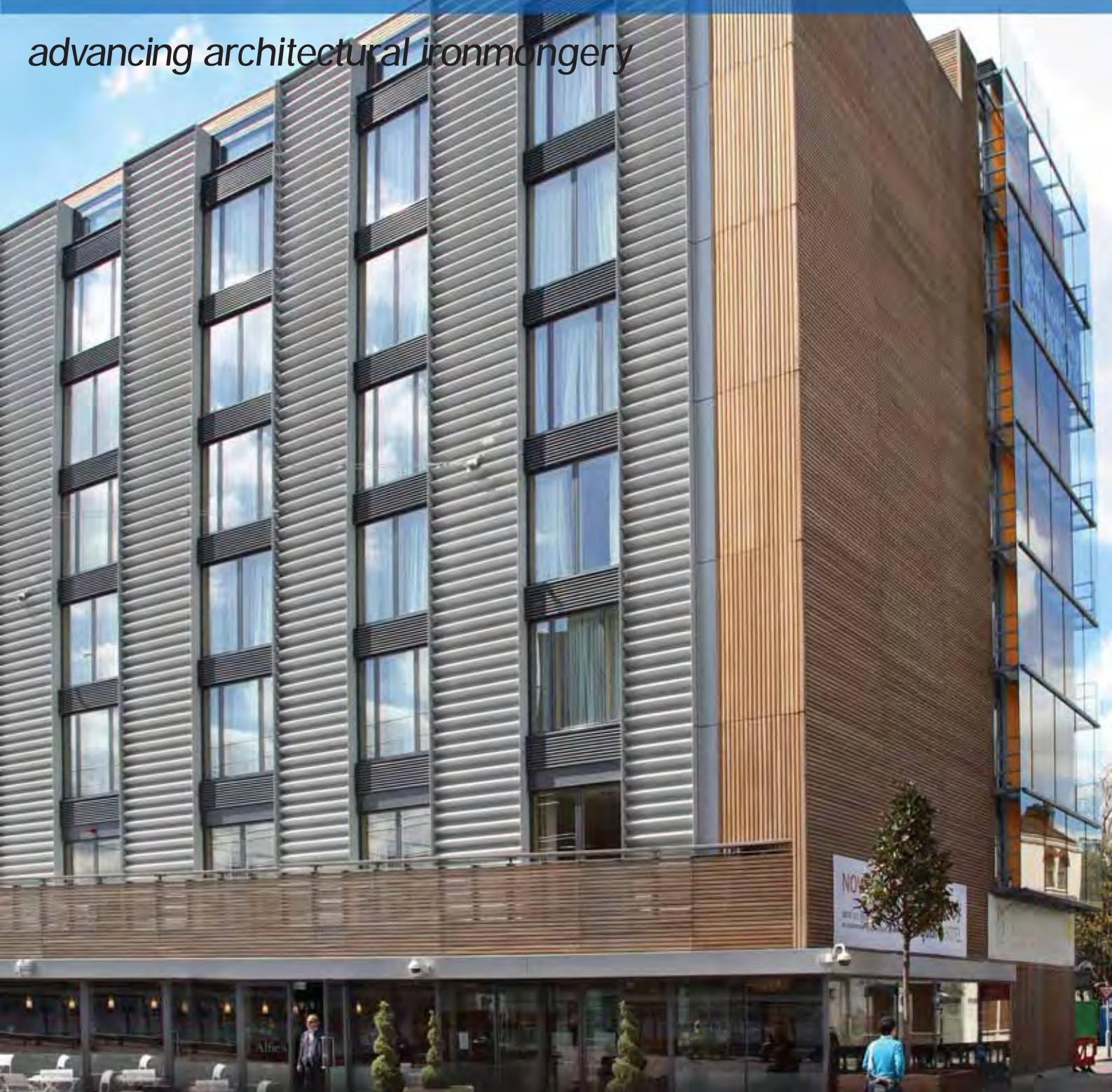




architectural  
ironmongery  
journal

no.134 summer 2009

*advancing architectural ironmongery*



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Strike one  
Flair for stairs



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Automatic

Glass Fittings and  
Accessories

Movable Walls

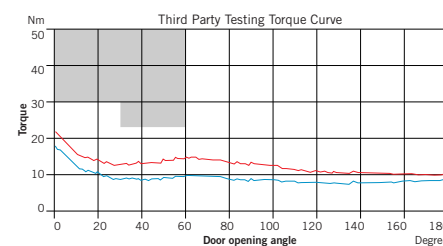
Service

## The Definitive Door Control – Never Equalled.

DORMA has always developed products to the highest performance standards. That's why since DORMA developed Cam Action overhead closers in 1988, the dependable TS92 still remains unequalled in meeting current door closer legislation requirements.

Proven, robust and easy to use whether you choose the modern Contur Design or a traditional softline or square cover, the heart of the TS92 remains the ultimate in providing easy opening and secure closing every time.

- CE marked to BS EN 1154
- CERTIFIRE approved for 2 hours on timber doors and 4 hours on metal doors CF.119
- The TS92 will exert an opening force of 30N or less when fitted to a fire door (size EN3) measuring 733mm and above



### Controlled door closing device EN 1154

Manufacturer: DORMA  
Model: TS92 EN2-4  
Sample: B 1  
Size: 3  
5000 cycles

Standard installation





**A**fter four years of publicising the importance of maintaining effective fire protection under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, at the GAI we are now beginning to see signs that companies are being prosecuted for breaching the order.

And not small companies. In what was the largest penalty under the legislation to date, Shell International Ltd was fined £300,000 and ordered to pay £45,000 costs in June after pleading guilty to breaches of the RRO at its UK headquarters in central London. The London Fire Brigade prosecuted the company following two small fires in the space of three weeks. A subsequent inspection found extensive breaches including blocked escape routes and fire exits, and defective fire doors.

Every one of us in the Architectural ironmongery business knows that fire doors, along with their protection systems, save many many lives every year. It is beholden on all of us to ensure that they are correctly specified, installed and maintained, as the tragic events in Camberwell on 3 July testify.



*Helen Curry*

## aijfront cover



**Simon Turner** visits the Bermondsey Square Hotel to find out how architectural ironmongery played its part in the construction of this brand new building

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## NEXT ISSUE

Copy date for the Autumn 2009 issue is 25 September 2009. All adverts are accepted subject to approval from a Technical Approval Committee

## CELTIC CRUSADERS

DORMA has made a brace of appointments covering Scotland and Northern Ireland. Ian Howell has been appointed as key Sales Executive for its Automatics and Service divisions in Northern Ireland while David Mason is now General Manager of its Falkirk Regional Office.

Ian has served an apprenticeship as a mechanical maintenance fitter with the power generation side of Northern Ireland Electricity. He then moved on to become an engineer with DORMA for a few years, until in 2004 when he joined MB Architectural, the agent for DORMA Door Controls in Northern Ireland. Ian is now rejoining DORMA as a territory sales executive for the Automatics and Service divisions.

As General Manager of their Falkirk Regional Office, Dave will take on

responsibility for all aspects of DORMA service and installation operations in Scotland. Previously, the Scottish region operated out of the Northern Regional Office in Jarrow, but continued expansion in Scotland has made it a natural progression to establish it as a service operation in its own right.

David has been with DORMA for twelve years, initially working as the Service Division's Sales Representative in the North of England, transferring to Automatics Division in the same area, and then moving to a senior Automatics sales role in Scotland.

David is looking forward to the new challenge. "My main priority is to ensure that everything we do in the Region is totally customer focused and I will be implementing some operational changes with that very much in mind."



Dave Mason



Ian Howell

## NEW CONVENOR TAKES UP ROLE

Paul Duggan, Business Development Manager for Bodycote Warrington apt, AND Chair of the GAI'S Technical Committee, has been confirmed as the new convenor for European technical committee, CEN/TC33/WG4.

CEN/TC33 has responsibility for the production of product standards for hardware, doors and windows. Working Group 4 of TC33 is specifically responsible for hardware, Paul Duggan's particular area of expertise.

As WG4 convenor, Paul is also now the chairman of B/538/4, the mirror committee which addresses issues in the UK relating to hardware.

Chris Miles, Business Development Director, Bodycote Warringtonfire said: "The position of convenor of CEN TC33/WG4 is a reflection not only of Paul's extensive knowledge of hardware, doors and windows, but of his standing in the European building hardware industry. We wish him well in this role."



## BODYCOTE TESTING BECOMES 'EXOVA'

Bodycote Testing Group, the testing and advisory business that owns Bodycote Warringtonfire, has been relaunched with a new dynamic name, identity and website. The company will be known as Exova. The creation of a new name and identity which reflect the company's new direction, vision and values, has been prompted by the sale of the business by Bodycote plc last year.

Bodycote Testing Group, which provides testing and advisory services to the aerospace, energy, oil and gas, civil engineering, transportation, pharmaceutical, food and consumer products industries and has over 130 facilities in 25 countries, was acquired by the global private equity firm Clayton, Dubilier and Rice (CD&R), in October 2008.

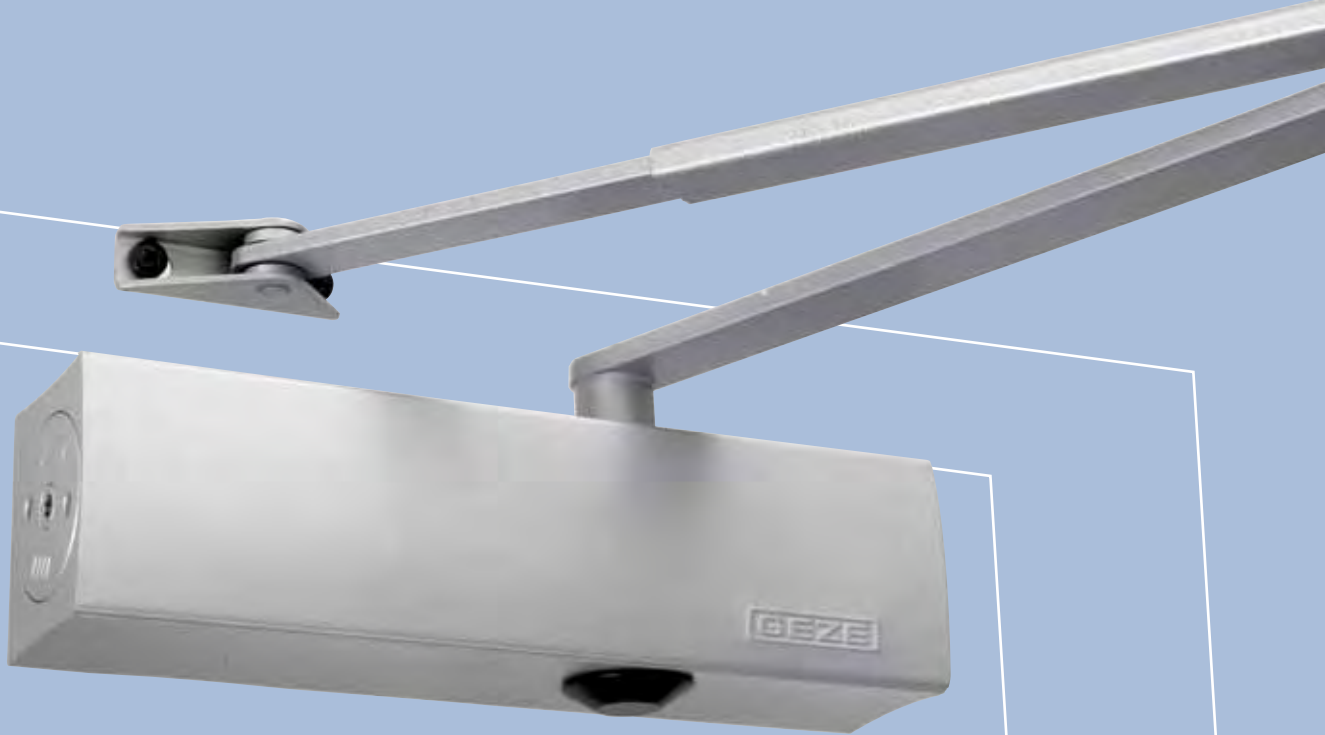
The new identity will be implemented through a phased roll out planned to all sites worldwide over the next few months, with the change over being complete by October 2009. Further information is available on the new website at [www.exova.com](http://www.exova.com).

## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

ABUS has now reached the second phase of its planned expansion by investing in a new Service Centre in their new UK HQ, in Portishead near Bristol. This lock assembly, pinning-up and key cutting facility is an essential element to maintain service levels to UK retailers. ABUS UK can now offer a full assembly service for all ABUS Re-Keyable locks, from the flagship Granit range of insurance padlocks, featuring the ABUS Plus 7 disc mechanism with over 250,000 genuine key differs, to the best selling 65 series of brass padlocks, which are now available master keyed, keyed alike or assembled to sample keys. All ABUS 'service' padlocks available from ABUS UK are clearly identified in the new ABUS 2009 Price List available on request.

The new ABUS UK Service Centre is managed by local Bristol man, Andrew Mace, an experienced locksmith and joins ABUS from the locksmith business he ran for 8 years. Prior to that, he was production/ quality manager at Saxon Industries for 5 years. So he well understands the needs of ABUS customers, and he is used to meeting tight deadlines and maintaining quality standards of security.

Andrew Mace said "Our new ABUS workshop has been equipped with the latest computerised key cutting machinery and modern software to ensure that our team offer a premium service to the competitive prices expected of Europe's leading padlock manufacturer. The rapid delivery of customers' special security requirements is an essential part of our growth plans for the UK. I am looking forward to being part of the professional ABUS UK team".



## We've developed the new TS 2000 NV with some key adjustments



The latest development in door closers takes a market leader and gives it a new twist. In fact, just a simple twist with an allen key is all it takes to fully adjust the closing force, making it easier to conform to the requirements of Approved Document M and BS8300.

Developed from the popular TS 2000 V, in accordance with EN 1154, and upholding its reputation for high quality and reliability, the new EN 2-4 door closer has fully adjustable hydraulic latching and back check functions. Available in a wide choice of architectural finishes, it is also Certifire approved – CF 252 and assists with DDA compliance.

TS 2000 NV – one of the most versatile door closers has just got even better.

Call our customer helpline on **01543 443000**  
Email [info.uk@geze.com](mailto:info.uk@geze.com) or [www.geze.co.uk](http://www.geze.co.uk)







Chief Executive Gary Amer opens the 48th GAI Conference

## SHORT STORY

This year's GAI AGM and Conference – its 48th – was held in the lovely rural surroundings of the Forest of Arden in Warwickshire. Given the parlous state of the economy at the moment, the GAI Executive Committee made the decision earlier this year to fore-shorten the event, holding business over just one day instead of the customary two. This move not only better reflected the difficult times that the industry faces, it also made the event more affordable and accessible to many smaller companies. In fact, many more AI companies were represented at the event than in previous years.

The whole event was only made possible by the Conference sponsors, Allgood, DORMA, GEZE, Harbrine, Lorient and Assa Abloy. Their generous contributions helped make the conference even more enjoyable and professional for everybody.

The shortened timetable meant that delegates had a packed programme of business and leisure to get through. As well as the formal business of the AGM and reports from all of the Committee Chairs the delegates enjoyed an inspirational keynote speaker, Chris Moon before breaking for an afternoon on the golf course, visiting nearby Stratford-upon-Avon or rounding up ducks! The conference was also attended by Door and Hardware Institute Industry President Scott Sabitini and his wife Mary Lou, a particular honour given the tough conditions that the American market is also facing.



Keynote speaker Chris Moon MBE

## CONFERENCE ROUND UP

### Education Committee Chairman Keith Maer

reported on a hugely successful year for the GAI's educational activities and informed the conference about some new initiatives, including on-line and open learning options designed to keep the GAI's educational programme at the leading edge. Impressively, enrolments for this year's Education Programme are up (by one!) on last year! As from September, the Education manuals will be produced in electronic format – a huge financial and environmental boost for the GAI, as well as a boon for students.



### Newly elected Honorary Treasurer John Jefferies

of Laidlaw reported on another solid financial year for the GAI and increasingly firm foundations for future consolidation which will leave the GAI well positioned to weather any storm the downturn may bring.



### New Technical Committee Chairman Paul Duggan

from Exova (formerly Warrington apt) reported on significant developments in the harmonisation of European Standards, CE Marking of doorsets, and plans for tougher policing of CE certification.



### The new Communications Committee Chair Shafiq Sharif

of Laidlaw reported back on a successful year including recent developments in the promotion of GuildMark, the continuing development of the GAI web site and plans for future marketing activity. He also announced a new GAI membership survey, calling for an open and honest flow of views and opinions in order that the GAI can give its members better value for money and the services they need.



### Andy Howland, the Chairman of the Institute of Architectural Ironmongers

reported on a successful year for the Institute with full programmes in all regions and attendance at events reaching new highs. He also reported back on exciting plans to establish a branch in Ireland.





Light duty...  
unyielding quality

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## New Simplex Light Duty

Come and feel our buttons - you cannot detect the code

The first light duty push button locks to be introduced by Kaba Simplex, offering a cost effective solution whilst still maintaining high quality and durability. Kaba Simplex light duty push button locks offer the same standard high quality features expected of the Simplex brand, whilst introducing unique features to rival any competition.

- Patented "slide plate" prohibits unauthorised persons from determining the code
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- Latch holdback option easily changed - only one variant required
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- Suits metal or wood doors 35mm to 64mm
- Highly competitive

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





## HALL MARK

This was President Andrew Hall's first conference in the role and he used his address to outline some of the issues he hopes to tackle in the next two years. He outlined a number of long and short term goals, including six key issues which will set the tone for his Presidency:

**EDUCATION:** this lies at the heart of the GAI's and Institute's activities and continues to be an enormous success with record enrolments – for the current year and record levels of passes – last year.

**EMPHASIS ON THE AI:** particularly the smaller ones. The GAI is determined to get them more involved in the GAI and offer them more value.

**THE INSTITUTE:** This is an intrinsic, essential part of the GAI, and a vital communications conduit to the core of the AI industry.

**TECHNICAL:** European standards continue to be important to the industry and the GAI must continue to influence their development, actively representing the industry on UK and European technical committees

**FALSE OR MISLEADING PRODUCT CLAIMS:** the GAI is determined to take more control over this issue, working to extend stringent policing to all the claims that member companies make in their literature and websites

**GUILD MARK:** this scheme is now up and running with GuildMark Member Companies, each playing their part in promoting the scheme and the GAI will continue to promote it at every opportunity. The RIBA are, and will be, helping to create more awareness amongst their Members.

## HÄFELE SPONSORS LUNCH

The GAI is delighted to announce that it has reached a two-year arrangement with HÄFELE to sponsor its annual Education Awards Lunch – the event where excellence in the GAI's respected education programme is recognised and celebrated.

HÄFELE has long shown a strong commitment to the education programme with an excellent track record in producing successful and medal-winning students. Each year the company trains students from across its divisions, including entering candidates from as far afield as India. This new partnership with the GAI cements that commitment and offers the opportunity to lift this already popular event to new levels.

Director of HÄFELE's AI Business, Mike Kelly believes the new partnership offers a very

exciting prospect "We are pleased to be associated with the GAI and the event and are looking forward to the opportunity to work together on this project, and to staging successful Education Awards Lunches over the next two years."

GAI Chief Exec Gary Amer also believes this deal offers both organisations a real opportunity to take the event forward. "I am delighted to be working with HÄFELE and believe this will benefit the whole industry, as well our two businesses."

Last year's event was attended by over 300 people – a record for this occasion. As well as showcasing this year's crop of successful Diploma students, the Lunch is a top networking opportunity with all the industry's movers and shakers attending including a strong contingent of AIs.

## MAKING ACCESSIBILITY ACCESSIBLE

The GAI has issued guidance to specifiers and stakeholders with regard to the complex area Accessibility for All, with a new Technical Bulletin. This new guide offers straightforward advice on the changes in this field in the recently published BS 8300 and is available free of charge at [www.gai.org.uk](http://www.gai.org.uk)

This area has long been a source of confusion for stakeholders due to issues identified in the original BS 8300 published in October 2001 and its conflicts with Approved Document M, most noticeably concerning opening forces and visual contrast. The original Code of Practice often identified issues and problems, without providing solutions or guidance in how to solve them.

The new Technical Update from the GAI gives detailed guidance on these changes as they relate to architectural ironmongery and doors, including substantial changes in handrail design and fixing, clear widths through doorways, the design of vision panels, and manual door opening and closing furniture. There are also extensive amendments to the way in which internal doors are scheduled.

The new BS8300 now clarifies the way in which specifiers use light reflectance values (LRVs) to assess visual contrast between door opening furniture and the face of the door. The GAI Technical Update sets out how specifiers can specify and test to meet the new standard in an uncomplicated way.





# PERKO **POWERMATIC®**

Whatever your project,  
our concealed door closer won't limit you



Hotels, health, education, residential, commercial, local authority... whatever project you are working on, fire doors not only need to meet all requirements for fire resistance and accessibility, but also look part of your design, without detracting from the aesthetics.

Manufactured in the United Kingdom, to the high standards you have come to expect from Samuel Heath, the Perko Powermatic® controlled, concealed door closer is maintenance-free, carries a 10-year guarantee and ticks all the right boxes:

- ✓ CE marked
- ✓ BS EN 1154: 1997 Power size 3
- ✓ Perko Powermatic® can meet the opening force recommendations of BS8300 and Approved Document M. However, consideration must be given to the door width, other installed hardware and differential air pressures within the building to ensure it still meets the recommendations in situ.
- ✓ BS EN 1634-1 Approved for use on half-hour and one-hour fire doors
- ✓ Certifire approved

To find out more visit the Perko Powermatic® website or call us for specification advice.

## SAMUEL HEATH

Tel 0121 766 4216 [info@samuel-heath.com](mailto:info@samuel-heath.com) [perko-powermatic.com](http://perko-powermatic.com)

## SURE FIRE



Warrington Certification has updated and re-issued Part 2 of its Technical Directory of Certificated Fire Products and Services. The new Part 2 features updated lists of FIRAS certificated installation contractors, along with the products they are certificated to install.

A voluntary, third party certification for installers of fire protection systems, FIRAS is operated by Warrington Certification and accredited by UKAS. Since its introduction, FIRAS has been at the forefront of improving standards in the installation of fire protection products and systems to the benefit of the construction industry and the clients whose buildings have been protected by FIRAS certificated contractors.

In order to achieve FIRAS certification and to be listed in Part 2 of the Technical Directory, installers have to undergo a number of assessments covering training of staff, competency of the workforce and regular, random inspections of contracts. In addition, on completion of the work, certification to show traceability must be provided and held with the building owner.

The Technical Directory of Certificated Fire Products and Services is free of charge and is fast becoming an essential guide for designers, products specifiers and builders, since it covers different elements of construction and the requirement for fire-protective building products and systems. As well as summarising the latest legislation and related standards that affect product specifiers in relation to fire protection, the directory gives a comprehensive listing of certified products from fire-resisting doorsets and cavity barriers, to ductwork and fire-resistant glass and glazing systems, as well as the companies certificated to install such products.

The Directory is backed up by a 'live' listing of FIRAS certificated companies at [www.firas-register.co.uk](http://www.firas-register.co.uk) and further information about the scheme, including downloadable copies of Part 2 of the Directory can be found under 'certifying' at [www.warringtonfire.net](http://www.warringtonfire.net)

## TESTING TIMES

Bodycote Warringtonfire is now able to offer testing against EN1634-2, the new European Standard for the fire testing of small items of building hardware such as hinges, locks or bolts.

Previously, in order to test the fire resistance of a small piece of building hardware, it had to be affixed to a full size door or window, since it was viewed that the piece of hardware itself only has fire resistance when attached to a 'structure'. EN1634-2 allows for the testing of components independently, not only saving time and money, but also, in some areas, claims Bodycote Warringtonfire, actually providing a more stringent test than was previously carried out.

## UNION DELIVERS



UNION, part of ASSA ABLOY, has set up a dedicated stock management and logistics service to supply thousands of hinges into leading door manufacturer Leaderflush Shapland.

A specialist in supplying doors to refurbishment and new build projects in the public sector, especially schools and hospitals, Leaderflush Shapland is already supplied by other

divisions in ASSA ABLOY's global group of companies. One of the key features of the contract is UNION's ability to maintain a substantial stock for Leaderflush Shapland's manufacturing operations in Europe and in China.

Richard Bertram from Leaderflush Shapland, said: "UNION has quickly established itself as a key partner, offering both the products and the service levels we require to fulfil our demanding requirements. Quality and reliability are critical to the service we provide and UNION has demonstrated it can meet our exacting standards, even at peak times."

## VALUE JUDGEMENTS

Recent research into the UK architectural ironmongery products market carried out by MBD shows the market for architectural ironmongery sales are down, reflecting the current state of the UK construction industry, although perhaps less hard hit than many sectors. The research also points to a recovery in 2011 and beyond.

The research seems to show that the value of the UK market for architectural ironmongery has declined by 6% to £1084.2 million in 2008, reflecting the current downturn in the construction market, especially new housebuild activity. This followed year-on-year growth between 2004 and 2007, culminating in an overall increase of 5% during the review period.

*The main conclusions of the report's market forecast for 2009 - 2013 are:*

- The UK market for architectural ironmongery is expected to decline by 6% to £1020.4 million (at 2008 prices) in 2009. This reflects the current economic recession and the adverse impact on the construction market. Nonetheless, economic conditions are expected to improve in the latter half of the forecast period with moderate annual growth of between 2% and 3% anticipated. Overall demand is expected to decline by 2% in real terms between 2008 and 2013.

- Demand for door and window locks is expected to decline by an overall 3% in real terms between 2008 and 2013, to £292.9 million (at 2008 prices) in the latter year. The proportional importance of the sector is expected to remain at 28% throughout the forecast period.

- Sales of door furniture are expected to decline during 2009 and 2010, reflecting the downturn in the construction market. However, sales are expected to increase in the following three years with demand reaching £273.2 million in 2013. The proportional importance is expected to remain between 25% and 26% throughout the forecast period.

*The full results of the research can be found at MBD's web site at [www.mbdltd.co.uk](http://www.mbdltd.co.uk)*



# MIX AND MATCH

**JACKY SINCLAIR,  
THE GAI'S TECHNICAL  
CONSULTANT, LOOKS  
AT THE DO'S AND  
DON'TS OF  
SUPPLYING CE  
MARKED EMERGENCY  
ESCAPE DEVICES  
WHICH WILL MATCH  
THE DOOR  
FURNITURE SELECTED  
FOR USE ON A  
PROJECT.**

## Emergency escape devices

Architectural Ironmongers are familiar with one type of Emergency Escape Device to BS EN 179, consisting of a lock with escape function, and a suitable set of operating furniture. Internally this might be a lever or a push pad, and externally there might be a lever or a pull handle. The escape function in a mortice lock usually involves the use of a split spindle, to give single-sided operation. In the early days of BS EN 179, there were not many escape locks and furniture on the market which were CE marked to the standard. This meant that where such locks were used, there was Hobson's choice when it came to lever design – it's this one we tested it with - or nothing.

In the Scope of the latest revision of the standard, there is new wording which gives some latitude for having a wider choice of operating elements for an emergency escape device. It reads:

"This European Standard covers emergency exit devices, which are either manufactured and placed on the market in their entirety by one producer, or produced by more than one producer and subsequently placed on the market as a kit in a single transaction."

This gives architectural ironmongers the ability to be the producer who places a correctly sourced kit on the market, in one transaction. This might allow in some cases for exact suiting with the levers chosen for the rest of the building. But a note of caution – before you start happily mixing and matching, you need to understand what can and can't be done, and which documents have to be checked.

There are several legally acceptable ways of finding the lever you want to use as part of a CE marked emergency escape device. They are summarised in the table (right).

Lock manufacturers today will probably test

their escape locks with either a range of levers that they produce themselves, or a range of levers from one or more door furniture manufacturers. This gives many different lever shapes, all permitted to be used with the escape lock as an "emergency exit device" to EN 179. At least one lock manufacturer has tested and listed lever ranges from five different European (including the UK) suppliers.

According to the standard, the lock fixing instructions must list ALL compatible levers. This is an attempt to stop anyone in the supply chain, down to and including the fitter, from supplying or fitting an untested and therefore unauthorised set of furniture. If it's not listed, then it can't be used whilst claiming the CE mark.

Where the AI is putting the kit together – that

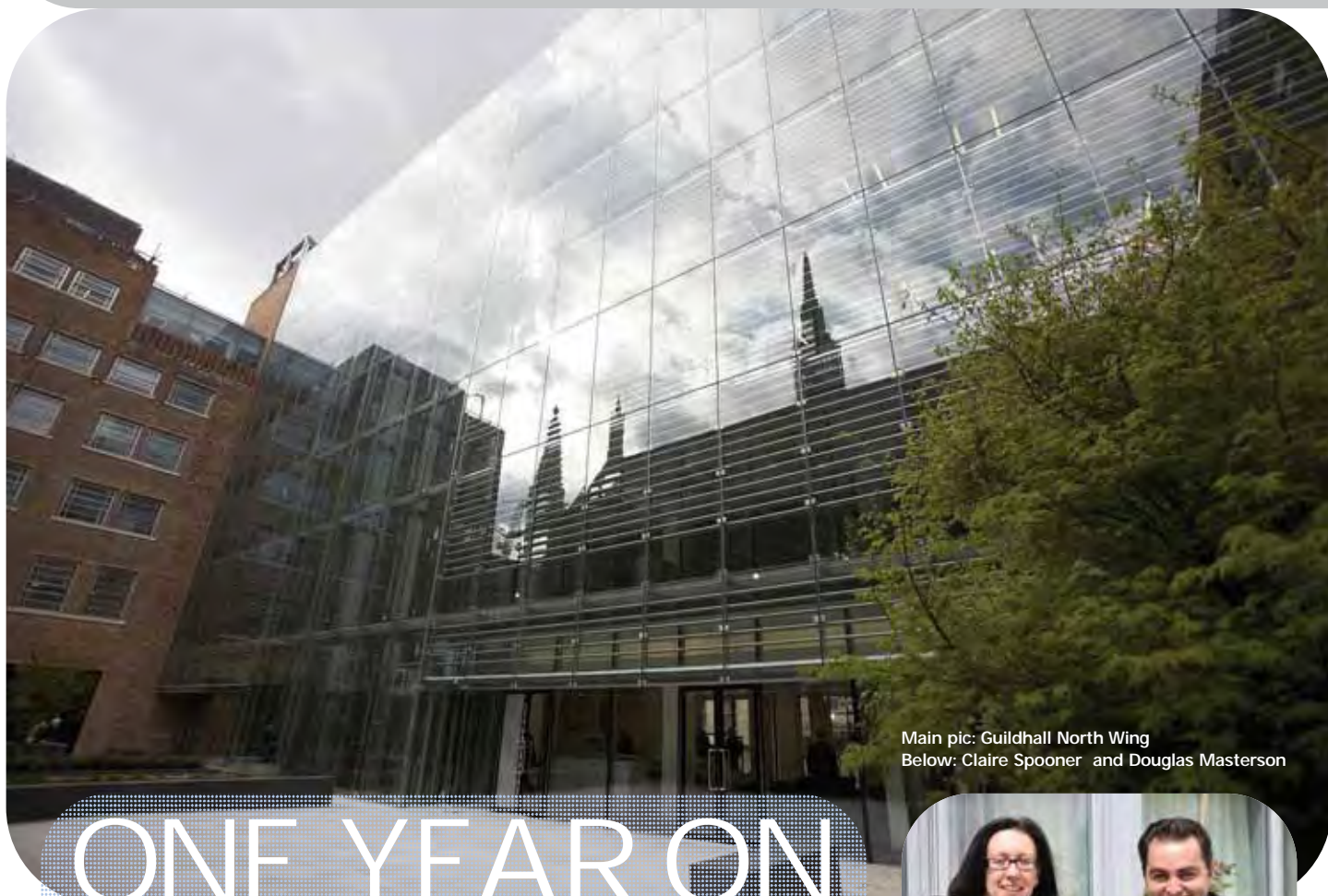
is, not buying it in as a single boxed entity – then it would be advisable to ensure that the two elements are supplied as a unit by banding or taping them together, or re-boxing them. This would show a duty of care in ensuring that they were delivered to site or to the door manufacturer in an unambiguous state. The ironmongery schedule and the fixing instructions should further back up the message that these are intended for fitting as a kit on an escape door, and not for separate use or combination with other elements.

As a final insurance, the operation could be signed off by the company's Registered Architectural Ironmonger, especially if the company is GuildMark listed. Someone with knowledge and experience needs to take responsibility for the correct outcome.

Origin of kit	Document to obtain and check
<i>Lock and furniture from one company taking responsibility for the CE mark</i>	<b>One of the following:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Escape lock manufacturer's test report</li> <li>■ Manufacturer's Declaration of Conformity with BS EN 179</li> </ul>
<i>Lock from one company, taking responsibility for the CE mark, and listing compatible furniture</i>	<b>One of the following:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Escape lock manufacturer's test report</li> <li>■ Manufacturer's Declaration of Conformity with BS EN 179</li> <li>■ Lock fixing instructions for list of compatible furniture</li> </ul>
<i>Furniture from one company, taking responsibility for the CE mark, and listing compatible locks</i>	<b>One of the following:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Door furniture manufacturer's test report</li> <li>■ Manufacturer's Declaration of Conformity with BS EN 179</li> <li>■ Furniture fixing instructions for list of compatible locks</li> </ul>
<i>Lock and furniture from different companies, where neither lists the other as compatible on their EN 179 documentation</i>	<b>Do one of the following:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ask either the lock or furniture manufacturer to obtain a CE mark for the combination</li> <li>■ Ask permission from the lock and furniture manufacturers for you to obtain a CE mark for the combination (could be done under your own branding)</li> </ul>



Far left:  
Escape  
mortice sash  
lock.  
Left:  
Emergency  
escape  
nightlatch



Main pic: Guildhall North Wing  
Below: Claire Spooner and Douglas Masterson

## ONE YEAR ON

THE ACQUISITION OF LLOYD WORRALL AND YANNEDIS IN APRIL 2008 BY NORTHERN IRELAND BASED COMPANY MACNAUGHTON BLAIR TOOK THE INDUSTRY SOMEWHAT BY SURPRISE. YET, DESPITE THE MORE DIFFICULT TRADING ENVIRONMENT, THE INTEGRATION OF THE BUSINESS IS PROGRESSING WELL.



**M**acnaughton Blair can trace its history back to 1903 with the set up of Joseph Blair & Company, a plumbing, heating and hardware business in Belfast. The company is now a subsidiary of Grafton Group plc, one of the UK's leading builders merchanting groups which includes Buildbase, Plumbase, Jacksons and Selco brands.

Macnaughton Blair has long been established as a leading Architectural Ironmonger and in 2005 it rebranded as "MB Architectural", a stand alone business based in Belfast. MB Doorplan in Dublin was established in February 2007.

Macnaughton Blair's enlarged Architectural division is now the only architectural ironmongery business represented in all three regions – Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. It can therefore offer specifiers and contractors a complete package wherever their projects are located. The business is managed by two Regional Managers, Arun Kulkarni who oversees GB operations and Douglas Masterson who looks after Ireland. Arun explains; "The companies present a very natural

fit as to a large extent they all have the same business model and mind-set.

All are successful customer-focussed, specification-driven businesses."

"Over recent years Grafton has developed a considerable expertise in integrating acquired businesses into the group" adds Douglas. "Our philosophy is to work with people, develop their skills and build on the company's strengths while supporting the development of new opportunities. Each business still retains a considerable degree of autonomy which allows them to continue to serve their local markets as well as national customers."

"In Macnaughton Blair, the specification of architectural ironmongery is at the core of our business. Each company offers a scheduling service dedicated to architects, specifiers and contractors across a broad spectrum of products including access control systems and door automation."

Marketing Manager Claire Spooner explains, "All four brands - Lloyd Worrall, Yannedis, MB Architectural and MB Doorplan - have a strong reputation and enjoy a tremendous amount of customer goodwill. Although we have

introduced a common branding style, they will all retain their individual identities. We are currently rolling out the new branding and a new range of literature".

Asked what's given the most satisfaction over the year, Claire naturally mentions the Group's success at this year's GAI / RIBA Specification Awards.

"Our achievements in the Awards confirms our strength in specification, with group companies taking seven out of the 22 awards presented, including Lloyd Worrall Sheffield winning the Sustainable Buildings category for the ironmongery they supplied to Sharrow School. The new school and nursery is one of the most environmentally friendly buildings in Sheffield and the City Council's architect commended Lloyd Worrall for their expertise and design guidance on product solutions that contributed much to the overall success of the project."

Douglas continues, "MB Architectural was awarded a commendation for its involvement in the Braid Arts Centre in Ballymena, where the ironmongery specification was as unique as the building itself – mixing old with new. Different





" WITH THE EXCEPTION OF YANNEDIS, THE GROUP HAS RARELY ENTERED PROJECTS TO THE AWARDS, BUT THIS YEAR WE DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO TEST THE QUALITY OF PROJECTS THE GROUP HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH AS A WHOLE. WE THINK WE PASSED THE TEST "

disciplines throughout the building meant MB Architectural restored and refinished original bronze ironmongery. It also supplied a modern stainless steel specification in addition to supplying and installing a full on-line access control system and door automation package."

London-based Yannedis received commendations for its contribution to three major projects including the North Wing of the Guildhall.

"With the exception of Yannedis, the group has rarely entered projects to the Awards, but this year we decided it was time to test the quality of projects the group have been involved with as a whole. We think we passed the test", says Claire.

Macnaughton Blair is strongly committed to the Guild. Douglas himself sits on the Executive Committee and several staff are studying for the diploma. There are many Reg. Als around the group and even a Pinnacle Award winner, Neil Furness based in Sheffield.

Last word goes to Arun Kulkarni "As to the future, in the short term our goal is to consolidate the supply chain opportunities presented by Grafton and build on the very strong client relationships within each of our businesses. Longer term, we are simply keen to build on our current position as a market leading architectural ironmongery company."

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# STRIKE ONE

DUNCAN CRAWLEY FROM SECUREFAST REPORTS ON THE NEW BS EN 14846 FOR ELECTROMECHANICALLY OPERATED LOCKS AND STRIKING PLATES WHICH AIMS TO BRING ELECTRIC LOCKING UP TO STANDARD.



It has always amazed me that so many companies purchase a networked access control system for around £2,000 to £10,000, and then install budget electric strikes with non deadlocking latches as a means of securing the door. Now let's remember the access controls system is simply a switch to open the door when an authorised person tries to enter, the lock stops an unauthorised person entering. Yet in most cases the security is never taken into detailed account when specifying the project.

BS EN 14846 Electromechanically operated locks and striking plates, published with effect from 31st March 2009 (although it does in fact show "2008" on the front cover), allows you to specify electric locking to defined levels of security and durability.

The standard is a new building hardware standard prepared by the locks and latches task group CEN/TC33/WG4/TG3 one of the many task groups which have produced for harmonised standards for the CE marking of the products across Europe.

As you would expect a great deal of the test requirements relate to BS EN 12209:2003 with additional requirement covering electrical manipulation, functions and environmental testing.

CE marking is predicted to start from August 2009 although this may change, with a one year transition period from this date.

The standard covers both electric locks and electric striking plates for which the relevant mechanical elements are covered by EN 12209:2003. Electromagnetic and permanent magnet locks are expected to follow in a later revision.

*There are nine classifications as shown below.*

■ **Category one** Use, has three grades, these cover areas such as 1. Residential doors, 2. Office doors, 3. Doors in to public buildings.

■ **Category two** Durability and Load, sets the levels of durability and load on the latchbolt, this covers both mechanically and electrically operated latchbolts. The test has twelve grades with cycles from 50,000 to 200,000 operations without a load or at the appropriate load of 10, 25, 50, 120 or 250N. After the durability test the latch must work correctly fulfilling the requirements of EN 12209:2005 clause 5.4.2 closing force and 5.11.1 torque to withdraw the latchbolt.

■ **Category three** Door Mass, has nine grades from 100kg to doors of 200kg and above with closing forces from 15N to 50N.

■ **Category four** Fire/Smoke doors indicate which grade of fire door the lock is suitable for. This covers smoke doors only and 15 to 120 minute or greater fire doors which should be tested under national standards until

European Standards prEN 1634-1 or prEN 1634-2 are introduced.

■ **Category five** Safety, has only one grade which is no safety requirement, this I find strange as many electric locks are fitted to internal fire doors (hotel locks) and fire exit doors (with break glass call points).

■ **Category six** Environmental, suitability covers areas such as corrosion, humidity and temperature. There are fifteen grades which matrix across the different levels of corrosion, humidity and temperature with the lowest being no resistance to all three to the highest offering very high resistance to all three.

■ **Category seven** Security is tested in accordance to EN 12209:2005 clause 4.2.7. Grade 0 may be used for locks with no security, although I can see no reason for testing an electric lock or striker if it had no security.

■ **Category eight** Electrical Function is better described as status indication of which there are two levels, 1. no requirement and 2. status indication which requires an audio or visual signal to indicate the bolt is in the fully locked position or with the electric strike that the movement is blocked.

■ **Category nine** Electrical Manipulation, in terms of electric locks and strikers this grade is one of the most important. There are four grades which are matrixes over six tests which include 5.10.2 voltage drop protection, tested under standard EN 61000-4-11 for AC powered units and EN 61000-4-29 for units supplied with DC power.

Test 5.10.3 covers protection against the effect of cutting cables. This test involves the simultaneous disconnection or short-circuiting of the appropriate wires and checking the status of the lock mechanism and its operational parts.

Test 5.10.4 protection against the effect of wire manipulation testing the lock or striker by applying an electrical or magnetic pulse as described in EN 61000-4-4:1995 level 4 and EN 61000-4-5:1995 level 4 to selected wires and checking the status of the locking mechanism and its operational parts.


Test 5.10.5 resistance to electromagnetic manipulation is tested in accordance with EN 61000-4-3:2002 level 3 and EN 50204:1995 level 4.

Test 5.10.6 resistance to electrostatic discharge will be tested under EN 61000-4-2 with the discharge being pointed to accessible parts of the lock or striker in the closed and locked door.

Test 5.10.7 resistance to electrostatic manipulation will be tested in accordance with EN 61000-4-2 except the discharge frequency will not exceed 10 Hz.

It is important to remember the standard covers both electric locks and electric strikes (tested with an EN 12209:2005 lock) enabling you to specify electric locking systems for fire and security doors which have a CE mark.





“ It is important to remember the standard covers both electric locks and electric strikes (tested with an EN 12209:2005 lock) enabling you to specify electric locking systems for fire and security doors which have a CE mark. ”





# RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

People tend to have some preconceptions about a company with such a long heritage as Cooke Brothers. Quality products: check. Expertise: check. Manufacturing capability: check. Stuck in its ways – not so. A visit to Cooke Brothers to interview its eponymous MD, Philip Cooke finds a man still fizzing with enthusiasm and ideas for the company and its products. “I’ve been with the company for 35 years but I’m still excited about the future,” he says “We are now operating in a global market place and that offers us some exciting challenges – and, of course, opportunities.”

Founded in 1872 using steam-driven machinery in Birmingham’s jewellery quarter, Cooke Brothers now operates from its own premises in Aldridge, near Walsall in the West Midlands, employing 50+ staff. The company was originally allied to the cabinet trade but since the 1970s Cooke Brothers has focussed on the broader AI market after developing its own Phoenix range of architectural butt hinges. Since then the company has become the name behind some of the best-known brands in the AI trade.

One surprise on visiting Cooke Brothers is the size and modernity of the company’s operations. The manufacturing facility is both slick and automated, including a new laser punch press which allows the company to turn around orders for small runs of specials very quickly. While we were visiting, the press was turning out hinge blanks for a well known AI who would receive their order less than a week after initially picking up the phone with a panic order for a hinge which did not then exist.

The manufacturing facilities have also moved on considerably. Production speeds have increased one hundred fold since the company’s inception – its modern, automated machinery can turn out a metre of finished, continuous hinge in less than ten seconds. There are around 300 products in the Cooke portfolio – over 2000 including options and finishes – including architectural hinges, continuous hinges, cabinet furniture, door hardware and bookcase strip. The company also runs a thriving contract tooling division, Phoenix Tooling & Development, which uses the latest computerised component and tool design, measurement, machining and metal erosion systems.

The UK still remains Cooke Brothers manufacturing focus, although the company does produce in China too, working in partnership with a company there which

operates under its direct control. “We did not want to become just another importer, competing purely on price,” explains Philip Cooke. “We wanted to keep our UK manufacturing and technical competencies, whilst making sure we could offer really competitive prices on commodity products.” So while the company does also manufacture overseas, it has been careful to retain the capability to make all of its product ranges here at home, should the need arise. All of the most prestigious ranges continue to be manufactured only in the UK.

Add to this manufacturing capability a commitment to product, quality and staff development, and it is clear that Cooke Brothers is firmly rooted in the 21st century. An impressive in-house testing facility would put some testing houses to shame. Working away quietly in a dedicated pod in the warehouse, the test facility carries on its work, 24/7, all year round: our visit revealed a hinge which was still being tested after over half a million cycles. This in-house facility is backed with full independent certification including CE marking and Certifire.

Cookes also shows a strong commitment to its staff and their development, holding Investors in People status for 16 years and showing a strong investment in the GAI’s education scheme. The company has three fully up-to-date Reg AIs on its payroll in the form of Sales Manager Phil Dicken plus two of his regional sales managers. “We’re really committed to education and development and to the GAI,” comments Phil. “When times are tough, it is the service and expertise you can offer which makes your business stand out from the crowd. Well-trained, knowledgeable staff who know their stuff are an asset to any business.”

The company has also worked hard over recent years to improve the quality of its service offering. “It’s fair to say that, in the past we were known as perhaps, not the quickest,” admits Philip Cooke. “A new sales team including a Business Development Manager and two dedicated Customer Services representatives are now working hard to change that perception – and succeeding.” Improved stock holding and lean manufacturing practices have also considerably enhanced lead times and service versatility.

Cooke Brothers is best known for its hinges – and it produces seven Phoenix ranges to suit most door weights from 10kg right up to 160kg.

None of its hinges – including the Slimline, Loadmaster, and Shrouded and Concealed bearing ranges – use ball bearings or grease lubricants but are designed to be maintenance free throughout their lifetime. A wide range of continuous hinges makes the Cooke Brothers range one of the most complete on the market. Ranging from light to heavy duty, the range is sized from hinge leaf thicknesses of 0.7mm up to 4mm to 5mm hinges for use on extra heavy duty applications such as large warehouse or commercial building doorsets, and blast doors.

The latest addition to the Cooke Brothers range is the new SPX architectural continuous hinge which the company has designed for use on high security doors but without the industrial looks which that usually implies. It features high-performance, precision-engineered polymer bearings which will last the lifetime of the product without the need for maintenance and is ideal for public and institutional applications like schools, prisons and secure units – since it offers an anti-ligature design and resists kicking in. It is also ideal for communal entrance doors with high traffic and high levels of wear and tear.



The new SPX architectural continuous hinge

The new hinge will operate with loads up to 160kg which is the maximum allowed under EN1935 although the hinge has been tested up to 250kg in readiness for the introduction of the revised EN1935 standard. It is available in 76mm and 100mm open widths in lengths up to two metres in satin and polished stainless steel. A 25 year guarantee speaks for itself.

The company has other products under development at its own in-house R&D department including a new anti-barricade door system, a bespoke door cladding system and a new range of flush pulls. From this alone it is clear that Cooke Brothers is a company looking very firmly to the future, not the past.

For further information why not visit Cooke Brothers stand B78 at 100% Design at Earls Court, London from the 24th to 27th September 2009, or the web site: [www.cookebrothers.co.uk](http://www.cookebrothers.co.uk)



WITH A PROUD TRADITION STRETCHING OVER 137 YEARS AND FIVE GENERATIONS OF THE FAMILY, **COOKE BROTHERS** IS RIGHTLY PROUD OF ITS REPUTATION AS MASTER HINGE MAKERS. BUT THE ALDRIDGE-BASED COMPANY IS NOT STANDING STILL, AS **HELEN CURRY** FOUND OUT WHEN SHE VISITED.



Tooling



The Cooke Brothers sales team



Laser Punch press



Testing



Testing

## NEW ORDERS STILL FALLING... BUT AT A SLOWER RATE

The latest new orders data from the ONS highlights the picture going forward for construction, with orders falling across each construction sector compared to a year ago and overall orders in construction are 38% lower than a year earlier. New orders in private housing in the quarter to April fell 42% compared to the same quarter a year earlier and commercial orders fell 58% over the same period.

Even more concerning was that public sector construction, in housing, education and health, orders fell despite government pronouncements over the past year of finance brought forward from 2010/11 into this financial year to boost the construction industry. Public housing orders fell 6% compared to the same quarter in 2008 and public non-housing new orders fell 23% over the same period.

Although the picture is still relatively bleak, the pace of decline does appear to be

slowing and this is illustrated by the new orders figures, with orders in the last quarter 9% lower than the previous quarter. Not great but significantly better, or less bad depending upon your point of view, than declines in previous quarters. However, with the first quarter of 2009 experiencing the sharpest falls in output and orders on record, it is unsurprising that subsequent falls in industry activity are less bad and highlight that the industry is still set to endure a challenging 2009.

## CAPITAL IDEA

The UK's economic recovery and long term prosperity will be severely delayed if the government cuts back on its capital investment programme after the next election. This is the stark warning from the Construction Products Association, annual report Achievable Targets; is government delivering?

The report, which monitors delivery of the government's plans for investment in the built environment in six key areas (education, health, social housing, road, rail and water infrastructure), acknowledges the dramatic increase in capital spending on the built environment that has occurred over the past

decade, but is concerned that too many of the government targets have been missed, abandoned or replaced. Amongst these is the major Ten Year Transport Plan which was abandoned after barely three years and the target to eradicate fire safety backlog in the health estate. The original programme for the enormous Building Schools for the Future programme has also proved to be enormously optimistic and it has already been revised three times.

Commenting on the report, Michael Ankers, Chief Executive of the Construction Products Association, said: 'Overall, capital spending per annum over the last decade has increased from £19.4 billion to £48.3 billion today, with particularly large increases in spending on education and health. This funding has delivered significant improvements in some key areas but the problems this expenditure sought to address have been far from resolved.'

'The construction industry is fundamental in helping the UK restore its economic health but it is also facing its worst downturn in living memory. The health of both the economy and the construction industry are inextricably linked and re-establishing the country's economic prosperity is paramount. Therefore failure to invest in education facilities, transport infrastructure and homes will only serve to

Being absolutely certain of the design, materials, components, assembly and product reliability remains an ongoing challenge for specifiers; and any uncertainty, putting you or your company's reputation on the line in terms of quality and longevity a potential risk.

HI-LOAD hinges from Royde & Tucker are unique in their construction and performance and are designed for longevity and as a 'fit-and-forget' solution and are maintenance free. In addition HI-LOAD's construction creates exceptionally low resistance to door opening/closing and importantly, ensures this high level of performance throughout the hinge's lifetime, allowing door closer power to be kept to a minimum and contributing to a highly efficient doorset. HI-LOAD hinges have a 25 year performance guarantee as standard and where appropriate are Certifire approved, CE marked and conform to BS EN 1935.

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RAVEN  
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delay our recovery longer and will undermine the skills and ability of the construction industry for many years to come.'

**Significant findings from the report are:**

- The government is unlikely to meet its national target of delivering 45,000 new social homes per year by 2011 at a time when private housing starts are at the lowest level since the war
- Equally unlikely is that government will meet its target of ensuring 95% of social homes meet the Decent Homes standard by 2010
- Investment in the Building Schools for the Future programme will have to increase considerably if its long-term targets are to be met
- The government has already exceeded its targets of opening 100 new hospitals by 2010
- Proposals for investment in health facilities beyond 2010 are very patchy and the enormous improvements achieved recently will be undermined unless there is a clear future programme
- The condition of the local road network is deteriorating despite the government's target to eliminate the repair backlog by 2010
- Network rail is on target in its programme for rail renewal and repair to broken rail

## RECESSION PAIN ACUTE

The latest Construction Trade Survey compiled by the Construction Products Association, which covers building contractors, civil engineering contractors, specialist contractors and construction products manufacturers shows, unsurprisingly, the construction industry is facing its sharpest decline on record. With no prospect of an improvement in the near term, output and employment are set to fall even further in 2009 and 2010. This is the stark picture according to the Survey, which covers the first quarter of 2009, and provides no respite from the current recession, suggesting that the situation is likely to deteriorate across the whole industry. The decline endured in 2008 is set to be exacerbated in 2009 with decreasing demand in the economy leading to unprecedented falls in output and employment within the construction industry.

The Association anticipates that the construction sector as a whole will fall 12.1% during 2009, the sharpest decline on record and the private sector is expected to endure the worst falls, falling 20% in 2009 alone. While 2008 saw private housing and industrial sectors suffering, 2009 is expected to see sharp falls in offices and retail new build, with private housing repair and maintenance also set to be hit hard.

**Key survey findings are:**

- 62% of building contractors report that output fell in Q1 compared to Q4 2008 and 60% report that output will fall further in the next quarter.
- 100% of heavy side manufacturers reported that sales were lower than in the previous quarter.
- 56% of specialist contractors reported that order books fell in the first quarter of 2009, indicating that output was likely to fall further near term.



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**I**t might be considered ironic that, despite increasing regulation, the scope to incorporate stunning handrail and balustrade features has never been greater. Though now heavily governed by safety, performance conformity and the need for inclusive design, the days of uninspiring, bland stairways in commercial settings have thankfully passed.

Specialist suppliers can meet virtually any architectural performance criteria, regardless of environment or likely traffic density. Indeed, upgrades to thousands of buildings are already providing an inspiring 'shop window' for what can be achieved. From hospitals to schools, retail outlets and traditional commercial premises, specifiers are showing how to use visually distinctive, structurally secure systems as a key facet of interior design.

Such change has been prompted by a combination of Building Regulations, material choice and the way they can be used. Approved Document Part K, for example, requires a test to ensure that a 100mm sphere cannot pass through any openings in stair guarding and seeks to ensure that children under 5 years of age cannot become trapped or be readily able to

climb. In terms of performance, BS 6180 requires that standard constructions should be designed to withstand a horizontal force of 0.74 kN/M. The popularity of stainless steel handrails, therefore, owes much to the fact that systems can resist a uniformly distributed line load of up to 1.5 kN/m. However, its use with a variety of infill panels and materials is equally relevant. Finishes such as Laidlaw Solutions' 'brushed' stainless steel, in keeping with Approved Document M and BS 8300, contrast with the background against which they are seen, but without being highly reflective. It complements other architectural hardware and stainless steel design elements such as light fittings; in the illustration shown a continuous stainless steel top rail with a toughened glass infill panel allows natural light to pass beyond it with an unimpeded field of vision.

Traditional timber, in beech, oak, ash and Canadian maple used with stainless steel or nylon uprights, elbow supports and roses provide a balance between conventional and contemporary design. It too can be used with infill panels, but also with, among other options, vertical, polyester powder-coated steel rails

The variety of infill panel options includes toughened and structural glass, stainless steel tension wires, weld-mesh, colour-coated

perforated steel and sealed particle board. Glass can be clear, tinted, opaque, obscure, etched or incorporate decals. Tints of grey, bronze, green and blue create a subtle effect which contrasts with the primary colours of nylon top rails and uprights and complements stainless steel. Flowing lines around curves are both practical and can be used as an element which provides a feature stairway from a central point of access. Retail environments in particular have led the way with glass balustrades in the pursuit of a greater sense of space. Marks and Spencer's prestigious new store at Westfield White City illustrates this is done. Similarly, use of anchor plates can produce an elegant, 'open' illusion with stair treads supported only by a central spine tapered to the outside edges, giving the impression that a staircase is floating. By contrast, while perforated steel is the ideal choice for the staircase illustrated at Derby Divisional Police HQ for movement of those held in custody, it combines the benefits of an easily visible screen while permitting light to permeate.

The ability to produce complex bends and angles with the benefit of tactile elements such as ribbed indicators, buttons or rings of differing colours gives disabled and visually impaired users greater confidence and assurance of



safety. Nylon top rails are routinely produced in a variety of RAL colours, and neither attract dust nor micro-organisms and, in keeping with BS8300 are warm to the touch. Recent developments, such as Laidlaw's Combi system, have introduced materials in standard combinations. It provides a 4mm thick cadmium-free nylon sleeve which is coloured throughout to prevent chipping, scratching or wear. A galvanised steel inner core provides added corrosion protection, while stainless steel components of marine grade material guarantee lasting performance even in

aggressive outdoor environments.

In schools, the ability to prevent restriction of site lines makes use of glass infill panels similarly beneficial, but additional benefit comes from detailing of handrails and balustrades in line with AD M requirements. Use of offset handrails to cater for pupils of differing height, for example, is both practical and visually distinctive. In keeping with other municipal environments, greater design compatibility with doors, architectural hardware and infill panels creates interiors with a greater sense of colour co-ordination and of a less institutional nature.

Factors such as the absence of welds and use of concealed connections and fixings all play a part in enhancing the aesthetics as well as the functionality of today's handrail systems. Anchor, clamp, plate and side fixing options form part of component based systems in which the majority of assembly is carried out in the factory, with installations which are built to order based on specific site measurements. Safe environments are the result. That they look better too and retain their appearance for longer can only encourage greater design creativity.



// FACTORS SUCH AS THE ABSENCE OF WELDS AND USE OF CONCEALED CONNECTIONS AND FIXINGS ALL PLAY A PART IN ENHANCING THE AESTHETICS AS WELL AS THE FUNCTIONALITY OF TODAY'S HANDRAIL SYSTEMS. //



# SQUARE

HOW THE TIMES HAVE CHANGED FOR BERMONDSEY. THE AREA OF WHARFS AND WAREHOUSES SOUTH OF LONDON'S TOWER BRIDGE WAS FAMOUS IN VICTORIAN TIMES AS THE MOST RUN-DOWN AND DANGEROUS PART OF TOWN. DICKENS SET THE SEEDIER PARTS OF OLIVER TWIST HERE, AND IF YOU WATCHED LITTLE DORRIT LAST YEAR, YOU'LL RECOGNISE MARSHALSEA ROAD – LOCATION OF THE DEBTORS PRISON.





# ROOTS

**In the last 20 years though, Bermondsey has become caught up in London's docklands boom. But not the brash, glass and concrete slash and burn of Wapping and Canary Wharf. Bermondsey kept its head down, refurbished its wonderful old buildings into trendy commercial studios and loft apartments and is now regularly voted the coolest part of town.**

The Bermondsey Square project is unusual in that it is a completely new development. It includes apartments, offices, shops, restaurants – and at its centre the new Bermondsey Square Hotel. Modestly described by its owners as 'stylish, chic and the hottest new addition to London's cool boutique hotel scene', the building really is a fine example of contemporary design. Owned by the Bespoke Hotels group, it has 79 bedrooms, including a series of designer loft rooms overlooking the city.

Doors and Ironmongery were supplied by Laidlaw Solutions who specified their Orbis Integra Doorset system throughout the building. The pre-assembled door sets are supplied to site ready for installation - fully specified, in one co-ordinated package incorporating timber doors, steel frames, glazing and ironmongery. For the non-public areas, a range of laminated and painted doorsets were fitted with Orbis Commercial ironmongery while the public areas feature veneered timber doors with those for the guest rooms supplied with an integrated electronic VingCard® access system.

By using a door set system installation time was reduced while providing frames which are highly durable and stable. One of the most frequent problems in hotels is the wear and tear that frames in particular have to face so the use of metal frames with a factory finished coating was an added benefit.

The Integra door sets are ideal for fast track projects such as hotels, as the metal frames clamp around the wall structure to provide a rigid assembly with no visible fixings. This cuts installation time by up to 75% and because it's carried out entirely as a second fix operation, risk of damage by other contractors is substantially reduced.

The Laidlaw Stainless Steel Handrail system was supplied for the hotel's stairways, line side fixed with clear, toughened glass infill panels with the detailing around stair returns manufactured to the architect's design. Balustrades using stainless steel and glass were especially appropriate here, enabling far more natural light to be brought to stairwells while their robustness is ideal for this type of busy environment.

Glenn Morris, Contracts Manager for Interior Contractor E E Smith commented, "There were several factors which influenced use of Laidlaw systems for this project. The Integra Doorset system offered practical benefits for both installation and performance. With doors being such a regular cause of premature repair and replacement in hotels, a system using factory finished metal frames had obvious advantages. The Stainless Steel Handrail system is practical and stylish, enabling the maximum amount of natural light to be brought into stairwells while requiring the minimum of maintenance".

Laidlaw's Major Projects Manager David Manley added: "Requirements such as the incorporation of VingCard access control are common for hotel projects, but this is all part of the scheduling and manufacturing process Laidlaw routinely undertakes. Integra was ideal for a project like this as it provides durable but stylish, doors, frames, glazing and ironmongery packages in a wide range of finishes and frame colours, all of which are guaranteed for 10 years".





## SQUARE ROOTS

Bermondsey Square is a great example of a new breed of hotels, breaking away from the bland international style of the big chains. It's not flash, it's actually quite simple – but beautifully designed and detailed. And I'm sure they'd be happy to find you a room next time you're in London! One tip though; get a cab, it's quite a trek from the Underground.

Project: **Bermondsey Square Hotel,**

Bermondsey, South London

Client: **Bespoke Hotels**

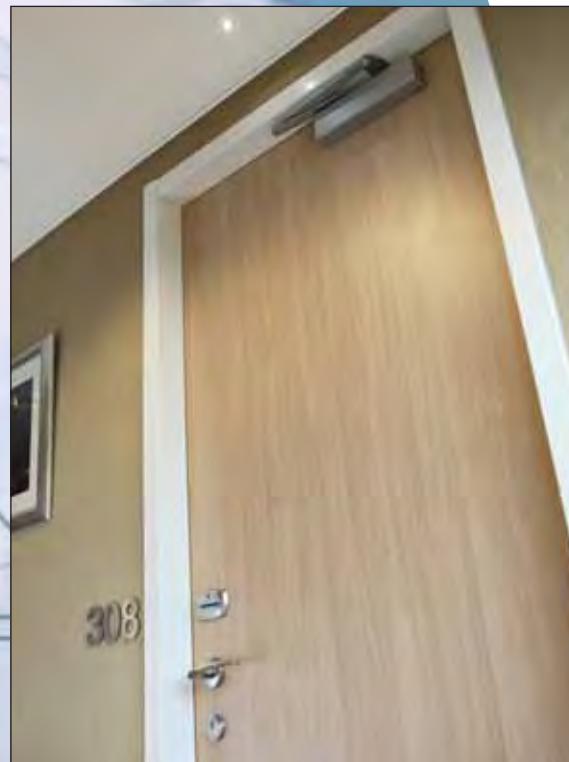
Architect: **Munkenbeck and Marshall**

Developer: **Urban Catalyst**

Main contractor: **Galliford Try**

Interior Contractor: **E E Smith**

Ironmongery: **Laidlaw Solutions Ltd**



## aijletters

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### Dear Madam

The terrible tragedy of the fire at Lakanal House in Camberwell has once again highlighted the importance of fire doors and their role in containing the spread of fire and allowing people to escape.

A correctly fitted and functioning fire door can help to suppress a fire by restricting the amount of oxygen available to it and will restrict the spread of fire - a closed fire-resisting door is designed to endure direct attack by fire for a specified period of time. This should restrict the spread of fire through the building, gaining time for active fire protection resources such as sprinklers and fire fighters to perform. It will also protect escape routes and continue to provide some protection for fire fighters entering the building.

In the immediate aftermath of the blaze, there has been speculation that fire doors at Lakanal House were missing, blocked or wedged open. Chair of the Planning and Housing Committee at The London Assembly, Jenny Jones has commented that even though the building's fire doors had been renewed only two years ago, many were either blocked or wedged open because residents found them to be "heavy and inconvenient".

At the Guild of Architectural Ironmongers, our members are skilled at specifying the hardware – hinges, seals, handles, closing devices – and the like – which make fire doors operate easily during normal use and save lives in the event of fire. If this work is carried out effectively, then there is no reason why fire doors should be heavy or difficult to open. In fact, a fire door scheduled with the correct hardware by a qualified and experienced Architectural Ironmonger should be simple and appropriate for anyone to use, young and old, able or less able.

Too often we see examples of fire doors which have been fitted with

ironmongery which is either inappropriate or not fit for purpose, often as a result of lowest tender purchasing policies. But this should not be allowed to cloud the perception of fire doors which can – and do – save very many lives every year by containing and preventing fire if they are correctly designed and fitted with good quality hardware devised for the purpose.

Since 2006, responsibility for maintaining fire and escape doors has been placed firmly with the building owners and operators since the introduction of the RRO (Regulatory Reform Order) which came into effect in October of that year.

The RRO – which applies to England and Wales – covers the fire safety duties required to protect the "relevant person" – visitors, staff etc. Building owners must show that they have carried out a risk assessment on their premises – and this includes ensuring that fire and escape doors have the correct hardware fitted and, importantly, appropriately maintained. They must also be able to produce the documentation to show that the products are suitable for their application, proving that all parties have exercised due diligence in fulfilling their duty of care.

As the enquiries into this terrible tragedy progress, the role that fire doors did or did not play in the fire will doubtless emerge and the importance of correctly specified, installed and maintained fire doors and ironmongery, in saving lives, will without question, once more become apparent.

Yours faithfully

**Gary Amer**  
Chief Executive





# WHAT'S IN A NAME?

**T**he company is part of an international group of 42 networked companies across five continents with 3,400 employees. Originally established in 1923 in Nagold, Germany, as a local specialist hardware business by the Häfele and Thierer families, the HÄFELE group of companies is now managed by the third generation of family members.

Since opening its first British warehouse in 1980, HÄFELE UK has become one of the largest furniture fittings and architectural ironmongery distributors in the country and continues to grow and prosper with branches in London, Bristol, Manchester, Leeds, Scotland and Wales in addition to the head office and main distribution centre in Rugby.

While the company still maintains incredibly strong roots in the furniture and kitchen industries with sales of £80million in 2008, its architectural ironmongery division is not to be sniffed at, boasting an £11m turnover. Headed up by Mike Kelly, the company has a strict policy of all of its architectural ironmongers completing the GAI education process and achieving Reg AI

NESTLED IN BETWEEN THE M6 AND M1 MOTORWAYS IN RUGBY IS THE UK HQ OF ONE OF THE BIGGEST – AND MOST MISPRONOUNCED – NAMES IN THE INDUSTRY, HÄFELE. HELEN CURRY VISITED THE FIRM TO FIND OUT ITS LATEST PLANS IN THE AI SECTOR.



status. The company sets great store by the Guild's education process, seeing it as one of the key ways in which to differentiate itself as a quality company, offering quality products and quality service. "We are all operating in very competitive markets," Mike Kelly comments. "The pressure on margins continues so it is vital that we can offer our customers added value and

top-rate service in order to stay competitive."

This commitment to AI education is now being rolled out across all the HÄFELE divisions. The company's students have a tremendous record in winning medals at the GAI's annual Awards Lunch. Last year's bronze medallist, Martin Lees, is a case in point. HÄFELE runs its own internal training programmes, managed by the company's training champion, Alan Kemp.

And it would seem that good news travels fast with a number of students from HÄFELE's sister company in India becoming GAI Diploma holders at last year's Awards Luncheon. "The model we are using in the UK is being replicated across the globe," comments Mike Kelly. "British qualifications, standards and practices still go down well in English-speaking markets and the GAI qualifications are seen in India as the benchmark." This commitment to know-how and excellence lead HÄFELE to become one of the first members of the GAI's GuildMark scheme – an accolade it carries with pride.

The company sees itself very much as an AI, "with a difference" and its customers range from shop fitters and contractors to a network of distributors, mostly ironmongers. The AI division started off at six strong but now has 23 staff plus 13 area sales managers out on the road. Outside the HÄFELE AI division, the company has another





25

46 people out in the market plus 250 other staff at regional offices, HQ and warehouse. "Even if they don't work directly for the AI division, they are very much our eyes and ears on the ground," comments Mike Kelly. "There is much less of a distinction now between the two teams and many of them are going through the GAI education process, including last year's Gold Medallist, David Shoebridge."

The company offers a full back up service to architects – as well as the usual scheduling and master keying offering, HÄFELE can also be found on the NBS specification service and is part of the RIBA's CPD network. Its Sliding Door Gear CPD module is one of the most often requested seminars and that, along with the other three CPD-accredited presentations which HÄFELE offers, gives them a high profile amongst architects.

HÄFELE's HQ is certainly an impressive testament to how far the company has come in the UK. Covering 14,000 m<sup>2</sup> of offices and warehouses, HÄFELE has invested heavily in premises and technology to ensure that it keeps its impressive service reputation intact. It recently acquired a new warehouse and distribution centre directly behind its existing HQ and the two neighbouring sites will very soon be linked together. The high-bay storage facility, which has been built up over the last twenty years, has space for over 20,000 pallets with stock values averaging over £10million.

HÄFELE's minimum order value is just £50 so it is a fine balancing act to hold massive and comprehensive stocks and the requirement to dispatch small orders quickly and efficiently. A



**" THE PRESSURE ON MARGINS CONTINUES SO IT IS VITAL THAT WE CAN OFFER OUR CUSTOMERS ADDED VALUE AND TOP-RATE SERVICE IN ORDER TO STAY COMPETITIVE. "**

new Order Consolidator in the warehouse takes automated picking and collating to new levels. Once items are picked from the high bay storage areas, they are sent, via high speed conveyors, to the consolidator – a massive automated stock control facility which would not look out of place in the lair of a Bond villain. Automated high speed cranes deliver and pick goods by the most efficient route and are prepared for despatch.

The system offers HÄFELE the flexibility to

process more than 30,000 orders a year ranging in value from fifty to tens of thousands of pounds. With on-time in-full figures over 99%, HÄFELE is obviously doing something right in the way it holds and ships stock. Particularly impressive when you consider that orders placed before 2pm are guaranteed to be shipped the same day!

The HÄFELE brand StarTec is also set to get a higher profile as the company launches a whole range of own-branded products – the StarTec range which covers all kinds of door hardware from lever handles to sliding door gear. While HÄFELE don't manufacture the products themselves, they use their size and clout to source good quality products from reputable manufacturers with a large proportion coming from the UK and Europe. The quality of the range is evident - StarTec locks and latches conform to British/European standards, the closers are power adjustable and conform to CE requirements, and the hinges are BS EN 1935 and CE conformant.

**Contact:** Mike Kelly on 01788 542020 or visit the newly relaunched HÄFELE web site at [www.hafele.com/uk](http://www.hafele.com/uk)





## aijnationwide

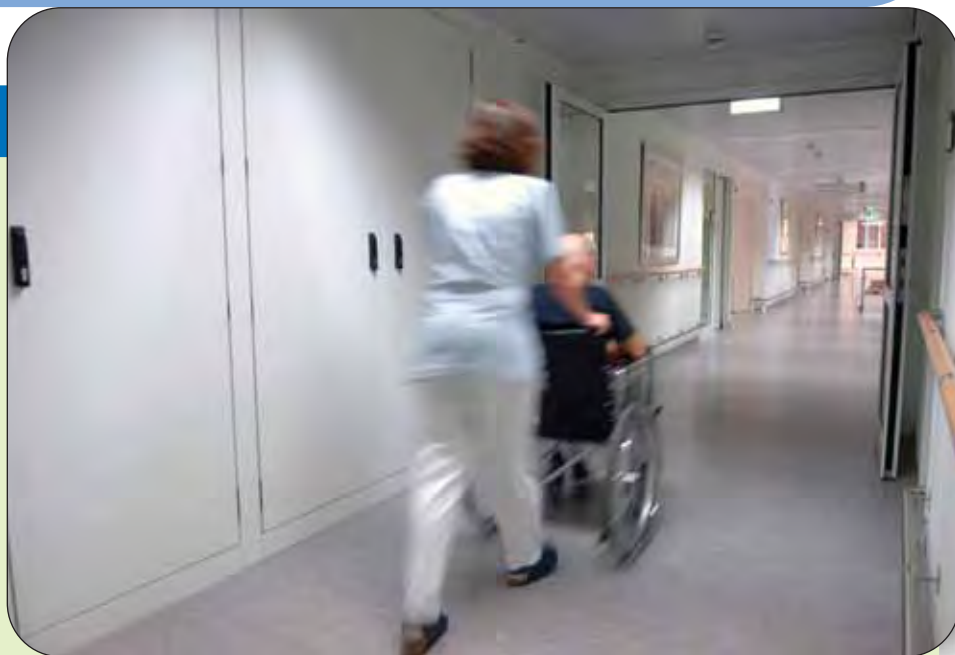
### HANDLES – WITH CARE

Webb Lloyd has announced that its furniture has recently been specified for three prestigious new hospital projects in Birmingham, Liverpool and Cambridge.

Leaderflush Shapland Ltd, manufacturers of performance doors and doorsets, have incorporated Webb Lloyd's Irving round bar levers and pull handles into doors being supplied to the brand new development of Birmingham's first new acute hospital for 70 years. The new facility is currently under construction for University Hospitals Birmingham NHS foundation Trust.

A further collaboration with Leaderflush has led to the Irving handles being specified for a new development at the world renowned Alder Hey Children's NHS Hospital in Liverpool. For this contract both doors and levers have been supplied complete with the unique Hygienilac anti bacterial finish.

In a separate development, Webb Lloyd, working in conjunction with Cambridge leading Architectural Ironmongers Acorn Architectural, has supplied the Irving suite lever furniture in Polished Aluminium with 22mm levers, for a construction project involving a new ward at the Addensbrooke Hospital in Cambridge.



## aijlondon

### GATEWAY TO EUROPE

The glass entrance to St Pancras International in central London has been made possible by the Slimdrive SL sliding door operator from GEZE UK.

Designed to impress European visitors to London, the extension to St Pancras International incorporates a great glass entrance to reflect and complement the old brick structure, uniting old and new in a seamless way. As the slimmest automatic door operator on the market, the Slimdrive SL can be concealed, as well as being bolted directly to glass – creating the perfect flawless façade.

Up to 40 million people now use and visit St Pancras International every year and the iconic station has become one of the largest transport hubs in Europe. As such, it was essential to choose an automatic door operator, which was accessible for all, durable enough to cope with the enormous footfall and robust enough to meet the constant high demand of commuters, shoppers and visitors.



The next generation of TECTUS fully concealed hinges

- New convenient continuous height adjustment achieves perfect, even gap between door & frame providing hassle free door alignment.
- Additional A8 versions allow for door claddings up to 8mm allowing glass or laminate door elements to be specified.
- More balanced dimensions for frames & sash parts plus improved weight carrying capacity.
- Standard 3D adjustability and maintenance free slide bearings plus CE marked & more fire rated options.
- Overall harmonious visual appearance, hinges completely hidden when door is in closed position.

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t: 0121 522 2848 e: [sales@simonswerk.co.uk](mailto:sales@simonswerk.co.uk)



## aijsalford

### KEY TO SUCCESS

Buile Hill High School, rebuilt by Morgan Ashurst on behalf of Hochtief PPP Solutions (UK) Ltd, has seen Laidlaw Solutions once again involved in major education projects. The £31 million mixed comprehensive school for 900 11-16 year old pupils is not due for completion until April 2010 but has already seen extensive use of the Laidlaw Handrail and Balustrade system, as well as the company's Orbis Timber Doorsets, Orbis Commercial and Normbau ironmongery ranges.

In terms of handrails and balustrades, the durable, perforated infill panels used are ideal for areas of intensive use such as schools, while nylon top rails with a 4mm thick sleeve, coloured right through, will retain their appearance throughout the 25-year PPP maintenance contract. The colour cannot be chipped, scratched off or worn away, and will not fade.

200 Orbis Timber Doorsets were fitted by Nationwide Joinery Contractors, frames and architraves for which were supplied in softwood, primed for decoration on site. Doors were supplied fully painted to Slate Grey RAL 7015 and fitted with Satin Stainless Steel Orbis Commercial pull handles, closers, lock cases, hinges and signage. Anti-panic locks were used with 'classroom cylinders' and contrasting door edges were provided to non self-closing doors. A solution was also required in respect of providing access control for double action, double spring pairs of doors.



## aijsellafield

### BIOMETRIC ACCESS GOES NUCLEAR

Hand geometry biometric readers are now controlling access to the construction site of the new plutonium storage facility at British Nuclear Group's Sellafield site. The readers were supplied by Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies and installed by Human Recognition Systems.

Combined card and hand geometry biometric readers are installed at the different access points of the site. Due to the high risk nature of the site, the stringent access control includes biometric verification along with a photo ID badge which stores cardholder information, including safety qualifications and next of kin details.

This is all controlled remotely via a centralised database located off site and the access points only interrogate the database once entry is requested. This added measure means that an individual's data is not stored at each biometric entry point which increases security whilst protecting the individual's private details. The centralised control system also means that cards can be created quickly and efficiently and, when necessary, instantly terminated.

Contactor Carillion PLC required a high performance and effective security system for this sensitive site which would stand up to the heavy traffic and harsh environment. Importantly, the system is able to track and monitor time and attendance across multiple sites and provide instantaneous muster reports in case of emergency evacuation. This means that management are able to report quickly on how many people are currently in any given area. Providing BNFL with this information enables them to comply with industry regulations which state that all personnel must be accounted for within 20 minutes of the announcement of a site emergency.



## aijlondon

### HITTING THE HIGH NOTES

Samuel Heath's Perko Powermatic® controlled, concealed door closer has been used in the development of a new music school at Godolphin and Latymer, an independent girls' school in West London.

Designed by Victoria Manser with the Manser Practice, the recently completed Rudland music school provides a variety of tuition and practice rooms, as well as a recording studio, housed in a two-storey structure adjoining a deconsecrated church, which is being transformed into the school's drama theatre.

Essential to maintaining a feeling of openness and informality has been the selection of hardware and, in particular, the selection of door closers for the fire doors that divide the corridor which runs along the entire length of the school's upper floor.

Gary Martin, premises manager at Godolphin and Latymer explains, "Hold-open devices are used to keep the fire doors open during normal use. This not only assists with traffic flow, but also enhances the feeling of openness in the corridor. Concealed between the door and jamb, Perko Powermatic® does not interfere with the appearance that we wanted to achieve in the music school."





## aijdevon

### IT'S A MYSTERY

Door handles and architectural hardware from HOPPE (UK) have been fitted at a new visitor centre at crime writer Agatha Christie's former holiday home in Devon.

In 2007, The National Trust, who own Greenway House, launched an appeal to raise £5.4 million to help pay for major restoration and give public access to this 500 year old property set in a 300-acre estate. The construction work includes the creation of a visitor centre dedicated to the work of the best selling novelist. Greenway House was a holiday home to Agatha Christie and her husband Max Mallowan. The property is now open to the public.

Wessex Ironmongery supplied and fitted handles and accessories from the ARNONE 316 Stainless Steel collection, lock cases and ivory coloured door closers.

Robyn Brown, Greenway Property Manager at the National Trust said: "The major restoration project to the house and construction of new visitor facilities are now complete and we can present Greenway as it was when Agatha Christie described it as "the loveliest place in the world".



## aijdublin

### NICE TRY

Lansdowne Road, the world's oldest International Rugby Stadium, home of Ireland's International Rugby team and for the past two decades the home of Irish soccer, is due to be reborn with the opening of Dublin's spectacular new Aviva Stadium early in 2010.

When it opens next year, the €365 million state of the art stadium will have an all seated capacity of 50,000 designed on four tiers. In planning the overall design of the stadium the architects have paid particular attention to visitor safety, particularly in the event of fire or when, in an emergency, it is paramount to evacuate the stadium quickly and safely.

The specification and supply of Panic Hardware for the contract has been awarded to MB Architectural Ltd who have worked with UK hardware manufacturer's Fred Duncombe Ltd, to use the Exidor 300 Series Emergency Exit Hardware throughout the stadium.

Certified to European standards EN179 and EN 1125, the stylish and yet robust die cast Aluminium body together with Pullman latches and steel internal components used in the construction, the Exidor 300 Series has been designed to provide the optimum in safety and security.



## aijmanchester

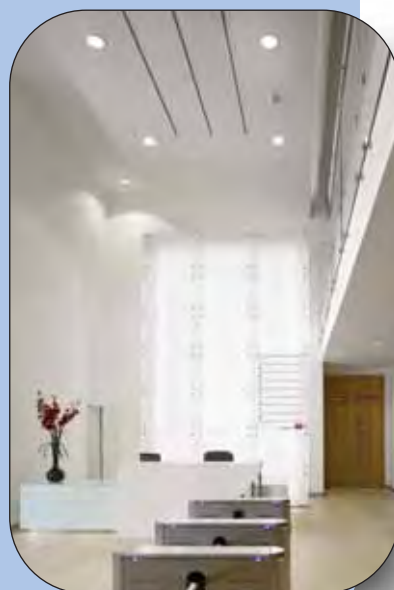
### MAKING A HOME AT BELVEDERE HOUSE

Briton 1100 Series slide arm door closers and Briton 5400 Series cylinder lockcases from Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies have been used at the stunning new Belvedere House office development in Manchester.

Designed by AEDAS Architects in consultation with English Heritage, Belvedere House is an innovative new office building in the hub of Manchester's business district and boasts over 103,000 sq ft of grade A office space with large double height entrance foyers, reception halls and dramatic views across the city.

Chosen for their clean lines the Briton 1100.T door closers provide a contemporary look to the development. Fully certified to EN 1154, EN 1634 and CE Marked, they carry a ten-year guarantee and have been tested to withstand 500,000 opening cycles.

The Briton 5400 Series is a comprehensive range of cylinder mortice lockcases, comprising of deadlock, sashlock, bathroom lock and latch. CE Marked and conforming to DIN 18251 and EN 12209, the locks are suitable for bolt-through furniture and feature a fully comprehensive five-year performance guarantee.



# JUDGING BOOKS BY THEIR COVERS

WE HAVE ALL BEEN TAUGHT NOT TO JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER. THE SAME ADVICE IS CRITICAL WHEN IT COMES TO PRODUCT CERTIFICATION. SIMON BOWDEN FROM GEZE UK TALKS ABOUT HOW TO ENSURE PRODUCT CERTIFICATION IS ACCURATE AND UP TO DATE.

For life safety products, other people's lives are in our hands. If you are responsible for specifying life safety products it is your duty to ensure that the certification is valid, the product does what is claimed in the literature and is suitable for the application. **The product must perform when it really has to!**

So how can you tell if the certification is correct? How can you know that the product testing has actually been done? How do you know that the product is suitable for the intended application?

The obvious and simplest method is to ask the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) for the certification. This happens daily with the specifier totally trusting the OEM and assuming that the OEM has carried out all the correct testing. If and when a query relating to the validity of the certification or suitability of the product arises, the specifier contacts the OEM and expects a suitable reply clarifying the query. In some cases the specifier asks the OEM to contact the person or organisation querying the certification directly. There is often a naive belief that this will absolve the specifier of any responsibility. This is risky and under the Machinery Directive for example you CANNOT delegate responsibility when it comes to safety. Yes, the OEM is responsible but the specifier is also liable if and when personal injury or death results from product failure due to incorrect specification.

In my role as Technical Director for GEZE UK, it is my responsibility to ensure that our certification is correct and up to date. The phrase "it'll never happen to us" is not an option. The huge investment of time and money put into testing, certification and the upkeep of the certification itself is worth every penny.

When it comes to door closers for instance these are required to be CE marked and tested for performance and for suitability of use on fire doors. Under European law, these products fall into the category known as Attestation 1. In simple terms, this means that the OEM cannot self certify the products. The certification can only be carried out by a Notified Body. Sounds complicated but it is quite simple. Notified Bodies are selected and vetted by the European Standards Organisation CEN. These independent

testing institutes or third parties are obliged under the Construction Products Directive to ensure that the correct product testing is carried out in every member state. The ongoing audit testing stipulated by the directive is also critical. This third party independent testing is invaluable to us as an OEM and to specifiers because it allows unbiased scrutiny of any certification. Our third party certification here in the UK is carried out by Exover Warringtonfire and Exover Warrington APT. We often recommend that building control officers, fire officers, architects and designers contact them to verify any claims we are making and to validate our certification. This is also the best antidote to unscrupulous OEMs making false claims.

I personally consider certification to be an insurance policy for our products. The cover offered by the policy should be clearly stated and obvious to whoever is checking. The cover of the policy must be appropriate for the intended use. It's a bit like taking an insurance policy out on your car and falsely claiming that the car won't be used for racing. Inevitably when you do take it to the race track and a crash occurs, the policy provider will not cover your claim and you will be left to face the consequences and the costs. This applies in exactly the same way to product certification. If we have any doubt as to whether our cover (in the case of fire certification, Certifire) will be valid for the actual application, we contact our third party provider to check. The flexibility and expertise offered can often lead to a simple cost effective assessment based on the actual test evidence.

So back to the question of how can you tell if the certification is correct?

Let's take a typical Certifire Certificate for door closers as an example. In order to obtain a Certifire certificate for a door closer destined to be used on a fire door here in the UK, the following criteria is essential.

1. The company applying for a Certifire Certificate must be accredited to ISO9001. A proven audited quality procedure provides assurance to the customers that the supplier has a method of controlling the quality of the products but also has steps in place to ensure that if something does go wrong in terms of product quality the issue can be pinpointed and managed professionally.

2. The door closer must have undergone and passed the onerous EN 1154



test and or EN 1155 for Electro-hold open devices. The classification code must be displayed on the product as proof. Note that although box 4 may indicate 1 as being fire tested this does not necessarily mean that it is suitable for UK type doors. When you see a "1" in box 4 the journey of discovery has just begun. See points 3 and 4 together with the paragraph below.

**3.** The door closer must have undergone a UK specific fire test to EN1634-1 or in the case of morticed devices here in the UK, to BS 476 Part 22.

**4.** All configurations must be tested if they are to be included within the scope of the certificate. For example, parallel arm configuration for a typical V-arm closer can reduce the closing force of a door closer by up to 30%. The closer must therefore have been tested in this configuration. The same applies to the use of guide rails and other configurations. Non-fire side testing is also essential and should be specifically listed on the certificate.

With regard to fire test evidence, here is where it can get complicated but it is also where the most vigilance is required.

The approved test houses are obliged to test to the most onerous situation relevant to the typical building methods in their respective countries. In my opinion, this is both logical and essential. Here in the UK and in a few other countries around the world, we use mainly unlatched fire doors. We also use double action unlatched fire doors and rely heavily on intumescent material to take up any gaps when a fire occurs. This is a very successful method and has been proven time and time again. The UK test houses ensure that the door opens outward from the test furnace. This really tests the door closers ability to hold the door closed against the furnace

## “ THE APPROVED TEST HOUSES ARE OBLIGED TO TEST TO THE MOST ONEROUS SITUATION RELEVANT TO THE TYPICAL BUILDING METHODS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES. ”

pressure and long enough for the intumescent to do their job. The door closer must also be tested in its weakest configuration such as parallel arm or figure 66 (see point 4 above).

In Germany for example unlatched and double action configurations are virtually unheard of unless specially tested. Unless proven by examining the test report, the fire test evidence from door closers made and tested by German OEMs is not generally valid for typical UK style fire doors. Working for a German OEM and knowing that the doors are tested on latched doors meant that we had to carry out UK fire tests to get suitable certification before we could put the products on the market.

To sum up and not lose sight of the fact that lives are in our hands, here is a brief checklist that all specifiers should use to ensure that the certification is valid. If there is any doubt in your mind, contact the issuing body and validate the certification.

■ **Validity** – is the certificate out of date? This does not necessarily mean that the test evidence is invalid but could mean some other underlying problem exists. Contact the issuer.

■ **Check and scrutinise** the approved door types. With Certifire certificates, all pages must be supplied and not just the first page. Insist on receiving all the pages or go to the Certifire website. Their certificates do include a simple table showing the approved door types and the maximum integrity rating time

■ **Scope of approval** – Read the scope carefully as this will indicate suitable alternative configurations or state which configurations are not suitable

■ **Product listing** – Quite often a series or family of products are covered under the same certificate. Check for the specific model you intend using. If it is not listed it is quite possible that it was never tested or may be unsuitable.

■ **If there is reluctance** from any OEM to provide you with the certification, warning bells should start ringing. Any credible OEM will have certificates readily available and should also be more than willing to provide you with contact details of the testing institute or certificate issuer.

## HOPPE EXTENDS MORTICE LOCK RANGE

HOPPE (UK) has extended its range of mortice locks with the new ARNONE PLUS AR716 and AR717.

The 5 lever British Standard mortice sashlock (AR716) and 5 lever British Standard mortice deadlock (AR717) are suitable for use with sprung and most unsprung door furniture. They are certified to BS3621:2007, as recommended by insurance companies and the police and are CE Marked and Certifire Approved for use on up to one hour fire doors.

Supplied in a distinctive red case colour, features include a reversible latch bolt (sashlock), a brass deadbolt complete with two hardened steel rollers and two keys. They are available in polished brass or satin chrome finishes.

For further information visit [www.hoppe.co.uk](http://www.hoppe.co.uk) or call 01902 484 400.



## Safety first.

### Exidor 200 series Emergency Exit Hardware

Exidor, a leading manufacturer in Emergency Exit Hardware, proudly introduce the new streamlined body and arm, marking the next generation in quality engineered and superbly stylish hardware, designed to satisfy the requirements of the most discerning specifier.

The non-handed, Exidor range of CE marked Emergency Exit Hardware offers single and double door bolts, panic latches, pullman and horizontal catches, outside access devices and cylinder mortice night latch actuators.



For further details please call: 01543 578661 or email: [sales@fredduncombe.co.uk](mailto:sales@fredduncombe.co.uk)

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

EXIDOR  
FD



## SAFE AND SOUND

A brand new company, Safehinge Ltd has launched a finger protection system that is fully integrated into the door. Safehinge ALU is installed once, lasts the life of the door and offers building owners and facility managers whole life cost savings up to 75% when compared to plastic retrofitted hinge guards.

The Department for Health highlights the benefits of using finger protection to prevent fingers being trapped in a door in their HTM58 document, particularly for children, disabled people, people with mental health disorders and older people. However, traditional systems have been prone to failure, costing time and money to replace.

For example Manchester City Council Education Department was experiencing failures occurring within 6 – 24 months of installation. The council has now invested an extra £3000 to use Safehinge in one primary school and will achieve a whole life cost saving of approximately £17,000 over the 25 year life of the building.

Safehinge ALU is supplied as a kit of parts and allows architectural ironmongers to include this in their ironmongery schedule for education, healthcare and retail and leisure building projects. The ALU range is backed by a core body of fire, mechanical and acoustic test data, conducted to recognised British Standard and underwritten by established UK test centres.

For more information contact 0141 585 6432, email [info@safehinge.com](mailto:info@safehinge.com) or look at the new website at [www.safehinge.com](http://www.safehinge.com)

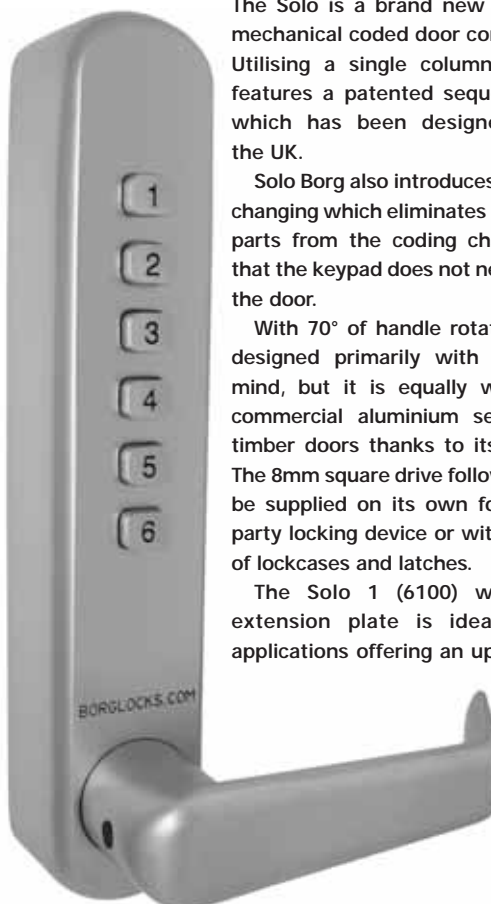


## CONCEALED HINGES FOR ALI PROFILES

SIMONSWERK UK has introduced a new hinge to their concealed TECTUS range. The TE 700 3D option has been specifically designed for heavy duty doors, windows and partition systems with aluminium profiles with a load capacity up to 100kg. This will enable shop fitters and the glazing industry to provide an overall harmonious visual appearance with a hinge system which provides extra security. Maintenance-free slide bearings and three dimensional adjustability remain features of the TECTUS hinge – completely hidden when door is in closed position.

For further information email [sales@simonswerk.co.uk](mailto:sales@simonswerk.co.uk) or call 0121 522 2848

## SOLO STAR



The Solo is a brand new and unique system of mechanical coded door controls from Borg Locks. Utilising a single column of buttons the Solo features a patented sequential coding chamber which has been designed and developed in the UK.

Solo Borg also introduces a new system for code changing which eliminates the need to remove any parts from the coding chamber whilst ensuring that the keypad does not need to be removed from the door.

With 70° of handle rotation the Solo has been designed primarily with PVC-U applications in mind, but it is equally well suited for use on commercial aluminium sections and traditional timber doors thanks to its narrow 40mm width. The 8mm square drive followers mean the Solo can be supplied on its own for fitment with a third party locking device or with any one of our range of lockcases and latches.

The Solo 1 (6100) which uses a keypad extension plate is ideal for retro-fit PVC-U applications offering an upgrade from a standard set of lever handles.

The extension plate comes complete with 70mm, 90mm and 92mm escutcheon inserts allowing it to suit the locking centres of a variety of multi-point locks.



## SENTINEL FOR SCHOOLS

GEZE UK has teamed up with Leaderflush Shapland to create Sentinel, an attractive and robust door set that provides an 'all in one' solution for specifiers for schools and the education sector, providing fire, smoke, anti finger entrapment and durability advantages.

According to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA), 30,000 children trap and seriously injure their fingers in doors every year, so the new product needed to address the potentially dangerous hinge edge of a door.

A scalloped, pivoted design was chosen to remove the dangerous door edge and decorative timber elements were added to ensure Sentinel met architects' desires for aesthetics as well as meeting the highest safety standards. GEZE UK developed its TS 3000 EC door closer to include an adjustable hydraulic latching action, closing force and speed control, and a sleek guide rail rather than an obtrusive arm to make it safer.

Working closely with Leaderflush Shapland, GEZE UK advised on ways to optimise performance and comply with legislation, ensuring the TS 3000 EC has been rigorously tested, conforms to EN 1154 and is fire tested to EN 1634-1 (CF 145), bridging the gap between the stringent fire regulations and Approved Document M (ADM) of the Building Regulations.

As an all-in-one solution, seals and essential ironmongery are included

within the package, eliminating the risk of certification problems, while materials used are FSC accredited or FSC neutral, so Sentinel is environmentally friendly as well as being one of the most effective and unobtrusive finger protection solutions in the marketplace.



## MASTER KEYING MADE EASY

DOM service centre partners can now enjoy the freedom to build and manage their own master key systems with the full support of Ronis Dom's customer services department and technical team with the DOM modular range. The kit comprises a unique restricted key section with the option of individual key stamping on request as well as the DOM assembly box and starter kit containing everything required to build cylinders in house.

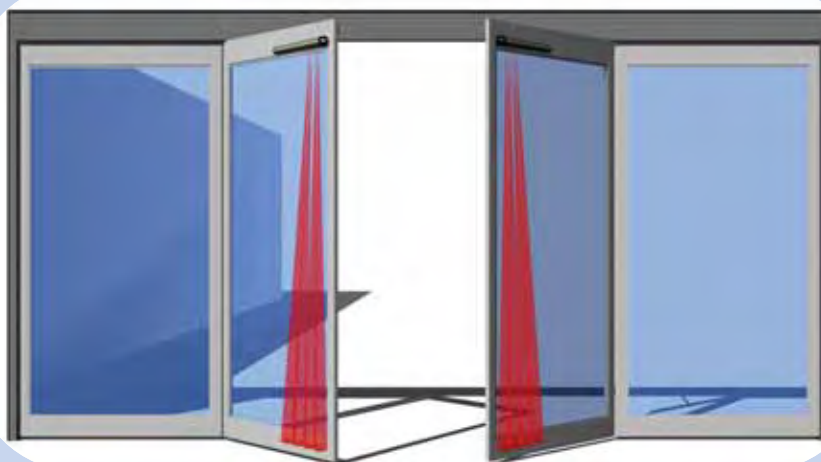
The DOM modular range provides customers with everything required to supply a variety of non-standard cylinder lengths and split finishes quickly and easily. This unique modular technology boasts flexibility and versatility whatever the application and its innovative design offers increased pull and anti snap protection as standard.



## SUPER SAFETY SENSORS

GEZE UK is launching 4Safe Sensors, top of the range safety sensors which will be fitted to all its automatic swing and revolving doors as standard. 4Safe Sensors providing greater reliability and a wider detection zone to ensure an increased level of safety.

Designed to prevent anyone from being trapped or injured in automatic revolving, or swing doors, the 4Safe is an active infrared detector which possesses four separate detection spots. Monitoring both the full height and leading edge of the door, the fail-safe and monitored 4Safe measures distance by triangulation and assists with helping ensure your installation conforms to BS 7036 (Safety at Powered Doors for Pedestrian Use).



## CYBERSPACE

Lock manufacturer Henry Squire & Sons is heralding the next generation of high security padlocks with the launch of a super-intelligent key system which aims to change the way companies control and record access, even in the most remote sites.

Working in partnership with leading security specialists AMS, Squire has introduced the CyberLock®, which is a top-security electronic key system that has already proved a massive success in the USA and Canada.

Squire's range of Intelligent Padlocks are fitted with the cutting-edge CyberLock® technology and controlled by a CyberKey®, which can be programmed to control access down to the very last second.

The CyberLock® system also records all activity - whether allowed or denied - so all movements are accountable and fully auditable. This means security officials can be sure only those permitted are allowed access or entry at any given time.

The date and time of activity can be viewed online if required.

Importantly, each CyberKey® can easily be instructed to open hundreds of different locks - eliminating the security hazard of multiple key sets - and unlike traditional keys, the unique technology behind the CyberKey® means it cannot be picked or illegally duplicated.

If a CyberKey® is lost, there is no need to invest in changing locks as the CyberLock® can simply be instructed to deny access to the missing key.



## ANTI THRUST PIN FOR ADDED SECURITY

HOPPE (UK) has upgraded its ARRONE Plus 72mm euro profile mortice nightlatch case by adding an anti thrust pin for added security.

The AR914 is designed for use on commercial and public building doors which, when closed, can only be opened with the use of a key. The anti-thrust pin provides added security, as it prevents intruders from using a credit card to retract the latchbolt and gain unauthorised access to a building.

The AR914 Mortice Nightlatch has been successfully performance tested to BS EN 12209:2003 which is for mechanically operated locks and latches. It is CE Marked, CERTIFIRE approved, and it conforms with the recommendations of BS8300 and Approved Document M, which deals with the design of buildings to meet the needs of people with special needs. It can also be used on up to one hour timber and four hour steel fire doors.

Backed by a five-year operational guarantee, the AR914 is available with a satin or polished stainless steel, polished brass forend striking plate.



## COBURN CLASSIC

Hillaldam Coburn, has drawn from the past and brought flat track sliding door systems bang up to date, offering a contemporary feel to a traditional door opening solution with the space-saving Flat Track Sliding System.

Ideal for internal as well as external use, in the domestic, retail or public sector environments, the Coburn Flat Track Sliding system is manufactured in two sizes, which can support doors weighing up to 180 or 360kgs. Complete kits or individual components are available, but the equipment can also be customised for bespoke requirements, making it ideal for refurbishment situations where the door opening size is often not standard.

The components are clean and simple in appearance, but can be provided in a wide variety of ornate shapes and styles to complement their environment. The standard black finish adds to the industrial feel of this mechanism, but Coburn is able to supply other finishes on request such as galvanised and stainless steel.

## SLIDE INTO GEAR

P C Henderson, has now brought out a new add-on simultaneous function for the Husky range of bi-parting doors.

Available for use with the Husky 50, Husky 100 systems and Pocket Door Kits, the new SIM100 kit can be purchased separately and put into new installations or retro-fitted on existing doors.

The easy to install kit allows pairs of bi-parting doors to be opened at the same time, allowing even larger openings. Designed to be used in conjunction with timber, timber framed or composite doors, two simultaneously sliding doors to 100kg maximum can be hung. The gear is extremely quiet in operation as it uses polypropylene coated wire, plastic pulley wheels rotating on ball bearings and a tensioning spring. One kit allows the simultaneous operation of two doors when used in conjunction with two Husky 50 or Husky 100 kits.







# HOLIDAY LEAVE AND THE LONG-TERM ABSENTEE



**Just when you thought a bit of common sense and stability had come into this frequently visited area of business life, everything has been turned upside down.**

What seemed to be the fanciful notion that you could accrue holiday leave whilst being on long-term absence was given legal substance in 2002 when the Kigass case found that leave does indeed accrue whether the worker is fit and working or unfit and absent. One of the upshots of this case was that staff were entitled to request annual leave in the middle of sick leave, for the obvious reason that pay for the long-term employee soon depletes, while annual leave is paid at a much higher level. Accordingly, the annual leave requests mid-illness became commonplace.

These arrangements were defeated by the Court of Appeal in a case that is now known as Stringer. CA considered it a nonsense that annual leave, which is provided to ensure that the worker has a proper opportunity to relax and remove himself from the pressures of everyday working circumstances, can be taken when you are already removed from the working environment. They went on to find that if the absence persists to a new leave year, then there can be no carrying over of the “unused” accruals, and at termination, if the employee has not actually worked during that leave year, there can be no compensation awardable.

Unfortunately, this was appealed to the House of Lords, and as, at the heart of this, there is a need to interpret a European Directive (Working Time), the case was lobbed over the Channel to the European Court of

Justice (ECJ) for their determination as to how best to comply with the Directive. It is bad news for employers. The ECJ’s main decisions are:

- i) Annual leave entitlement does accrue during long-term sickness.
- ii) When employment terminates, all leave accrued, however far back it goes, is to be compensated, even if contracts exclude the carry-over of such a benefit.
- iii) It is up to each nation to rule whether annual leave may be taken during long-term illness, but at the very least, an employer must allow an employee who cannot take leave in one year because of illness, to take that leave in a future year.

These rulings are immediately binding on the Public Sector, but the position remains uncertain within the Private Sector, pending the decision from HL, whose card has been marked by ECJ.

The dilemma now is whether to leave the long-term absentee as they are, in the knowledge that with every month, more leave is being accrued, or do you grasp the nettle, and move towards terminating employment, with the almost certain implication of disability discrimination.

**For questions like these, GAI members can speak to the GAI Employment Law Helpline on 01372 462262.**

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