vents eliminate the need for any roof penetrations, thus reducing the amount of pipework required saving space.”

The project’s MEP contractor, Gemmo SpA, recognising that input from an expert in drainage ventilation was needed, asked Studor (with over 40 years’ experience in the field) to advise on the drainage system design.

“Studor’s Maxi-Vent Air Admittance Valve (AAV) is a key consideration for the design team as it is the sustainability of the scheme. It was important to minimise energy consumption and the CO2 emissions generated by the building. This led to the inclusion of a solar shading solution.

Levolux was invited to develop a custom solar shading solution, which comprises a combination of horizontal and vertical Timber Fins and the Infiniti Fin system, applied externally on the outer elevations and within the building’s courtyard area. Timber Fins, engineered from Western Red Cedar, have been used on the project with variations in size, profile and orientation. This type of timber is highly recommended for external applications as the timber is relatively stable and gives a clean and consistent appearance.

A central, enclosed courtyard area also required solar shading at high level on its south-facing elevation. Here, Levolux utilised its Infiniti® Fin system to form an array of horizontal, semi-flattened shapes formed from extruded aluminium. 19 rows of vertically stacked Fins, each measuring 250mm wide, combine to create a shading structure measuring 6.5 metres in height and almost 16 metres in width. Levolux also provided an attractive plant screening solution to conceal the hospital’s plant and equipment at roof level. The VLS50 Ventilation Louvre system was chosen, featuring specially developed ‘S’ shaped louvres to ensure optimum airflow, weatherability and good looks. All aluminium components, including the Infiniti Fin system and Ventilation Louvres, are finished in an attractive, yet highly durable dark grey powder coating. The horizontal and vertical Timber Fins, all formed from Western Red Cedar, have been left untreated and over time will acquire a cool, silver-grey patina. www.levolux.com

Feeling Better In Manchester

The £65 million Spire Manchester Hospital, located in Didsbury, is a new flagship hospital which is equipped with cutting-edge building technology, including a Levolux solar shading and screening solution. A key consideration for the design team was the sustainability of the scheme. It was important to minimise energy consumption and the CO2 emissions generated by the building. This led to the inclusion of a solar shading solution.

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Stannah Upholds Independence In NEW RIBA Architectural Centre

When it comes to freedom of movement for people of all mobilities, a Stannah Piccolo was the passenger lift of choice in RIBA North, the Royal Institute of British Architects’ new national architecture centre on the Liverpool Waterfront.

Dark, sleek, dramatic – a ship’s prow slicing through the skies, the new building is housed in the Broadway Malyan-designed Mann Island, a RIBA award-winning, mixed-use development which reconnects Liverpool’s city centre to its historic waterfront.

The centre is an inspirational resource for RIBA members and public alike, with the 5-person, low-pit lift uniting two floors of architectural exhibits, talks, tours, conference rooms, refreshment and retail whistle-stops – in keeping with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

Rachel Caru, Operations Manager at RIBA North, comments: “The Stannah Piccolo Lift in RIBA North reflects RIBA’s commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion – making architecture and the broader construction industry accessible to everyone. It has helped overcome site limitations and allowed us to provide access to everyone, including wheelchair-users, on a site without the space for a below-ground lift shaft.”

Conveniently located adjacent to the stairs, the Piccolo complements RIBA’s minimalist design aesthetic of red, black, grey and white. Finished throughout in satin stainless steel, the lift is accessed by two-panel, side-opening doors. The interior features bespoke graphics, a half-height rear mirror, grab rails, downlighting and emergency call system.

The Piccolo platform lift has the added benefit of four lift maintenance visits in the first year – part of a lift-servicing plan delivered by the North West England and North Wales branch of Stannah Lift Services, a nationwide network providing comprehensive lift servicing and support.

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