AUTUMN 2022

ARCHITECTURAL IRONMONGERY JOURNAL



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Industry leaders on future challenges | Award-winning reno | Fire door safety | CDM: specifiers as designers

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Royal College of Art new campus

BESPOKE DOOR SPECIFICATION FOR ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART'S NEW STEM CAMPUS

The Royal College of Art (RCA) has installed a £485k bespoke door specification for its new Battersea campus. The brief was to allow for secure and compliant access control.

Designed by architects Herzog & de Meuron, the new £135m campus spearheads the art school's shift towards a science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics-focused postgraduate university. The 15,500 sq m building project includes a long, four-storey studio building with workshops, teaching and exhibition space, alongside an eight-storey research building for materials science, advanced manufacturing, and driverless car design.

The new campus required an access control solution that offered high security, could handle a high volume of traffic and meet the standards required for fire and emergency escape door compliance.

Paul Graveson of Door Group, a unit of ASSA ABLOY Opening Solutions UK & Ireland, created a specification featuring 320 doorsets including Powershield Steel Doors and SMARTec Timber doors, fitted with ASSA ABLOY ironmongery. Bill Nichols, managing director of Comprehensive Carpentry Services Ltd, which fitted the doorsets, said: "The range of door sizes and ironmongery needed for this project was a real challenge, but the specification met all of the client's requirements.

"We found the system very easy to install, and the doors were also fire-rated, tested and certified where required, meaning the whole specification was compliant and offered a safe and secure environment.





Norseal, supplier of seals and firestopping products, has launched its own Academy. This will offer CPDs, training, and learning resources about acoustics, sealing doors against fire and sound, and how to install a wide variety of acoustic and fire stopping products.

Courses available include how to seal and compartmentalise a building using fire doors; how to best seal a sliding door or understanding the basics of acoustics.

Courses have been developed to offer a detailed overview, but bespoke courses tailored to specific needs can also be delivered online or face-to-face. The latest addition to the Norseal Academy portfolio of courses is a 30-minute overview of the importance of insulating doors. Saving and conserving energy is an important environmental and financial issue and 'How Insulated Is Your Door?' explains how seals impact on the environment and energy usage of a building. It explains the different types of seals including internal and external options with examples of their typical application.

To find out more register interest at: norseal.co.uk/ academy

ARCHITECTS OFFERS HELP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Sarah Wigglesworth Architects (SWA) has set out an ongoing structure of support for young people who might face barriers to accessing a career in architecture.

"It is our aim to advocate for inclusivity and diversity with the architectural profession and share our cultural capital with those from under-represented groups," Wigglesworth said. "To do this, we have committed to a number of initiatives, some of which are part of longstanding relationships/commitments, and some are new collaborations. Specifically we are committed to providing an annual programme that includes: a series of CV reviews, two architectural placements, an annual mentorship and several workshops for both primary and older students/apprentices."

Sarah Wigglesworth



STIRLING PRIZE 2022 TO BE ANNOUNCED

The winner of the 2022 RIBA Stirling Prize will be announced on Thursday 13 October 2022 at RIBA, 66 Portland Place in London.

The Stirling Prize is considered the UK's most prestigious architecture award. It is given to the architect of the building thought to be the most significant of the year for the evolution of architecture and the built environment.

Six buildings have been shortlisted: 100 Liverpool Street; Forth Valley College, Falkirk Campus; Hackney New Primary School and 33 Kingsland Road; Orchard Gardens, Elephant Park; Sands End Arts and Community Centre; and The New Library, Magdalene College.

See https://tinyurl. com/2kb25zt8 for full details



SPECIFIERS TRUST RIBA-APPROVED CPD BUT FAVOUR ONLINE DELIVERY, SAYS STUDY

A recent study from specification and product information platform, NBS and **RIBA** (The Royal Institute of British Architects) into CPD, found that in-person seminars, once the go-to format for CPD, have now been surpassed by digital learning. Nearly half as many attendees now choose an online format (91%) over an in-person presentation, compared with stats back in 2019. Just over 80% also anticipate watching webinars 'on-demand' and just over three-quarters (77%) are choosing to view them live.

There's no doubt that the pandemic and increase in remote working has been a catalyst for this change. For context, only 49% of RIBA network members delivered online CPDs back in 2018 yet in 2021 this has risen to 70%.

However, an appetite still remains for in-person seminars: nearly half (47%) still take part in in-person CPDs and at least three-quarters of respondents say they would like to.

CPD from members of the RIBA CPD Providers Network are seen as trusted sources of information and perceptions around the quality of content are positive. Nearly eight out of 10 see it as 'professional and credible' and over 70% say it is of a high quality. The RIBA accreditation also holds weight – three quarters stated that this is important to them (75%), up from 71% back in 2019. The GAI offers a range of RIBA CPDs. Fine them at www.gai. org.uk/specifier

Specifiers are also happy with the quality of content: 87% say that both online and in-person seminars are good or very good overall and 76% are satisfied with the CPD delivered through the Network. These stats also reflect the effectiveness of CPD when it comes to choosing products for specification - which is on the rise. The number of respondents specifying one of more of a suppliers' products after undertaking their CPD has increased incrementally - nearly two thirds are willing to do so (64%), a 15% rise since 2017.

This also extends to the number of specifiers downloading a supplier's BIM or digital objects following a CPD, growing in the same time period from 18% to 26% and 36% in 2022.

The study asked about barriers to CPD and found that 85% stated that lack of time is a barrier. An important point raised in the study was also the subject of impartiality. Providers need to be sure they are focusing primarily on education value over a sales pitch. Download the full report at nbs.com.

BIM USED TO SPECIFY FOR DOORS ON HOTELS PROJECT

ASSA ABLOY Project Specification Group partnered with Kay Elliott Architects to use BIM software to specify door products for two new multi-million-pound hotels. Seafront builds, Park Hotel and the Lighthouse Hotel in Paignton, Devon, on adjacent plots, are part of the £100m portfolio of new hotels planned by the Singapore-based Fragrance Group.

Openings Studio [™] BIM software was used to make time and cost savings during the design process. Products specified for over 1,000 doors, included DC300G-HF, DC500 and DC135 door closers, J1000 door furniture, and a key prime master key system, with a total contract value of over £60,000.

Specifying over 1,000 doorsets can be a time-intensive task using traditional methods: information would be provided in separate schedules and documents, which would require a Revit operator to manually create

and update, with someone else to then check for errors.

As the project develops, information may become out of date and therefore require individual doors to be flagged up and re-sent for advice. The prospect of human error is also a possibility.

Openings Studio made it possible to find all the relevant information and ironmongery schedules in a single place, in one document.

David Shields, national specification manager at ASSA ABLOY Opening Solutions UK & Ireland, said: "As Openings Studio flags up any queries and automatically updates in live time, it is easy to see any discrepancies and changes within the schedules. By resharing the model information, it then also allows us to view the changes and feedback to the architects – so we can work in close collaboration at every stage of a project.



The new seafront hotels



MUL-T-LOCK IS A TOP Achiever at guildford college

Mul-T-Lock has worked with K.B.O Fire & Security to upgrade the security at Guildford College, creating a master key suite for staff, pupils and visitors.

Guildford College is the largest further and highest education college in the Surrey area, with approximately 3,000 students. Controlled and secure access is a high priority for the estates and facilities team. K.B.O Fire & Security offered a number of ideas and the resulting master key suite used Mul-T-Lock's high security MTL400 solution. It combines advanced technologies with key copy control and maximum resistance to all forms of lock manipulation.

Sandra Searle, facilities customer services manager at Guildford College, said: "The college needed to ensure the security systems, right from the entrance throughout the site, are all maintained to a high level.

"The advanced protection capability means we can maintain a single key to open all doors and maintain differential access to rooms between staff, visitors and students."

Tom Hyslop, Mul-T-Lock regional sales manager said working with the College and K.B.O Fire & Security early in the specification process, the right level of protection could be designed into the master key suite. "It also meant installation could be planned carefully around learning timetables."

ARCHITECT WORKER' BECOMES NEW RIBA PRESIDENT

Muyiwa Oki, the candidate billed as representing architectural workers and the profession's grassroots, has been elected as the next president of the RIBA. The architect at construction consultancy Mace Group will start his two-year term on 1 September 2023. He previously worked at Grimshaw Architects, where he founded and chaired the practice's multi-ethnic group and allies network. Aged just 31, he is the youngest ever RIBA president since the role was established in 1835.

Speaking after hearing the result, Oki said: "We can be proud of an election where people of colour, at different stages of their careers, of all identities, can be heard and seen bidding to represent the profession.'

Oki was put forward as a potential candidate in May after being chosen by an informal collective of early-career architects, students and architectural activists keen to shake up the institute.



SIMONSWERK



Ether: smart door

ITALIAN BRAND LAUNCHES SMART DOORS

Italian design brand Lualdi has launched a doorway system called Ether, which combines aesthetics with advanced technology to create a multifunctional smart device for the home or office. Created by designer and architect Marco Piva, Ether comprises a door, door jamb and a 'vertical block', which includes an interface created with automation technology company Microdevice.

Ether's interface is customisable and can include a number of features, including security systems, lighting controls, doorbells, nightlights and air sanitation systems.

"Ether was created to respond to the specific management needs of the wellness, residential, and office sectors while meeting the aesthetic taste of the most demanding and avant-garde architects," said Microdevice. According to Lualdi, the interface can be connected to any control system, allowing remote use and monitoring from a smartphone.

As part of its launch, Lualdi collaborated with French manufacturing company Saint-

Gobain, providing examples of Ether installed within "highperformance thermal and acoustic comfort systems".

The vertical block interface can also allow users access to household power systems, allowing them to better manage and reduce energy consumption.

Last year the Italian brand teamed up with French creator Philippe Starck to create Welcome, a 'door collection' that turns a hotel-room door into a smart device.

Lualdi's system includes a series of connected objects: a handle, a light, a room number panel, and a smart screen with integrated facial recognition.

It offers a range of guest services that include checking in, adjusting conditions in the room, and contacting hotel staff. Starck said it is the future of hospitality.

"The doors of the future will become so intelligent that they will communicate with each other," he said. "They will be set up to manage the home through artificial intelligence. The doors will certainly be smarter than us." **TECTUS®** The completely concealed hinge system



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GAI TALK...



Simon Forrester, GAI chief executive

I have been delighted to see the Guild's Hong Kong Community

Hub burst back into life. After such a long and difficult time with no face-toface meetings in Hong Kong, it was great to see a new leadership team take up the challenge with such big plans for the future.

The community hubs are a lifeblood of the Guild and this is a great time to get involved, with autumn always a busy time for events and activity. Check the website events page for details, and if you don't see anything coming up, you can contact your local hub ambassador via www.gai.org.uk/hubs. Members should sign in to their profile page to make sure they've registered to receive hub information. And non-members will also be warmly welcomed!

The Guild's HQ team is also looking forward to a bumper quarter. Enrolment to our education courses opened on 1 September, but this year is no ordinary year. Not only do we have three new specialist courses to offer (see above right) but this year's learners will be the first to benefit from the new GAI Learning Hub.

Education is also at the fore in our events programme. We've got plenty of webinars and live course coming up, but uniquely for 2022 (thanks to pandemic postponements) we are also looking forward to our second Education Awards of the year! This is always a fantastic occasion, so keep an eye on our website, emails, and social media for details.

Finally, it has been encouraging to see growing evidence of a cultural shift towards competence as an absolute requirement rather than a 'nice to have'. Members are reporting seeing more specifications stating that the door schedule must be signed off by a RegAI, and the Guild continues to engage with specifiers, government, standards and regulating bodies to make sure that ultimately this become not the exception but the norm.

GAI EXPANDS EDUCATION OFFER WITH THREE NEW QUALIFICATIONS



Enrolment is now open for three new GAI qualifications, in the biggest-ever expansion of the Guild's education programme.

The Foundation in Hardware course and the Certificate in Architectural Hardware (CiAH) remain as before, but the changes provide a broader range of options from there.

The existing GAI Diploma (DipGAI) remains, renamed

as the Diploma in Scheduling. Two new diplomas have been introduced: the Diploma in Door Systems (DipDS); and the Diploma in Electric Hardware & Access Control (DipAC).

The third new qualification is a Certificate in Standards and Regulations. This will educate on all aspects of the standards relevant to the architectural ironmongery industry, and require annual renewal.

Each of these four 'Stage 3' level qualifications will lead to a CPD programme towards registered/certified status, in line with the existing Registered Architectural Ironmongery (RegAl) standard.

GAI training and

development manager Rachel Tipton said: "The new courses give successful CiAH learners a broader range of options as they move on to their Stage 3 studies, and existing DipGAI holders an opportunity to broaden their expertise."

As Stage 3 qualifications, candidates must complete the GAI Certificate in Architectural Hardware (Stages 1 and 2) before entering. Learners who completed their CiAH or DipGAI before Summer 2021 must also take a bridging course which can be studied in advance of, or concurrently with, the new qualification. The deadline for enrolments 16 December, but the earliest possible start is recommended.

Full details of the new qualifications can be found in the GAI Education Prospectus 2022/23, available at www.gai.org.uk/learning

NEW TEAM FOR GAI'S HONG KONG COMMUNITY HUB



The GAI's Hong Kong Community Hub has a new leadership team: James Wong, managing director of KeyTech, and Irene Yip, general manager of ASSA ABLOY HK.

As Hong Kong moves back towards more face-to-face meetings, Wong and Yip have big plans for the direction of the hub. They began with a special relaunch meeting in September which served as both a reunion for previous members and a welcome for those interested in networking and working more closely with the Hub in the fure.

Wong explained: "This was the first

face-to-face Guild meeting in Hong Kong for a number of years so we were excited to meet again, catching up with familiar faces and welcoming new interest."

As well as marking the formal handover of the leadership roles, the meeting was be a chance to catch up on everything new in the GAI and Community Hub structures. There was also an open forum session including an opportunity to shape the future direction of the Hong Kong programme.

Yip added: "The Hong Kong hub has always been well supported by the architectural ironmongery and hardware sector locally, as well as by the specifiers and other industry professionals with whom we work.

"The hub is an inclusive space for all to get together and share best practice, so we welcome any architectural ironmongers and their employees, clients and customers, whether or not they are current GAI members.

Just get in touch to find out more – GAI Members can register online, and nonmembers should contact us to register their interest and find out more."



MECHATRONIC CYLINDERS AND DOOR FURNITURE ADDED TO GAI STANDARDS LIBRARY

Two new Guide to Standards documents have been published by the GAI, expanding the series to a total of 23 guides.

The guides provide signposting and background on relevant products, information and detail on the specific standards, and whether these standards are harmonised or designated standards. An initial Introduction to Standards guide also provides a detailed overview of current standards. The two new guides address Mechatronic Cylinders (EN 15684) and Mechatronic Door Furniture (BS EN 16867), and the rest of the series has been revised and updated for 2022.

GAI technical manager Douglas Masterson said: "The series represents an extensive library of critical technical information. The aim is to ensure GAI members don't have to purchase the individual standards directly, and also to provide guidance to help them identify the key areas of most relevance to them."

View and download the GAI Guide to Standards series at www.gai.org.uk/ knowledgebase

GAI PUBLISHES NEW SPECIFIER'S GUIDE ON INTUMESCENT PROTECTION

The GAI has published a new Specifier's Guide entitled *Ironmongery and Intumescent Protection*.

The guide is designed to help architects, designers and other specifiers increase their understanding of fire doors, appropriate hardware, and the impact of intumescent protection on both. It details the main types of intumescent protection and the differing ways they react, as well as identifying the relevant standards and regulations. It also explores the importance of fire doors, correct fire door hardware, and fire testing.

To support further engagement on this subject with the specification community, a corresponding RIBA approved CPD presentation is available for GAI members to deliver to architects.

This new publication complements the existing range of fully updated Specifier Guide publications, all of which are based on GAI RIBA approved CPDs, covering the following topics:

- Ironmongery and fire safety
- UKCA Marking, CE marking and the CPR
- Ironmongery in a post pandemic world
 Ironmongery and the impact of the environment
- Ironmongery and the impact of the internet of things
- Ironmongery for specialist applications
- Ironmongery for fire and escape doors
- Ironmongery and accessibility
- Access Control

GAI technical manager Douglas Masterson said: "Ironmongery plays a critical role in the performance of a fire door and its importance is often overlooked. These Specifier's Guides, and the equivalent RIBA approved CPD presentations, are designed to highlight the risks that should be considered when specifying ironmongery. People will see from the resources the legal, financial and ethical consequences of either ignoring the risks or failing to address them properly."

The GAI range of free technical publications for specifiers, architects and designers can be found at www.gai.org.uk/specifier.



Ironmongery plays a critical role in the performance of a fire door and its importance is often overlooked" Douglas Masterson

GAI TRANSFORMS LEARNER EXPERIENCE WITH NEW LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The GAI has launched a newlook Learning Hub for students taking its world-class programme of training courses.

The new Learning Hub opened its digital doors on 1 September at the start of the new 2022-23 GAI education year. The hub has been designed as an easy-tonavigate learning management system, fully responsive for both mobile and desktop use, and suitable for all devices, browsers and operating systems.

The system integrates with Microsoft Teams to support the delivery of face-to-face classroom training courses, and allows tutors to communicate with groups or individuals through either email or direct messaging.

Additional features are designed to motivate and encourage learner engagement,

such as achievement badges and league tables. GAI training and development manager Rachel Tipton said:

"The new GAI Learning Hub is an important demonstration of our commitment to a worldclass learner experience. And with this year's three new specialist qualifications, I think it underlines the quality, breadth and continuing relevance of our programme." GAI student data from 2015 onwards has been transferred as part of the switchover, allowing students to access their learning history and pick up their studies on the new GAI Learning Hub.

From January 2023 the hub will also support the tracking of CPD points towards GAI registered and certified statuses, including RegAI standard.

"I STILL GET A THRILL FROM IT ALL"

Ray Branch, founder of Branch BMN, has been in the industry since before the GAI was founded. Now age 77 he shares his wisdom



I've never forgotten Ken Herbert, chief buyer from Sir Robert McAlpine saying: 'It's alright for you Ray, the job is just a hobby to you and you get paid for doing it.' It's very true! I still love it even at my age."

How did you start in industry?

I was at school and there was job advert from NF Ramsay on a noticeboard which sounded interesting. I applied for the job and got it. It paid me $\mathfrak{L}3$ a week to manage OGRO products. My first boss was my mentor.

We used to work on South African railways – buying locks from Goodman. I had to look after the locks which were unique, every one handmade, and massively expensive. And when the first Bullring was built I was given the task of managing the project and I wasn't even 21. I passed my GAI Diploma in 1966 at age 21.

What has changed most about the industry since you started?

The industry has more regulations and compliance now and much more access control but the basic format is still the same. Everyone in the world is involved in architectural ironmongery – they just don't know it! Every day people touch it.

What advice would you give to someone starting in this industry?

Listen to anyone who will give you advice and take it in. You can always learn. And always pay people that supply you: don't keep them waiting. You can get help from manufacturers and suppliers if you've always paid them properly.

What project are you most proud of?

We did work on Buckingham Palace, and on the Palace of Westminster – where Croft made the replacement door hardware. We are an A-list partner for Willmott Dixon, SRM and Hill Partnership.

We export globally from Bangkok to Barbados, and I've been all over the world

for projects. I was once asked to go to Istanbul to schedule a project –all expenses paid and with my own office. And I was invited to Zurich to meet the owner of a property in Barbados. Villa Nova – once owned by a British prime minister was being turned into hotel and I was producing the door schedule. I've also taught agents in Oman about ironmongery.

We're currently negotiating to send some locks to India and huge, expensive 48" barrel bolts to Jamaica. No two projects are ever the same – even in the UK.

Are there any regrets?

I started Branch in 1992. Matera Nelson came in and we became Branch Matera Nelson. They invested £20,000 but when I bought myself out of it, it cost me £600,000! And to cap it all they went bust a year later! We started on a site in Aston and stayed there until we bought our current premises.

When I started again afresh I was married with children who were both at private schools. It was a brave decision.

What gamechangers have you witnessed?

Access control is the big change in the industry – the whole concept of security and keeping people safe, especially in schools. When I first came across access control products I reacted with the question 'do we need to go this far?'.

No sign of retirement then?

I still get a thrill from it all. I've never forgotten Ken Herbert, chief buyer from Sir Robert McAlpine saying: "It's alright for you Ray, the job is just a hobby to you and you get paid for doing it." It is very true! I still love it even at my age. ■

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TESTING TIMES

BS EN 1154 is 25 years old. **Graham Shirville** argues that in a post-Grenfell world it's time to move on

his year has seen the 25th anniversary of the publication of the first CEN European Performance standards. The first one, EN 1154 which covers the performance of controlled door closing devices, was published by British Standards as a BS EN in July 1997.

The work on developing more than 15 EN standards for 'Building Hardware' actually started some years before then. CEN had a long-standing Technical Committee which was responsible for doors and windows – TC33. The introduction of what was then called a Single Market, led them to decide to add blinds and shutters, hardware and, eventually, curtain walling and industrial doors.

They then went on to establish Working Groups for each of these subjects. Amazingly not many other countries showed any desire to lead the hardware group so the UK was appointed and continued to chair it until quite recently.

The list of products that we wished to cover was agreed upon very early in the discussions and not much has changed today.

Little change

While we can be proud of the work done, it is perhaps unsettling that most of the standards have remained basically unchanged since their original publication. There can't be many other industries where product performance has not been enhanced over a 25/30-year period.

Although CEN TC33/WG4 committees have been working to update many of them, due to legal challenges within the EU and the Commission, little progress has been made for almost a decade. BS EN 1154 still retains all the original minimum test performance values that were based upon some national standards that existed even earlier. Sadly, the Grenfell Inquiry identified that, at the time of the disaster, several of the quite new flat entrance doors had had the closers removed. Obviously, this rendered the fire doors non-compliant with the selfclosing requirement.

Apparently, this was because they were so strong (the "opening force") that many residents could not get in or out of their flats. The table below shows that the common size 3 or 4 door closers are only required to be 55 or 60% efficient to pass the test.

Differing needs

With improved design and production techniques now available it is entirely possible to produce door closers with much better efficiencies – around 80%. Obviously these will be much easier and safer in use.

We use fire doors in a different manner to most of Europe. Essentially

Door closers are only required to be 55 or 60% efficient

we have more 30/60 minute doors and they have fewer 60/120 minute ones, many of which are held back by electromagnets. Our needs for safety are therefore different, and our industry should be examining how we can move the UK test requirements to match our needs. ■

Graham Shirville is joint chair of Allgood PLC, past GAI president and a long-standing GAI Executive and Technical committee member.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
Door closer	Recommended	Test door	Closing moment			Closing moment			Opening	Door closer
power size	door leaf width	mass	Between 0° and 4°		Between 88° and 92°	Any other angle of opening	between 0° and 60°	between 0° and 4°		
			Nm min	Nm max	Nm min	Nm min	Nm max	% min		
1	<750	20	9	<13	3	2	26	50		
2	850	40	13	<18	4	3	36	50		
3	950	60	18	<26	6	4	47	55		
4	1100	80	26	<37	9	6	62	60		
5	1250	100	37	<54	12	8	83	65		
6	1400	120	54	<87	18	11	134	65		
7	1600	160	87	<140	29	18	215	65		

NOTE 1. The door widths given are for standard installations. In the case of unusually high or heavy doors, windy or draughty conditions, or special installations, a larger power size of door closer should be used.

NOTE 2. The test door masses shown are only related to door closer power sizes for the purpose of the test procedure. These test door masses are not intended to indicate maximum values for actual use.

STRAND WC2



OPINION... SPINNING PLATES

Steve Marshall is at the helm of not one but three companies. He shares his management tips

uch has been written about leadership. It is the subject of academic theory, hypothesised and applied through models, defined styles, approaches, and delivered against best practice. From first line managers to Prime Ministers, we assess the qualities of leadership: the mind of a strategist, a variety of personal attributes, the ability to lead others and to achieve great things.

In January this year, I took on the role of managing director for not one, but three separate businesses – all different in nature, size and purpose.

Strand Hardware will be well known to many as suppliers of specialist safety and panic exit door hardware. It is an established familyled business of 30 years standing. Its sister company, Strand Technologies, is a technology-based operation providing IoT (internet of things) services to various sectors. The third is AliMet Fabrications, an aluminium systems manufacturer, connected by directorship, but operating as a separate entity.

I began my career as an estimator for an aluminium door and window fabrication company before moving into automatic doors in sales, service and operations roles. This gave me a breadth of industry knowledge – ideal for leading three such companies. But I still have a lot to learn.

The first 100 days is considered a critical period for any senior manager – an opportunity to see things afresh and make your mark. We quickly assimilate a mass of information, work our way through it and start to plan the future.

Good teams are crucial to the success of any business particularly smaller companies where expertise and crossdisciplinary working is

essential"

Steve Marshall is steering three businesses

It's useful to have a road map: a checklist of the things that you want to achieve during that initial period that will support short, medium and longterm planning alongside managing the day-to-day requirements of business.

All areas of the business need to be considered – values, culture and morale – along with the 'mechanics' including financials, sales, operational KPI's, employment law, health and safety, strategy and compliance.

All this sounds complicated, and it is, if we overthink it. Keeping things simple brings a clarity of mind. My approach is to use 'three L's': to look, listen and learn. This is essentially an audit – we all do this when we start a new job, absorbing information to get a measure of our new environment and its ways of working.

Communication is essential, asking the right questions of colleagues, board members, suppliers and customers to better understand relationships, expectations and satisfaction levels. Equally, when you're ready to start applying change, communicating your intentions, and encouraging others to embark on a new journey and empowering them to put in place planned improvements is key.

Good teams are crucial to the success of any business, particularly smaller companies where expertise and cross-disciplinary working is essential to improve efficiency and ensure resilience. Simple solutions can be put place to enable this to happen. For example, Strand HQ is being refurbished to improve layout, workflow and facilities for staff. Technology or process mapping for more effective working can be great enablers, especially in an era of hybrid working.

Of course, change management doesn't have to be a linear process: audit, strategic planning and action can be applied incrementally to support the 'bigger picture'. The trick is to keep the plates spinning – three times over!



WIDER VISION

Specifying for people with disabilities is not just about wheelchair users; it's about inclusive design for everyone. **AIJ** reports

he first word that springs to mind when disabled access is raised is usually 'wheelchairs'. But our understanding of disability and the challenges disabled people face is far from the reality and it poses a challenge in making the built environment accessible and inclusive.

The Equality Act 2010 defines disability as a physical or mental condition that affects a person's ability to carry out day-to-day activities. Under the Act wheelchair users are protected but so are people with vision and hearing loss, learning disabilities, cancer, continence issues, locomotion and reaching conditions and many more. Wheelchair users only amount to 6% of the disabled population.

Consultant and advisor Nick Bevan says a great place to start when aiming to design accessibility is to know who you're designing for. "You must engage with the needs of the people you serve. There is no point, unless you have a legal duty to do so, to provide an accessible toilet or ramp when an employee has had surgery The wheelchair symbol has become an international accessibility standard sign

that prevents them sitting at a standard desk. It is frustrating to see the amount of money wasted in providing facilities that are never used. Not only is it a waste but it undermines the real needs of disabled people. It is vital to undertake a positive and meaningful dialogue to make sure people get what they need. Secondly, it is a case of training, followed by training and yet more training. If we understand the needs of the disabled community, the broader disability agenda and a few tips on how best to communicate, then confidence grows, the service provision improves and probably the bottom line too."

Global Disability Innovation Hub (GDI Hub), a research and practice centre driving disability innovation, was founded in part by the team responsible for the London 2012 Paralympic Legacy programme (which set a new standard in inclusivity). It brings a multidisciplinary perspective to the rapidly evolving field of disability innovation.

Its message is: "inclusive design is about people. It makes us think about who we are designing for and asks: 'are we excluding anyone?' Good inclusive design ensures that all needs are considered in a way that delivers positive experiences for everyone."

Standard practice

BS 8300 is a British Standard that sets out how buildings should be designed, constructed and maintained, in order to create an accessible and inclusive environment for disabled people. BS 8300:2 is the second part in a two-part standard.

BS 8300 is in place to ensure that everyone can use a built environment equally. It says: "Everybody – particularly people living with disabilities, the elderly, or those less able to stand – should be able to enter, use and exit a building easily, comfortably and independently. This includes being able to escape in the event of an emergency."

Previous versions of the Standard have focused on the provision of accessibility solutions specifically for the disabled. The most recent version has been revised to explain how developers can build inclusive environments from the start, rather than bolting on separate accessible facilities. The standard draws on experience gained during the design and operation of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

BS 8300's guidelines are vast, and extend to doors, access control, signs and windows and many other areas. BS8300:2:2018 gives practical guidance on how the requirements of Part M can be incorporated into the built environment.

The GAI has been involved with British Standards Committee responsible for formulating the UK strategy for standardisation in the area of accessibility for many years. Douglas Masterson, GAI technical manager says this involvement "provides us with input in to the creation and revisions of all standards in this area. This includes the hugely influential BS 8300 standards which have had a significant impact on door hardware in respect of dimensions of product and recommended installation heights."

Know the signs

Just as when we think of disability we mostly think of wheelchair users when we think of disability signs we think of the iconic wheelchair sign. The International Symbol of Access, also known as the (International) Wheelchair Symbol or Accessibility Symbol, was designed by Danish design student Susanne Koefoed in 1968. It is maintained as an international standard, ISO 7001 image of the International Commission on

Inclusive desian is about people. It makes us think about who we are designing for and asks: 'are we excluding anyone?" Nick Bevan

Technology and Accessibility. There are many other disability signs out there, but the International Symbol of Access has become a universal symbol of disability and accessibility. It often symbolises the removal of various human-made barriers, which is also helpful to older people and parents with baby carriages, for example, so the sign has, in a way, grown out of confines of disability. Passionate People, a division of

disability products firm Invacare, argues that what we need are as many disability signs as possible to raise awareness of people with disabilities but also dreams of a world without the signs. "It may be something of a paradox, but a future in which the International Symbol of Access won't be needed will mean we have finally achieved absolute accessibility. Universal design will mean buildings, products or environments are accessible to all people from the get-go.

Get social

When considering the provision of an accessible and inclusive environment it is crucial to consider the social model of disability.

The social model of disability explains that it is social and physical 'barriers' that cause 'disability' not impairments. For example, a person who uses a wheelchair becomes disabled when there are steps or steep gradients that cannot be accessed with a wheelchair. A blind or partially sighted person becomes disabled when information is not provided in an accessible format or because access routes are blocked by physical barriers or trip hazards. "One of the main pieces of advice we would offer when designing an inclusive environment is don't be afraid to go beyond the guidance," says About Access, access training and accessibility specialists.

"Whether you draw it from Approved Document M, from BS 8300 or other official sources, try to remember it is only guidance and sets a minimum requirement. We come across examples far too often of designers adhering to the guidance but not taking

MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

Some basic guidelines when talking about disability

Collective terms and labels

• The word 'disabled' is a description not a group of people. Use 'disabled people' not 'the disabled' as the collective term. However, many deaf people whose first language is BSL consider themselves part of 'the deaf community' - they may describe themselves as 'Deaf', with a capital D, to emphasise their deaf identity. Avoid medical labels. They say little about people as individuals and tend to reinforce stereotypes of disabled people as 'patients' or unwell. Don't automatically refer to 'disabled people' in all communications - many people who need disability benefits and services don't identify with this term. Consider using 'people with health conditions or impairments' if it seems more appropriate. • Use mental health condition and learning/intellectual disability.

Positive not negative

Avoid phrases like 'suffers from' which suggest discomfort, constant pain and a sense of hopelessness. Wheelchair users may not view themselves as 'confined to' a wheelchair - try thinking of it as a mobility aid instead.

Everyday phrases

 Most disabled people are comfortable with the words used to describe daily living. People who use wheelchairs 'go for walks' and people with visual impairments may be very pleased - or not - 'to see you'. An impairment may just mean that some things are done in a different way.

additional steps which would have made a big difference."

Narrow corridors and doorways can present difficult challenges but narrow thinking is easy to address."

GAI members can make use of the GAI Specifiers Guide to Ironmongerv and Accessibility as well as the GAI Guide to Standards for BS 8300. See www.gai.org.uk/knowledge

The Olympic Park in London was a beacon of inclusive desian





THE WAY FORWARD

Two of the AI industry's leading lights have joined the GAI executive committee. They shared with **AIJ** their thoughts on the future challenges the industry faces

Peter Hutchins DipGAI Director of projects, Franchi

Tell us your career story

Starting at Yannedis in 1988 I have always worked within the specification of architectural ironmongery. Working on some prestigious projects, from Windsor Castle to Google HQ, and creating designs such as the 16th century St Georges pattern furniture to LED lit pull handles, I have always been very focused on new products that can be used within our industry. I have developed many architect and designer relationships to help achieve the specification sales and regularly use this for their input for any new developments I and my company want to develop.

Through the years I have also got close to many other business types within the construction industry, to make securing the project easier. This includes main clients and contractors, sub-contractors, project managers and quantity surveyors, installers, manufacturers, and distributors.

What will you bring to the committee?

For many years I was a self-employed consultant but I have now been at Franchi for nine years. I have been instrumental in growing the specification business and have recently become a director to start passing all my knowledge and customer service onto the younger generation. I now believe the time is right to share this knowledge and experience with the members of the GAI.

Back in the early 1990s, after I had passed my DipGAI, I was on the initial committee that started to look at the re-development of the education structure with the goal of changing it from four to three years with the thoughts of the fourth year focusing on the career choice of the student e.g. scheduling, estimating, project management.

There are many challenges ahead of us within our industry now that we are in an era of sustainability, diversity, UK manufacturing and certification; all of which I am heavily involved with at Franchi. This, and all the above, is why I watned to join the executive to share my experiences with members, planning and assisting the GAI's future to ensure we continue to grow the brand and educate all.

There are many challenges ahead of us within our industry now that we are in an era of sustainability, diversity, UK manufacturing and certification" Peter Hutchins Price wars will continue but if you have a strong emphasis with EPDs, a strong narrative and data behind sustainability stories and products that will bring longevity to the market this is one way forward." Paul Martin

What challenges is the industry facing?

Further to the fire at Grenfell Tower, Covid, Brexit, Russia-Ukrainian War, global sustainability, and the drive to reduce the carbon footprint, the focus on all doors and ironmongery has become an integral part of every building.

This is a very exciting time for all ironmongers, but it also makes our job a lot more challenging and requires a lot more of a diverse knowledge: not just knowing how to write an ironmongery schedule but being aware of the client's needs to keep the building safe and secure in accordance with the latest guidelines. Speaking daily to architects, designers and end users I am aware of the drive for their sustainability targets and EPD's as well as trying to still achieve the necessary certification: something that I am very involved with at Franchi.

In the 30 plus years I have been in the industry the GAI has done amazing work to keep all members updated with the latest legislation and implement the necessary training. With the many changes that continue to transform our companies, I am now proud to be part of this and use my experience to help steer us all through this delicate transformation to a safer and greener world.

Paul Martin DipGAI

Managing director d line Eisenware Ltd

Tell us your career story

My involvement within the architectural hardware specification market now stems beyond 30 years. I applied my training and knowledge, gifted to me through educational support whilst I was employed by Allgood Plc during my early formative years of 1992–1997. Embarking onto the GAI Education Course allowed me to learn and explore what our industry was all about. It was following my examination result after four years of studies that I decided that I wanted to work closer with the businesses that needed assistance with specifications. My route to market was primarily through the architect and interior designers, and over the years has been widely extended into the contractors. sub contractors and also clients and end users.

I left Allgood in 2005 and challenged myself to work at Eisenware Ltd. It was during the first 10 years that I carved myself more deeply in to our industry industry deeper and expanded my knowledge of our trade. Understanding the manufacturers more, working with new businesses and developing strong lifetime relationships with our supply chain.

In 2015 I had the opportunity to take Eisenware into new places, and we joined forces with Danish architectural **»**



hardware and sanitary manufacturer d line. d line was an established, strong high end brand that had lost its way at that time. During the past seven years I have 'pushed' d line's branding back into the minds of the specifier and created a good strong market platform here in the UK and Ireland. Something of which I am incredibly proud.

Today's focus is all about developing and educating the architects and designers with the best solution for their buildings, ensuring that within our business, we provide the strongest product offering, exemplary service, always maintaining good strong values based around sustainability."

So why the GAI Executive Committee?

My involvement with the GAI has a long-standing history. Having a father who has provided his life to the industry naturally pushed me into what I do today. He always promoted the best values that the GAI offered to the trade, and with that belief I asked to join the education team (with Rachel Tipton) incorporating my experience



In the 30 plus years I have been in the trade the GAI has done amazing work to keep all members updated with the latest legislations and implement the necessary training" Peter Hutchins within specification writing, and onto the Level 3 Papers. As a volunteer I spent many a summer marking exams and helping prepare for them too.

I was asked to join the Judges Panel for the Specification Awards and have now judged two Awards. It certainly opened my eyes to what the other members can offer within our trade.

My experience will hopefully benefit the Executive Committee and I will certainly bring strong opinions when needed to the members. I will look at making decisions that will benefit all members.

As a vocal advocate of what the GAI stands for, I'd like to think that making decisions that could help shape the future of our industry would be both rewarding and challenging. I currently sit within groups at d line focusing on sustainability, product development and key performance indicators which has allowed great debate and decisionmaking within our organisation.

What are the challenges the industry is facing currently and how does it equip itself to manage them?

Most of the industry will be wondering what is going to happen over the next 12-18 months. Raw material increases, energy price hikes, and agendas that no doubt could escalate into a long recession. It certainly is very difficult to predict anything right now. During this period, I predict that the market share will be lower for all, and this will create a vacuum of competition, probably more than we are currently seeing. Price wars will continue, but I will predict that if you have a strong emphasis with EPDs (Environmental Product Declarations), a strong narrative and data behind sustainability stories and products that will bring longevity to the market, this is going to be one way forward.

The challenge is already there, and as an industry, we need to challenge ourselves and those that support us, to make improved, informed, and sustainable choices. The days of poorly made substitutes need to be eradicated, and we all should focus on actually 'up selling' for once. We saw what happened at Grenfell Hardware shouldn't define the building... however it deserves attention and not a last gasp attempt of value engineering to the point of depressing design" Paul Martin



Tower and now this platform could potentially make for better buildings here in the UK and beyond.

It needs to start at the top of every business, and with the GAI Educational Programme too, ensuring every generation is informed about the benefits of sustainability. This is not a new subject matter, but has certainly been given the main stage recently.

We will also see more buildings remaining where before Councils would have rather had a new shiny build, than repurposing. This will have an impact on the quick turnaround fit out market and create hopefully more projects when we need them.

Trends come and go quite regularly within our trade. I am sure many readers would have thought that coloured hardware 10 years ago, would be a short-lived trend. But it's been amplified dramatically, certainly through our interiors market. I see this linking well now between rooms/ spaces, so much so, that I have seen the A&D Community looking for continuity throughout the buildings, from hardware through to washroom spaces. Perhaps we will see the architectural ironmonger enhance their product offerings too?

Architectural hardware really shouldn't define the building. It is functional and should not detract from what an architect/contractor has designed. It should however be the finishing touch and still deserves the attention and not a last gasp attempt of 'value engineering' to the point of no return into the void of depressive design.



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CHARACTER Building

A tricky heritage refurbishment earned a highly commended at the GAI/RIBA Specification Awards. **AIJ** reports on the results of a successful collaboration between client, architect and architectural ironmonger





f you've ever seen the film *The King's Speech* with Colin Firth playing King George VI you'll recall it features the King overcoming a debilitating speech impediment thanks to the world-famous speech therapist, Australian Lionel Logue. In real life Logue practised at 146 Harley Street between 1926 and 1952.

In 2020 the 142-146 Harley Street premises underwent a substantial refurbishment at the request of owners Howard de Walden Estate. The Howard de Walden Estate extends 92 acres and includes the freehold to over 800 properties and includes the healthcare hub the Harley Street Medical Area [HSMA].

The brief for the Harley Street premises was to provide a selfcontained D1 Medical building of 6,299 ft² across lower ground floor to fourth floor. The linked grade II listed buildings needed to provide accommodation suitable for a 'first in class' medical operator to work from, whist retaining and respecting the building's historic character and charm. It was also noted that the restoration and improvement works should serve to enhance the overall appearance of the neighbouring properties and surrounding Harley Street Medical Area.

Working alongside Howard De Walden Estates were Sonnemann Toon Architects LLP, construction contractor Whistlers Ltd and architectural ironmonger 3v Hardware. 3v specified, scheduled and supplied the ironmongery packages for both



Opposite: Frank

and the Harley Street exterior

Above: Satin

stainless steel

was used in the medical areas

Below and right:

Matt black nickel

contrasts with white

door furniture

Allart knob furniture

the traditional upper floors, and the contemporary lower medical area floors for this piece of 19th century architecture.

"The project presented a challenge to 3v Architectural Hardware who were given two separate briefs. The old building needed updating while retaining its traditional feel and the medical areas in the basement required a practical and easily maintained product," said Chris Taylor at 3v.

Matt black and satin steel

Products supplied included traditional knob furniture from Frank Allart in a matt black nickel finish for the traditional areas and Vieler satin stainless steel furniture for the medical areas. All the accessories were carefully chosen in matching or sympathetic finishes. For example it was not possible to fit concealed closer into the existing doors and therefore overhead, surface mounted white closers were used to blend in with the door finish.

Appropriate sash window furniture was sourced and supplied in the same matt black nickel finish.

The client requested that modern fire signage on the face of the door be avoided if at all possible. Instead, 'lollipop' signage was suggested, but with the caveat that this did not comply with the guidelines of BS5499 and therefore approval from Building Control would be required. Samples were put forward and approved (two per door leaf were supplied: one for the

The history of this building felt tangible as you walked around it and the ironmongery specified really tapped in to this" Douglas Masterson

leading edge and one for the jamb but only one has been fitted).

The project was finished to such a high standard it secured 3v Architectural Hardware and Sonnemann Toon architects a highly commended in the Public Health and Education category in the GAI/RIBA Specification Awards 2022.

GAI technical manager Douglas Masterson, who chaired the judging panel and performed the inspections of shortlisted projects, called this project "really impressive".

"The history of this building felt tangible as you walked around it and





the ironmongery specified really tapped in to this," he says. "The matching of the various items of ironmongery products throughout was exquisite and the matt black specified was an impressive contrast to the white door. It was a very sympathetic refurbishment which was a delight to inspect."







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DESIGN Flaw

Under changes brought by the Building Safety Act specifiers can unwittingly become designers – and that has consequences, warns **Richard Harral**

The new duty-holding requirements for designers apply to all types of building work – anything that is within scope of the current Building Act and Building Regulations' e all know who the designer is on a project; don't we? Did you know though it could turn out to be you, without knowing it or realising the consequences, until it's too late? Under The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (CDM) 2015 a designer is considered to be any person who prepares or modifies a design or arranges for or instructs a person under their supervision to do so.

One of the key changes under The Building Safety Act is the amendment of the dutyholding requirements under the CDM Regulations. Historically these applied only to site health and safety but now include general duties with respect to compliance with building regulations. Designers under the Building Safety Act have an entirely new (but similar) and additional set of responsibilities which relate to competence, communication, cooperation and with a primary emphasis on compliance with relevant requirements of the Building Regulations.

Key issues to consider:

The new duty-holding requirements for designers apply to all types of building work – anything that is within scope of the current Building Act and Building Regulations is also within scope of the Dutyholding regime (not just higher »»



risk buildings). In the past, specifiers (such as architectural ironmongers) have been able to allocate responsibility for compliance with the building regulations (but not site health and safety) to others through contractual terms and caveats in contract documentation. However, it seems unlikely that the same approach will work with the extended dutyholding regime. A contractual agreement between private parties cannot override the law of the land.

This means that in the event that there is a non-compliance with the building regulations, any designer within the supply chain may be exposed to prosecution. This has important implications, particularly given that the Building Safety Act has amended Section 35 of the Building Act to extend the time limit for prosecution to be unlimited in retrospect. In other words, prosecution can now be commenced at any time after building work is complete.

The Designer duty is very different to the role of Principal Designer who has a much wider set of responsibilities but beware – if you are the only designer on a project, then you may automatically have to take on the role of principal designer.

Even where you believe that someone else has been appointed as the principal designer (and you should always make sure you know who this is) you need to ensure that there is a record in writing agreeing or specifying that this is the case – you cannot and should not simply assume that it is someone else.

What is design work?

Further guidance from the BSR is anticipated on how design is defined, but it is safe to assume that design, specification and preparation of technical requirements or bills of quantities are covered.

Whilst responsibility for any failure in compliance is likely to be shared between a number of parties, it seems unlikely that specialist subcontractors and suppliers who are clearly the 'expert in the room' and on whom others rely will be able to sidestep accountability. In the past specifiers have been able to allocate responsibility for compliance with building regs to others. However it seems unlikely that same approach will work with the [new] regime."



All dutyholders have general duties to: • Plan manage and monitor work to ensure it complies with the building regulations.

• Cooperate with other dutyholders e.g. sharing information, communicate effectively, support compliance with regulatory requirements including those for higher risk buildings).

 Ensure they and the person they appoint are competent

• Designers also have a number of specific regulatory procedural responsibilities including;

Ensuring that designers are

competent to do the work they are undertaking – and that organisations have appropriate organisational capability.

• Not starting work until they know that the client understands their Dutyholding responsibilities – this may require seeking confirmation in writing for the record.

For more information visit https://tinyurl. com/ycx3a4z6 • Ensuring that the work designed complies with relevant requirements of the building regulations.

• Sufficient information is provided about design, construction and maintenance to assist the client other designers and contractors to comply with relevant requirements.

 Considering other design work (outside your immediate responsibility) and report any concerns to the principal designer.

• Provide advice as to whether any design work they are undertaking is considered to be work on an HRB.

• Not undertake/refuse any work which they know does not comply with relevant requirements of the building regulations.

So what does this mean in practice?

Firstly terms of appointment and contracts need to be carefully reviewed. Scope of work and design responsibility should be strictly defined within areas of specialist understanding – but designers need to recognise and accept responsibility where this is appropriate.

Consideration needs to be given to obtaining Professional Indemnity Insurance to cover design activities.

Keeping up-to date with the building regulations remains more important than ever – but checks should be made on how work interfaces with other aspects of regulation not directly in scope so that risks and compliance can be properly managed. Consider adopting recognised higher standards of good practice. Ensure you are aware of industry standards, particularly where these standards address issues on which minimum standards in building regulations are silent.

Get your appointment procedures sorted – and make sure responsibilities are clearly recorded in writing and saved for future reference. There is no time limit on prosecution, so review how long your records are retained.

Look at your competence manage systems and standards and invest in training to keep staff competent.

Richard Harral is technical director of Chartered Association of Building Engineers.

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TEST MATCH

Being clear about fire door safety is vital. **Douglas Masterson** provides the essential knowledge on ironmongery, fire testing and third party certification

hat is a fire door? A fire door is a door with a fire-resistance rating which is used as part of a passive fire protection system. Fire doors must be installed to replicate their tested condition, and if changes are made to them in any way these are likely to negatively affect their fire performance, and certainly nullify any third party certification or CE/UKCA mark.

A fire door must have fire test evidence to prove that it is a fire door. For an ironmongery product to be used on a fire door it should have fire test evidence that it has been tested on a similar construction of fire door.

Primary fire test evidence

Primary evidence derives from a fire test by a named manufacturer at a UKAS laboratory or accredited by an Accreditation Body that is a signatory of International laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC). The reports from the fire tests are statements of fact and therefore only apply to exactly what has been tested, no more and no less. Whilst it is possible to manufacture directly from a Primary Test, this is limited to exactly what was tested on the original fire door test. Primary test evidence cannot be used in all circumstances as the sheer number of possible combinations of fire doors makes it impossible to test every variation. In order to allow other variations of elements which are outside the scope of the primary evidence such as differing sizes and products, we therefore need fire assessments.

Fire assessments

Assessments are written by qualified fire consultants. The assessment report combines all items of test data into a single document identifying the maximum permitted parameters or consider any specific changes to the tested specification that the test sponsor requires.

The report becomes the document that the test sponsor will use in support of their test reports. Assessment reports normally have a stipulated



Douglas Masterson, GAI technical manager

validation period such as five years, after which time they should be returned to the assessing body for review. The relevant designated standard for that product group, what responsibilities must be met by the manufacturer, and the necessary level of involvement from an Approved Body, depends on the level of Attestation and Constancy of Performance (AVCP) the product complies with.

Assessments consider a wide range of aspects of design; for example, with doors the following are typically considered:

• Changes in leaf dimensions (height and width).

• Changes in doorset configurations (single leaf, double leaf, single acting, double acting)

• Glazed aperture sizes and configurations.

Option to use alternative glass types.

- Door frame variations
- (e.g. size, section, material, etc.).
- Changes and additional items
- of hardware.
- Intumescent specification. >>>



Not all fire doors have the same scope of compatible ironmongery — it should therefore not be assumed that certificates can be cross-fertilised"

Field of Application reports

It is often necessary to produce a Field of Application (FOA) Report for fire doors. This brings together a number of fire test reports into a single practical document that outlines the variations and permitted parameters. It means the door manufacturer will understand the range of situations in which their product can be sold, the installer will understand where and how they can install the product as well as assisting the door manufacturer in reducing the risk of claims resulting from incorrect installation. It will also assist with issues such as permitted ironmongery as well as its correct positioning on the door.

Fire performance standards

There are two fire performance standards that are accepted for use within the UK:

- BS 476 part 20-22 1987:
- EN 1634-1 2014+A1:2018:

These standards provide the Integrity (E) & Insulation (I) performance for the sample tested. The Test Report provides the backbone for Third Party Certification Scheme requirements and is also used as the starting point for Global Assessments.

Items are always tested as part of a complete doorset: It is very difficult to get a meaningful test result by testing items in isolation. The fire test shows how the various components of a doorset interact with each other when subjected to fire.In the majority of cases a full size and fully operational sample is taken to test and will normally be tested right through to destruction so the overrun can be used to the best advantage when obtaining a Global Assessment. In the case of a BS-EN 1634-1 test any overrun can be used in a Direct Field of Application which forms part of the test report.

Fire door ratings

A fire door rating means how long the door will be able to resist fire and as stated It can be tested to BS 476-22 or EN 1634-1, the prefix of the door therefore relates to the standard to which the door has been tested as well as the length of time the fire door will resist fire.

Smoke leakage standards

The current standards are BS 476 part 31:1 1983 and EN 1634-3: 2004. Although these are often described as smoke tests, the standards actually test for the amount of air leakage from the perimeter of the sample whilst being subjected to both negative and positive pressures. Third Party Certification schemes will also introduce cycling testing to evaluate the durability of the seal in the working environment.

Sometimes doors are required to be both fire and smoke control doors. This means there will be smoke seals as well as intumescent seals in either the entire perimeter of the door or in the frame. Sometimes these seals are combined as a single intumescent and smoke seal. Similar to fire resisting doors, the prefix of the door therefore relates to the standard to which the door has been tested as well as the length of time the fire door will resist fire/smoke. The suffix 'S' (e.g. FD30S) denotes the door is both a fire and smoke controlled door.

Third party certification

Third-party certification for fire doors is a process of testing and verifying a fire door's design, performance, manufacturing process and quality assurance of procedures and supporting documentation.

A company that seeks third-party certification is independently audited to ensure that the management and manufacturing processes, and supporting systems, are in place to ensure consistency with the fire door/ fire doorset that was initially tested. The product is also subjected to regular scrutiny, with periodic testing taking place on standard products to ensure that the test wasn't just a onceonly event.

British standard: minimum fire resistance (integrity) rating	European standard: minimum fire resistance (integrity) rating	Number of minutes that a door can resist fire
FD30	E30	30 minutes
FD60	E60	60 minutes
FD90	E90	90 minutes
FD120	E120	120 minutes

When third party testing is conducted, a manufacturer or supplier provides an independent test laboratory with samples. The samples are tested to the required standard and a test report is issued. The information contained in the test report relates to the specific sample that was tested and test reports are a statement of fact in relation to what occurred when the test was conducted. Minor changes in the composition of a material from that which was tested may significantly affect the performance of the product/ material and may therefore invalidate any test results.

Third party certification can be 'broken' and invalidated by the use of incompatible components including ironmongery, frames, seals, glazed apertures. Full consideration of the required specification is needed at a very early point in the project, often certification gets broken because allowance for specific parts has not been taken into consideration when the door was selected.

Not all fire doors have the same scope of allowed specification and compatible ironmongery – it should therefore not be assumed that certificates can be cross-fertilised. When it comes to fire door certification it is the door certification which is the trump card and which overrides any certification relating to other parts of ironmongery. Breaking certification not only invalidates certification but present a risk to users of the fire door that it may not work when required.

It should also be noted that manufacturing third party certification isn't the full story, a compliant installation, a regular regime of maintenance as well as a programme of ongoing inspection is critical to ensure a fire door will work when needed.



information see GAI/DHF Technical Briefina Guidance on Conformity Marking, Third Party Testing Assessments and Certification and the GAI **Specifiers Guide** Ironmongery for Fire and Escape Doors or contact Douglas Masterson on technical@ gai.org.uk







Elegant and pure: HOPPE mini roses

Mini roses show door handles in a whole new light. Through the radical reduction in size the roses become hardly noticeable on the door – making the handle itself more prominent and creating a fascinating new interplay between the handle and the door.

Interior door sets with mini roses are available in aluminium, stainless steel and brass (brass models come with the Resista[®] surface guarantee). A standard door set consists of a door handle pair with matching handle roses. Escutcheons – also available in versions for bathroom doors – can be added if required. Special attribute

Quick-Fit

NEW PRODUCTS >>

BRITON EXPANDS HARDWARE RANGE WITH LOCKCASE



Briton, provider of door controls and exit hardware, has launched its new 5700 series lockcase, a heavy-duty euro profile cylinder mortice lockcase. The new collection, dimensionally compatible with Briton's 5400 series and available with round and square forend and strikes, offers a range of functions, including Deadlock, Sashlock, Escape Lock, Nightlatch and Bathroom Lock and Latch.

Designed for all medium- to high-use applications, the Certifire accredited 5700 series lockcase is constructed from Grade 316 Stainless Steel and fire tested to EN 1634-1 for use on timber and steel fire doors. A DIN standard mortice lock, the 5700 series accommodates all levels of mobility and is ideal for Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) and buildings in domestic or public settings with high footfall such as schools or hospitals.



The Briton 5700 series also features a 20mm single throw deadbolt, designed for single-turn, instant egress and a quick reversable latch for trouble-free on-site handling. The 5700's assured durability is further supported by its CE and UKCA marks to EN 12209 and EN 179, as well as a 10-year guarantee.

The new Briton 5700 series lockcase marks the first product launched under Briton's refreshed brand identity, which was unveiled earlier this year. The 5700 series lockcase will boast Briton's new packaging, designed to reduce waste, and is supported with complete product information and datasheets on the new Briton website. www.briton.co.uk

STRAND EXPANDS PANIC HARDWARE

Strand Hardware has introduced new products to its panic and emergency hardware range to provide customers with a onestop shop for complete solutions to key products.

Armoured door loops, power supply units (PSU) and PSU batteries to provide battery backup are now available to purchase alongside the Strand Antipanic Motorised Touch Bar range. Until now, Strand Hardware customers have needed to source these items from other suppliers. Being able to buy them in one place is aimed at reducing time and money by incorporating into existing orders.

The power supply units (PSU) are used to convert the external mains voltage, 240v into the required voltage current to operate the motorised touch bar which is 12 – 24v DC or 12v AC. www.strandhardware.co.uk







CODELOCKS LAUNCHES GLASS DOOR SMART LOCK

Codelocks has launched its first glass door smart lock, bringing intelligent access control to modern workspaces. CL4500 GD is an updated version of the CL4000, incorporating Codelocks' NetCode® Technology.

The CL4500 GD is a medium duty electronic lock with a Rondo style patch lock to suit toughened glass doors. It has key override access and a 12-button backlit keypad for operation in dim light conditions. The lock can be fitted to a solid door frame using the flat strike panel, or to glass side panels using the additional strike box, meaning it can be installed in partial, or fully glass-walled rooms.

The CL4500 GD can manage up to 350 different users, who can unlock it via a code, card or smart phone. NetCode® allows for temporary code generation, ranging between one hour to one year, with single or multiple uses.

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NEW DOOR CLOSER FROM GEZE

GEZE's TS 5000 ECline overhead door closer with guide rail combines accessibility and convenience in one closer.

The TS 5000 ECline (pronounced EASYLINE) provides barrier-free, easy-to-open doors suitable for right and left single action doors with a door leaf width of up to 1250mm. It also has integrated back check, hydraulic latching action, and the closing speed can be individually adjusted.

In addition the closer offers flexibility in installation as it can be installed on the door leaf on the hinge side or on the transom on the opposite hinge side and all functions can be adjusted from the front of the closer. The L version of the closer enables it to be mounted on the push side of the door.

It is part of the GEZE family of closers that have the same styling, and it has the same fitting footprint as other GEZE closers allowing it to be fitted in place of other closers without having to re-drill the door.

With a closing force of EN 3-5 with variable adjustment the TS 5000 ECline is suitable for fire and smoke protection doors. www.geze.co.uk

HIGH SECURITY PADLOCK SOLUTION FROM ABUS

ABUS has launched a padlock solution for high security applications such as perimeter fencing, highly secure or remote sites.

The ABUS 93RK steel monobloc padlock has a shackle and lock body manufactured in Germany from hardened steel with a patented Nano Protect[™] coating that makes it highly resistant to the elements, perfect for harsh and exposed environments.

The ABUS 93RK is certified to EN 12320:2012 with the highest ratings for durability, corrosionresistance, and security. www.abuspadlocksonline.co.uk



MUL-T-LOCK OFFERS NEW MASTER KEYS SUITES

Mul-T-Lock has launched a new locking solution that offers master key suites with patent protection and high resistance to cylinder manipulation attack.

MTL[™]200 is based on six-pin technology and is available as a mechanical product, with patent protection until 2038.

Offered with basic master key system capabilities that are compatible with Mul-T-Lock's new Antibacterial keys, MTL[™]200 is designed to promote security and long-term durability.

MTL[™] 200 is designed as an entry-level locking solution offering technology and protection that complies with international standards. It is also protected



by a special profile, which allows advanced key copy control.

Each cylinder is supplied with three full nickel silver metal keys and is protected by a unique key profile, offered with Mul-T-Lock's specialist antibacterial coating as standard. These keys have been tested to the ISO 22196 standard to show lower bacterial contamination compared to other keys.

www.mul-t-lock.co.uk/mtl200







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SWISS ENGINEERING

Continuing the series on iconic door and door products we look at a 5,000 year-old door unearthed in a Zurich archeological dig

ne of the oldest doors ever found in Europe was unearthed by archaeologists in Zurich just over 11 years ago. They found a 5,000-year-old door made of ancient poplar wood with well-preserved hinges and what archaeologist Niels Bleicher called a "remarkable" design for holding the boards together.

Using tree rings to determine its age, it is thought the door could have been made in 3,063BC, just as construction on Stonehenge began.

Harsh climatic conditions at the time meant people had to build solid houses that would keep out much of the cold wind that blew across Lake Zurich, and the door would have Archeologists called the 5,000 year-old door "a clever design that even looks good" helped. Bleicher said. "It's a clever design that even looks good."

The door was part of a settlement of so-called 'stilt houses' frequently found near lakes about a thousand years after agriculture and animal husbandry were first introduced to the pre-Alpine region.

The door was found at a dig for a new underground car park for Zurich's opera house.

Archaeologists have found traces of at least five Neolithic villages believed to have existed at the site between 3,700 and 2,500 years BC, including objects such as a flint dagger from what is now Italy and an elaborate hunting bow.

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